

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



Weekly newsletter 11 October 2024



From Hilary:

Harvest Celebrations and Thanksgivings

Well done to everyone for what was contributed and achieved over the weekend. Thank you to those who gave so generously of time and talents to decorate the churches of our communities and for all the financial contributions. Gifts are still coming in - in particular Everton Gift Day and the Harvest of Talents are still underway, so more details on results will follow in future Newsletters.

We are now in Creation Season - as this time of year is sometimes called.

A reminder that the national church has agreed a very challenging 2030 target for churches to achieve carbon neutral status. This, and doing all we can to contribute to widening natural diversity, means that our churchyard strategies here in the Benefice are, if not ahead of the curve, at least well up with it. We do have work to do, and support from a new team in the Diocese on how to use and heat our ancient buildings most efficiently, more on that as the weeks go by. In Gamlingay work continues on exploring the use of solar panels and a storage battery; in all three churches we shall be looking at ways to improve energy efficiency.

NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

Simple Lunch takes place next Tuesday (15th)

Mini Music Marathon: This was a wonderful event with so much to be thankful for. Gratitude goes to many people for their contributions to the refreshments, but especially to Jane and Andrew for the enormous parts they played in making it all happen. The event was a success on many levels, including financially, raising around £600, which includes the first of the Harvest of Talents with Lindy's wonderful cards.

Quinquennial Inspection of the church building took place this week. The report to the PCC will take a few weeks and will probably be considered at the meeting in the New Year. Immediate good news is that there is nothing hugely expensive and urgent.

A new broadband service was due for installation on Thursday.



Thank You to Gamlingay Primary School for their lovely Friday celebration in which Hilary joined; for the trolley load of donations to the Food Project; and for the lovely 'thank you' leaves they produced. The leaves are on display in church for the rest of the week.



From Anne Clarke...

Thank you so much to our team of flower arrangers for decorating the church so beautifully for Harvest. The display certainly enhanced the music weekend for all our visitors – again, many thanks.

Fundraising News



MINI MUSIC MARATHON



Many thanks to all who participated and helped in the Mini Music Marathon last weekend - the flower arrangers, the musicians and singers, the refreshment providers and servers, to Lindy for her beautiful cards and to those who dropped in to support the event.

A total of just over £600.00 was raised and will be shared between St Mary's and the Diocese of Niassa in Mozambique.

QUIZ NIGHT

Next up is the Quiz on Friday, 8th November, [see this poster](#). This time you need to book your team in - up to a maximum of 6 people per team. Sole participants are invited, and we'll put you in a team. Book early to avoid disappointment by contacting stmarysgamevents@outlook.com or reach out to a church member. Let us know how many of you are in the team so we can sort the tables and chairs out.

CHRISTMAS GRAND DRAW STUFFING PARTY

The Christmas Grand Draw stuffing party is on Friday, November 15th in the evening at the Church Hall. Many hands make light work and then every house in the village needs an envelope through its door. A large task but it bears fruit every year! Donations are requested for the raffle - for the food hamper and other items. The winners will be drawn at the Christmas Fair on Saturday, 7th December.

HARVEST OF TALENTS



David Elcome is offering greetings cards featuring beautiful butterfly photos suitable for any occasion. £1.20 per card. The examples shown are selected from a wide variety on offer – see them at church or contact David: email : dandb.elcome@yahoo.co.uk



NEWS FROM EVERTON

Soup and Social: The next one is Tuesday 15th, which coincides once more (the last time for a while) with Gamlingay's Simple Lunch.

ThePCC met with Samuel Pedlar from the church buildings team of the Diocese, planning community engagement activities. More on those as they are enacted.

A churchyard working party is planned for 19th October - please publicise and invite participation. A work plan will be available by then which will cover paths, further mowing where possible and clearing the church gutters and walls.

Thank you to Jane and Jonathan for taking the harvest gifts to the Smart project at Bedford Prebend Centre. And thank you to all who donated, particularly from the school.

Correction: Note corrected time of the Sunday morning service on the first Sunday of November

NEWS FROM HATLEY ST GEORGE

Well done and thank you to all for the Harvest celebration. What a joy to celebrate with families and a church full of autumn decorations. The feast at the Village Hall afterwards was also wonderful, with some lovely harvest produce and competitions. Well done, Amy and Sarah, for making that all happen!



Services in the Benefice

Midweek said Eucharist services take place at St Mary's in Gamlingay every Wednesday at 9.30am unless otherwise advertised.

Sunday 13th October: Trinity 20

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay
11.15am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Everton

Sunday 20th October: Trinity 21

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay with a focus on healing
4pm Evensong at Everton

Sunday 27th October: Last after Trinity, Dedication Festival (Bible Sunday)

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay
11.15am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Everton

Tuesday 29th October

6pm **Halloween Light Celebration** planned for St. Mary's Church Gamlingay.
(The proposed Light Party at the Church Hall to precede it is not yet confirmed, but there may well be a carved pumpkin display - all age entries welcome)

Advance notices for November

Sunday 3rd November Celebrating All Saints Day

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay with All Age input
11.15am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Everton, commemoration TBC
6pm Commemoration Service (All Souls) at Gamlingay

Sunday 10th November Remembrance Sunday

Traditional Remembrance Sunday celebrations in both parishes
Gamlingay Civic celebration at the War Memorial followed by Service at GBC - Speaker Hilary
Everton Ceremony at the War Memorial in the churchyard followed by church service
Hatley St George memorial ceremony TBC in church at the war memorial - church will be open and decorated for Remembrance whether there is a service or not.

*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.*

Grafham Water Centre Open Day, Sunday 13th October

Please, could you notify your congregations about this opportunity. Children and all the family will have fun and a good experience. People from both Waterways Chaplaincy and Church Army will be attending. The extensive activities available at Grafham Water Centre are not as widely known as they could be. At St Mary's Buckden, we've teamed up with the Centre to arrange this open day to help spread awareness and as an autumn charities event. For further details see poster attached and link below:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/huntingdon/grafham-water-centre/family-open-day-at-grafham-water-centre/e-mbjemx>

Richard Noble, Authorised Lay Minister, St Mary's Church Buckden

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Jane Butcher , Everton contact	Janebutcher59@googlemail.com	

Please let Brenda Elcome have any articles or pictures for the newsletter by Wednesday afternoon to Brenda.elcome@gmail.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.