

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



Weekly newsletter 25 July 2025



From Hilary:

The Rectory Garden Party was well and truly drenched on Saturday!

Huge thanks to the Everton Village Hall folk for loan of tables on a day when they were needed later at Everton, as well as to the Garden Party helpers (see under 'News from Gamlingay' below).

As schools have now finished for the long summer break, we are not expecting to see young people in church (not that there are many anyway) and the usual unpredictable nature of congregation numbers is even more unpredictable as it is affected by holidays. However, worship continues to be offered throughout the summer. The billed 'All Age' service for August at Gamlingay will probably not be any different in format from other Sundays.

Meanwhile thoughts turn to the Remembrance and Thanksgiving season from September to November. Watch out for information here and (particularly for Gamlingay) in the Gazette about activities planned for that time.

A reminder of the Wednesday lunchtime organ recitals at St Neots parish church during the Summer. They are free with tea and coffee provided and facilities to eat your own lunch, donations welcome in aid of the church.

Summer Organ Concerts Wednesdays at 12.15 St. Neots Parish Church, Church Street, St. Neots PE19 2BU

- 30th July Martyn Warsop, Northamptonshire
- 6th August Christopher Stuart Beaumont, All Saints, Leamington Spa
- 13th August Shanna Hart,
St Botolph without Aldgate and Assistant Organist, Selwyn College, Cambridge
- 20th August David Smith, Christ Church, St. Leonards on Sea
- 27th August Lloyd Barnett, St. Mary, St Neots with Eynesbury

Butterfly Counts

Are taking place this month and next. Anyone can count butterflies - this is national initiative - but an organised one is scheduled for Gamlingay churchyard and cemetery this coming Wednesday after the morning communion.

NEWS FROM EVERTON

The Village Hog Roast was a great success. It was a blessing that the evening was fine after the very wet day earlier – and Chris at the pub did the village proud, well done and thank you to him and his team.

The recent **Open Garden at Woodbury Hall** raised an amazing £760 for church funds from sale of refreshments and donations. Thank you once again to all involved.

Church Fabric Project: Watch this space for information about an inaugural meeting of the new group which is to follow the PCC meeting due to take place soon. The project meeting will include as many potential members as can be gathered in the next few weeks.

Community Soup and Social said ‘God Speed’ to Fiona and family, with great thanks for what the group has become - Fiona was a founding member. The group continues after a summer break, back on the first Tuesday in September.

Bedfordshire Wildlife Trust: Daniel Bolt’s visit is next Monday 28th July.

St Giles', Tadlow, clean-up day tomorrow, Saturday / 10.00 am

A reminder that tomorrow there’s a clean-up session in the newly restored St Giles’ church in Tadlow, beginning at 10.00 am. St Giles’ has just (4th July) officially come into the ownership of the Friends of Friendless Churches – the charity which also owns St Denis’ in East Hatley. The FoFC is very keen for the church to be reopened to visit and enjoy year-round as well as being available to use for events, community activities and occasional services. There is still some work to be done before it can be opened regularly – not least giving it a ‘good dusting’. https://www.hatley.info/news_events/events/clean-up-day-at-st-giles-tadlow has more detail. Please bring a broom, cloth, dustpan and brush; tea and cakes will be provided.

NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

Simple Lunch meets on a 5th Tuesday this next week, watch out to see if it is swapped from the first Tuesday in August, when Hilary is away.

Churchyard Scything Nicola and Peter finished off the raking-up work in Gamlingay churchyard, well done and many, many thanks to them both for their hard work.

The **Visitation** by Nicki, Area Dean was very favourable. Well done Ann and Jane for all the work they put in preparing for it, and to Nicki for hospitality afterwards.

Rest in Peace John Mossman and thank you to the people who will have helped with John’s funeral on Thursday this week (still to happen at time of going to press).

Organised Butterfly Count follows morning service on 30th July, with refreshments provided.



The Rectory Garden Party took place amid torrential downpours, despite which hospitality was on offer and enjoyed by a few hardy souls – with true British spirit fun was had in adversity. Well done everyone! Particular thanks to Peter who joined Ann and Jane in finishing some remaining rudimentary tidying and helped put up the gazebos - the one at the back of the house proved invaluable! Also, to Val who came early to help with putting out food. Around £100 was received in direct donations on the day, with others given by alternative means.

From Jane O...

After a very wet garden party, which produced much laughter under the gazebo in the garden, thank you to the Community Choir for singing and to everyone who helped to make it a memorable occasion!!
Enjoy the summer holidays, hopefully without too much rain, much as the grass needs it!
Thank you to Ann for the photos...



The audience sheltering from torrential rain.....While the choir kept dry!!

NEWS FROM THE HATLEYS

St Denis Churchyard was scythe-mown on Tuesday evening, with cuttings left to drop seeds to be raked later. A goodly team turned out, including Harriet who learned and practiced a new skill to good effect. Well done and thank you everyone, particularly Nicola for the delicious refreshments.



Visitation: Nicki, and Janet who came with her to help, visited the church in Hatley St George as well as the main Parish Church at Gamlingay as part of the visitation process. This highlighted the ambiguous situation with the church building in Hatley. It is definitely no longer a parish church as such, as Hatley parish is now designated as part of Gamlingay with Hatley St George and East Hatley parish, however there are still old parish boundaries for Hatley St George and East Hatley parish. So, what is the building licensed for worship in Hatley St George? - a Chapel of Ease? a Festival Church? - the situation is to be clarified with the Diocesan registry.

A further reminder that the Quinquennial inspection is scheduled for the morning of 28th August, Two drone options have been suggested and are being explored, huge thank you to those who have come forward with ideas and contacts - Hilary has not yet explored these, but will be doing so. (Hope rewarded!)

NB: Scything dates listed below are now subject to change, as the two sessions so far have achieved far more than expected. It is likely that the next date for Hatley will actually be in Everton.

St Denis East Hatley
St Mary's Gamlingay
St Mary's Everton

Tuesday 22nd July and 12th August
Wednesday 20th August (may not now be needed)
Tuesday 29th July and Wednesday 27th August

Benefice Services and Events

Midweek said Eucharist services take place at St Mary's in Gamlingay every Wednesday at 9.30am but watch for late cancellations especially during holiday season.

July and August

Sunday 27th July: Trinity 6

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

Sunday 3rd August Trinity 7

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

NB: No Midweek Eucharist

Sunday 10th August Trinity 8

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

Sunday 17th August Trinity 9

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay with Healing time
4pm Evensong at St. Mary's, Everton

Sunday 24th August Trinity 10/St Bartholomew

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

Sunday 31st August Trinity 11

10am Benefice Eucharist at Gamlingay

*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.*

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