

Prospect

**The Parish Magazine
of the Shingay group of Parishes**



Bringing in the Harvest

**Abington Pigotts + Guilden Morden
Litlington + Steeple Morden
Tadlow + Wendy**

September 2022

Prospect

The Parish Magazine of the Shingay group of parishes
www.shingaychurches.co.uk

Rector Vacant

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Prospect Production

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Deadline for October issue - September 15th.
Please send all material for inclusion direct to Ann Lynn. Thank you.

Letters from our Village Churches

After 27 years serving you all and our Group of Churches in Abington Pigotts, Guilden Morden, Litlington, Steeple Morden, Tadlow, and Wendy, it's going to be strange not having Canon Shamus Williams here with us anymore. He most definitely will be hugely missed, and leaves behind a Shamus-sized gap in our villages. I'm also sure, like me, you wish him the very best in his retirement which, after so long, is so thoroughly deserved.

We are therefore now in "vacancy", what used to be called "an interregnum" - which means we don't have an incumbent or Priest-in-charge in our Church Group.

During this time, we are asked to reflect on what direction we want to take our churches moving forward: how we want to do things in future; how we can be involved in our community; how we can realise God's love in our actions as "the local church".

This is also a time for Ely Diocese and our local Shingay Deanery to consider how we are to be configured as a Church Group in the future. Whatever they decide, right now we have an opportunity to explore our God-given gifts and our preparedness to use them.

We hope to be able to continue with Sunday Services as usual however with fewer of us, times may vary so please check each week. There may also be times when the type of service you are used to has changed depending on who is available on the day or whether we have managed to find a visiting priest to help. Other activities run by church members can be expected to continue as usual.

I will continue to offer what I can in the time available. You may or may not know that I work full-time at Addenbrooke's Hospital. My day in the parishes will continue to be every Tuesday. I will be leading Morning Prayer (a 20-minute service) most Tuesday mornings at 10:00am in St Catherine's Church, Litlington. Check on the Services pages for dates. Everyone and anyone are welcome to join me. I will remain in the church until at least 11:00am, so if you fancy a tea/coffee and chat, then come

Letters from our Village Churches

along. I don't live in the Group villages, so am less likely to know about those needing a pastoral visit or Home Communion. If either is wanted, please leave me a phone message or drop me an email (see details in front of this magazine) and I will get back to you. Again, planned visits will generally need to be on Tuesdays.

I hope to continue to offer baptisms (christenings) and weddings, but my weekend availability may limit possible dates. Please be aware that baptisms may need to be held as part of the regular Sunday Services. We can discuss your requirements when you contact me.

Funeral Services can continue in our churches but will probably need to be taken by a Licensed Lay Minister or visiting Priest. The Funeral Director will help you with this.

Please, get in touch with me by email or phone if you have any queries. I will get back to you. If it's urgent, email me and mark as "urgent". I will call you back as quickly as I can.

I pray for God's blessings and guidance as we move forward into this next chapter for our villages and churches.

Rev Ann Bol
Associate Priest
Shingay Group of Churches

The person who puts "Prospect" together is Alex da Costa. She will be standing down from this role soon, and I wanted to express my thanks to Alex on behalf of everyone who reads "Prospect". A long time ago, I did this job myself for a while, so I know from personal experience, it isn't as easy as it might appear. In fact, I can remember a bit of tearing my hair out trying to get things to fit properly! So huge thanks, Alex, for all your hard work over the years, and your good sense of humour remains intact too!

Shamus Williams

Floodlight Diary

St Mary's, Guilden Morden

- July 9th Remembering Doreen Mitchell on her birthday from her friends. RIP
- July 16th Congratulations to Hugo and Holly Christie on their wedding day.
- August 2nd Remembering Bill Davies on his birthday from all the family. RIP
- August 28th Remembering Ivan Gentle on what would have been his 80th birthday. RIP

If you would like the lights switched on please contact Cynthia Worboys 853217.

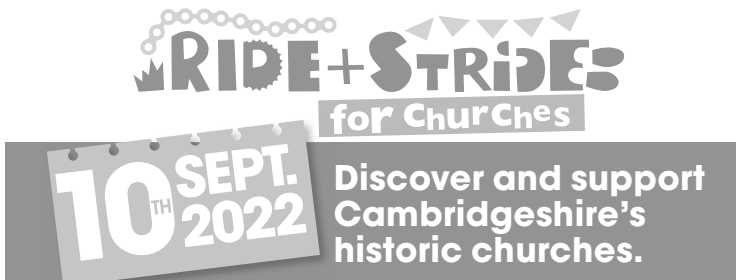
St Catherine's, Litlington

If you would like the lights switched on, please contact Pam Sharp 852425 or John Jenner 242127. The cost is still only £5.

