

# ST MARY'S GAMLINGAY, HATLEY ST GEORGE & ST MARY'S EVERTON



## Weekly newsletter 30 June 2023



### *From Hilary:*

What a triumph the Flower Festivals have been, as well as Gamlingay's Summer Fete! Well done to everyone who took part across the Benefice. One of the great things about the whole weekend, and preparations for it, was the way in which whole villages were included and everyone worked together. It was lovely to have something in all our churches on the same day. It did mean I was dividing my attention, and many of the participants didn't have the opportunity to see what was done in the other churches, but for visitors able to 'do the rounds' and for me, it was a real treat to be part of the power of stories as interpreted in each place. We all have our stories to tell, and it was lovely to give a platform for that. There are reports and pictures separately on the festivals elsewhere, and it is invidious for me to try and name everyone but know, all of you, how much you are appreciated for what you have done. Special mention has to be made of Jane Orchiston and Anne Clarke in Gamlingay and Sue Alexander in Everton for their pivotal roles - they will be the first to say it's not all down to them, but they have held things together and helped us all to produce something to be proud of. People were working in the churches for hours preparing displays and/or supporting others to do that, and in Gamlingay there was the Summer Fete to add in - I know in the heat and with all that needed doing there are some very tired people out there, but I hope it has felt worth it. It certainly seemed so to me, both in financial and in other terms. Again, WELL DONE and THANK YOU everyone.

**Rest in Peace** two previously central characters from our communities. Both in their 90s and having no longer lived in our villages in the last few years, it is a tribute to these people and to the communities that valued them that so many remembered them and shared in their 'farewells'.

- **Ishbel Beaty** whose ashes were interred at East Hatley on Saturday, will be missed by many her life has touched. Friends and family, some of whom could not attend the funeral, gathered to honour Ishbel's memory in a simple graveside ceremony at St Denis' churchyard in East Hatley on a beautiful sunny early afternoon. Ishbel's ashes were scattered into the grave of her friend as butterflies danced among the meadow flowers and grasses in this nature reserve. She was a special lady by all accounts, and although at 92 she had had a good innings, her contributions to the understanding of local history and in many other ways will be valuable well beyond her lifetime.
- **Terry Read** whose funeral took place this last week was a Gamlingay resident in later life and shared the life of the church there but was also, with his partner Tom, remembered by older inhabitants at Gransden where 'the two foxes' lived for many years. Terry's body lay in church at Gamlingay overnight, as was his wish, after a simple reception ceremony on Monday afternoon before friends joined with family on Tuesday morning to remember Terry with humour and affection. A ceremony will follow in Spain for those 'out there' from the other half of Terry's life - he and Tom, then later Terry on his own, spent winters in Spain for health reasons. We were invited to raise a glass of 'vino Tinto' to Terry at home, after praying 'God Speed'.

# ***JULY BENEFICE EVENTS***

## **July 11<sup>th</sup> - Day Course on Scything and Meadow Management**

Gamlingay Parish Council have unfortunately decided, in Hilary's absence, not to help fund this course, so Hilary is underwriting the cost herself to ensure it takes place. There are 6-8 places, of which three are taken, do ask round for suitable people to fill the remaining 3-5. Community volunteers are particularly sought from all the Benefice villages.

**The second weekend in July** is when Hilary and Norman's Ruby Wedding celebration falls. Their special family holiday has already taken place, and the family party will be on Saturday 15th July. On Sunday (16th) which is the actual anniversary, the Benefice service has been transposed from the end of the month and is held in Gamlingay to allow celebration together. Anyone else celebrating an anniversary is invited to let Hilary know to include it in this service. The service will also celebrate all forms of family and bear in mind that sometimes people are missing, or things didn't work out as we'd hoped.

# ***NEWS FROM EVERTON***

**Coffee Morning** takes place this Saturday 1st July organised by the Community Group.

**Flower Festival** – see report and photos from Sue Alexander on a separate page below.

# ***NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY***

**Flower festival and Fete – see below and there are separate photo pages at the end of this newsletter.**

Apologies that the '**Simple Lunch**' cancellation was not advertised last week (despite reminder to me to do so) Terry Read's funeral and wake having taken that place and time. There will, all being well, be a lunch this week.

One of these twice-monthly events is being planned to be particularly dementia-friendly, linked with the Memory Lane initiative - watch this space!

**Memory Lane** this week welcomed new attendees whilst missing some regulars for various reasons including ill health. Cake, new name badges and the Gamlingay Community Choir were welcomed this time. The group meets on 22<sup>nd</sup> July for a 'Tea Dance' - some of the members are dancers, but that's not required to enjoy some music and tea!

## **FUNDRAISING NEWS....**

Thank you to all who contributed and supported our spectacular Flower Festivals and wonderful Gamlingay Fete last weekend. Takings at Gamlingay final total is £1,553.98. This is brilliant, **BUT** we can't rest on our laurels! Coming up.....

## **CREAM TEAS IN GAMLINGAY CHURCH HALL/GARDEN**

Scones – Jam – Cream – Drinks

**Date:** Sunday 23rd July      **Time:** 3 – 5pm

Tickets are now available from church or from The Hub

£5 a head – Book your place now!

