

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



## Weekly newsletter 12 January 2024



### *From Hilary:*

I've had no response thus far on the Ash Wednesday evening service. This week will be the last opportunity before things are settled. There are many plans being formulated,

Services on the Sunday of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (January 21st) will be covered by Les Oglesby and Chris Miller. Do join me in prayer for that visible and active unity in diversity that God wills for his people. We are also praying for the right people for Warden and PCC roles, as plans are taking shape for APCMs in our parishes.

Several Gamlingay people have expressed interest in a daytime face-to-face Bible study, and one or two have fed back on the 'Follow the Star' booklets I gave out. Something will be planned in the next two weeks so if you have an interest not yet expressed, please do get in touch.

### **RIP Jim Seamer**

The following message came from Tom this week, our sincere condolences go to him and all who will miss a great servant of the local communities.

*'It is with great sadness that I announce the death of Jim Seamer, my grandfather, our colleague, and a loved friend to many. His loss will be felt at G & H Seamer and throughout the wider community to which he gave so much of his time and service over the years.*

*His funeral service will be held in St Swithun's Church, Sandy on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 at 11:00am. All are welcome to attend.*

*No flowers by request, donation if desired can be made to Great Ormond Street Hospital Childrens Charity and Prostate Cancer UK at [www.qhseamer.co.uk](http://www.qhseamer.co.uk).*

*The G & H Seamer office will be closed on the day of the funeral to allow staff to attend. '*

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## ***NEWS FROM EVERTON***

Community soup lunches started this last week, the next is on January 23rd.

The Quinquennial inspection of church fabric by our church architect takes place next week, 17th January. The PCC has agreed on a maintenance contract for gutters and drains.

# ***NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY***

The Soiree Ensemble concert on Sunday, supporting Tibbs Dementia Charity and St Mary's Church was a great success, both in enjoyment and financially. Special thanks, of course, to Carla and the rest of the musicians, including Steph who came off his sick bed to play the organ for the first two pieces, but thanks also to the catering team for all their hard work. Well done everyone, the charities will be receiving just over £450 each, thanks to the generosity of many, including the donor of the wine, and the musicians who did not accept travelling expenses.

The first Simple Lunch of 2024 will be this Tuesday 16th, 12.30-2pm in the Church Hall.

The first Memory Lane of 2024 is the following week Tuesday 23rd 2-4pm at the Ecohub.

There is a comprehensive plan for fundraising this coming year. If you have an idea, and in particular if you can help make that happen, please use the new Fundraising email to make contact with the group, led by Jane Orchiston. (*See more on this below.*)

There has not been sufficient energy/interest shown for the proposed Burns Night celebrations, so nothing is now planned for church - feel free to run your own!

## **A PLEA FROM THE GAMLINGAY FUNDRAISING GROUP!**



We are asking you all to don your thinking caps and see if you can come up with some original ideas for fundraising events. If you would be prepared to plan and organise something yourself so much the better but any ideas would be very welcome. It would also be useful to know what



sort of regular events you particularly enjoy and are most likely to take part in - e.g. quizzes, concerts, fairs, coffee mornings, cream teas, etc.

One idea which has already been put forward is an 'Open Gardens' event. Would you be willing to select a day during July and August to open your garden to visitors? Nearer the time your details would be added to a list which would be made available to anyone wishing to take part. It would be entirely your choice whether or not to offer refreshments as well. There would be no set charge, but we would ask you to prominently display a bowl for donations and encourage visitors to add to it! You don't need to specify a date yet but please let us know soon if you are willing to do this as if we do not get sufficient offers to make it viable, we will have to think of something else to fill the gap.

**Fundraising will be vital to our survival again this year so please help us out with some feedback.**

Email: [stmarysgamevents@outlook.com](mailto:stmarysgamevents@outlook.com) or speak to one of us at church.

## January Services

### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January, Epiphany 2

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

### Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January

9.30am Midweek communion at Gamlingay

### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January, Epiphany 3 – Week of prayer for Christian Unity

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay  
4pm Evensong at Everton

### Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January

9.30am Midweek communion at Gamlingay

### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January, Presentation of Christ (Candlemas)

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

*As in previous years we have been asked to advertise the.....*

## The Big Blunham Book Sale

Will be held on Saturday 17th February 2024. 10.00 am to 3.00 pm in Blunham Parish Church, MK44 3NQ,

There will be an enormous selection of nearly new books - specialist and fiction sorted into categories.

Homemade soup, homemade cakes, hot dogs, teas and coffees served all day. All profits to Blunham Church Fabric Fund. For further details please ring Sue and Peter Holden 01767 640572

Contact details below show who to contact in each parish:

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<b>Chris Miller</b> , LLM/Reader	<a href="mailto:cfm55@btinternet.com">cfm55@btinternet.com</a>	650779
<b>Nick Ingles</b> , Gamlingay/Hatley Treasurer	<a href="mailto:nickingles@me.com">nickingles@me.com</a>	07868 144830
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<b>Valerie Miller</b> , Pastoral	<a href="mailto:vjm55@btinternet.com">vjm55@btinternet.com</a>	650779
<b>Sandra Macrow</b> , LLM Children and Families' minister	<a href="mailto:sandramacrow@btinternet.com">sandramacrow@btinternet.com</a>	07958 710703
<b>Ann Davis</b> , Gamlingay/Hatley PCC Secretary	<a href="mailto:anngamlingay@aol.com">anngamlingay@aol.com</a>	
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Please let Brenda Elcome have any articles or pictures for the newsletter by Tuesday evening to [Brenda.elcome@ymail.com](mailto:Brenda.elcome@ymail.com)

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.