**ALL WELCOME!**



## St. Mary's Gamlingay "Sociable Summer"



Please don't forget about the suggestion that as many of us as possible should consider hosting some sort of event (large or small) in our own homes during the months of July and August in return for donations from our guests. There are official St. Mary's invitations for you to use which explain what it is all about and why we are requesting donations. All the information, together with the invitations in two formats, was emailed out a few weeks ago but if you missed or have lost it, please let me know and I will send again or provide you with invitations.

Brenda

### Service information and dates for July

#### Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July

2.30 pm Baptism of Delilah Rose Ward at Gamlingay

#### Sunday 2nd July Trinity 4

8am Service at Hatley St George, personnel permitting - please check in with Hilary or Penny  
9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay  
11.15am Parish Eucharist at Everton  
2.30pm Baptism Ralph John Davis at Gamlingay

#### Sunday 9th July Trinity 5

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay  
11.15am Parish Eucharist with Baptism of Cecilia Lucy Marie Astell at Everton  
Hatley Village Fete takes place in the afternoon in Hatley at the recreation ground

#### Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July –

The PCCs of the Benefice meet together at the Rectory for a social as well as business meeting.

#### Sunday 16th July Trinity 6 Benefice Service swapped with 31st July.

10.30am **Benefice Service** at Gamlingay celebrating Family and Marriage  
12.00noon - 2pm Buffet Lunch at the Church Hall - all welcome, please let Hilary know for rough numbers

#### Sunday 23rd July Trinity 7

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay, Cream Teas in the afternoon  
11.15am Parish Eucharist at Everton

#### Sunday 30th July Trinity 8 (Benefice Service swapped to July 16th)

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay  
11.15am Parish Eucharist and Baptism at Everton

## NEWS FROM HATLEY

We have been asked to advertise Hatley's upcoming Village Fete on 9<sup>th</sup> July. Do go along if you can, enjoy the fun and support the Hatley community.

### A special 'Thank You' from Penny Hewlett

A very big thank you from Hatley to Hilary who spent the whole day on Friday decorating the Church here for the Flower Festival weekend. I fear Hatley's gain was undoubtedly others' loss that day. Her entire display was amazing 'The Greatest Story Ever Told' - the story of the Bible - and much admired by anyone who went into the Church and saw it. Thank you very much Hilary.

**HATLEY Village Fête**  
and Heathlands **Fun dog show**  
SUNDAY **9th July**  
Playing field **Hatley St George**  
FROM **1.00 PM**

**A huge amount for you to enjoy**

Tea tent, BBQ, ice creams, bouncy castle, licensed bar, Pimms bar, tombola, raffle.	else to amuse and delight.
Games for children and grown-ups – name the bear, 'splat the rat', treasure map, beat the buzzer and much	Stalls selling plants, pottery, produce, books, clothing and many other wonderful things.

**FREE PARKING FREE ENTRY**

– [www.hatley.info/news-and-events](http://www.hatley.info/news-and-events) –

Contact details below show who to contact in each parish:

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This Newsletter is circulated by email each week to all on the Church Electoral Roll plus anyone else who gives their email details and requests it. It contains any news we have been given to share in our villages (Everton, Gamlingay and the Hatleys) plus news of what's going on in all three churches in the two parishes of the Benefice. Gamlingay with the Hatleys is one parish while Everton and Tetworth is the second linked parish in the current Benefice - both looked after by one parish priest.

*A reminder that if you are temporarily or permanently unable to attend church services and would like to receive communion in your own home, please let us know.*

*For Gamlingay and Hatley contact Hilary or Valerie.*

*For Everton contact Hilary.*

For next week only, please send all items for the newsletter to Ian Parker [iangparker@hotmail.com](mailto:iangparker@hotmail.com)





## Flower Festival 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> June 2023

### St Mary's Church Everton

It has been many years since Everton Church held a flower festival and our small group of ladies arranged it with some trepidation. We needn't have worried; 12 beautiful arrangements adorned our little Church with the theme of "Tell Me a Story".



- Jane Butcher – Peter Rabbit
- Alex Pointeer – Hansel and Gretel
- Doreen Gurney – Wind in the Willows
- Bev Darlow – Harry Potter – Inside entrance right
- Maggie – The Witches, Macbeth
- Gail Smith – Jack and the Beanstalk
- Janet Dring – Gingerbread Man
- Adrienne Massey – Winnie the Poo
- Sue/Ava Alexander – The Tiger who Came to Tea
- Sarah Pringle – Treasure Island
- Jeremy Endersby – Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends
- Everton Heath Primary School – Small Bear Big Heart



The flowers for the arrangements were kindly donated by the participants. Savin Wholesale, Tesco and Sainsbury supermarkets also donated flowers.

A big thank you goes to all that helped to make the weekend a resounding success. We were incredibly pleased to make £261.30 on the raffle, refreshments, and donations.

The question is, will we do it all again next year? Watch this space 😊





# SOME OF THE GAMLINGAY FLOWER FESTIVAL DISPLAYS





# MORE FROM GAMLINGAY....