St Peter & St Paul, Steeple Morden

August 10th In memory of Jean Elliott RIP on her birthday

If you would like the lights switched on (£5 per evening) please contact David or Gilly McKee 852380.



Join us and get sponsored to visit beautiful churches and chapels by bike, foot, horse or whatever way takes your fancy. All money raised will be shared between the Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust and your chosen church or chapel of any denomination and will help to repair and maintain these amazing buildings. For more information visit www.camhct.uk or email r-s-treasurer@camhct.uk

My gardening column in June was so well received (by at least two people from Steeple Morden) that Yasmeen has again entrusted the task to me. Apologies to those who prefer her more expert advice.

What a summer! No one surely can doubt that something strange is happening to our climate. Ten years ago I was a climate sceptic, unconvinced that anything dramatic was going to happen. When the Cambridge Botanic Garden planted a 'dry' garden to test what could survive were temperatures to increase, I was cynical as we were enduring occasional summers that were damp or cold.

Yet here we are, with eight of the hottest days on record taking place in that brief period. As you drive around the villages of Cambridgeshire and Bedfordshire, you are confronted by the sight of numerous fields blackened by fire. And there are increasing numbers of dead trees in the hedgerows. But what does this mean for the gardener?

This summer, we've seen runner bean flowers burnt by the sun, so that the crop from a row of hitherto healthy bean poles has been decimated; only a very few have produced anything edible. Nasturtiums, too, have simply been destroyed. Tomatoes in the green house whose leaves touched the glass have been shrivelled. Courgette and pumpkin plants have behaved abnormally; pumpkins have ripened prematurely and very small, and the courgettes simply haven't grown for lack of water. One can only imagine the effect this has had on farmers dependent on crops which follow flowers.

There have been successes; aubergines, chillies and tomatoes have loved the hot weather, as have cucumbers and sweet corn, crops normally associated with warmer climes. The mild weather in the spring meant that apple, cherry and plum blossom avoided any frost and have set more fruit than usual, although some of the trees look unhappy for lack of hydration and the fruits might be smaller than usual. We are finding cannas and ginger lilies surviving the winter without additional protection. It is easy to see how, both in this country and across the world, an increase in temperature will affect both fruit and flower production.









How do we as gardeners deal with this? Inspired by the Cambridge experiment and by Beth Chatto's dry gravel garden in Essex, Yasmeen

has planted a border on the south east side of the house entirely of plants adapted to dry conditions. With either thick, leathery leaves or thin tough ones, these can withstand the high temperatures without becoming dehydrated. And throughout this summer they have grown strongly with little attention and additional water. So, unless there's a remarkable reversal in what seems to be a permanent increase in temperature, we're going to have to adapt what we grow or learn to protect our plants in new ways. Previously traditional British crops like beans and apples may become difficult to grow without shade, but it might become easier to grow exotic crops such as peaches, lemons and apricots.

So, I'm no longer a climate sceptic, and no one seeing pictures of the shrinking Arctic ice can doubt that we're in the middle of a sudden change in climate. We can all do our best to reduce our contribution to anything which is fuelling change, but as gardeners it looks as if we're also going to have to quickly learn new methods and grow plants better adapted to periods of extremely hot dry weather.



CAFE CHURCH



















Cafe Church will be re-starting with the
new school term and will be from 9am to 11.30
on the following Fridays -

9th September
16th September
23rd September
30th September

Tea, coffee, home-made cakes and chat

Everyone is welcome.



STEEPLE MORDEN HARVEST FESTIVAL and LUNCH

Sunday, 9th October

Our Harvest Festival will be at 11am on 9th October and will be followed by lunch at 12.15. This will be a bring-and-share again, with the option of contributing £4 if you prefer. This is always a happy occasion, with an excellent lunch – we look forward to seeing you.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to come so that, if you are bringing food, we can discuss what you would like to bring. Please bring two plates, knife, fork and spoon, a glass and something to drink. Dry goods for donation to Jimmy's can be brought to the service; if you are unable to be there on Sunday, leave them in the church on Saturday.

Many thanks! *Anne Hassall* (853490)

Steeple Morden Primary School



Do you want to make a contribution to children's education?

We are currently looking for a new governor and associate governors, who do not have children at the school, to join our friendly governing body in September 2022. Being a school governor is an important community role that supports the school and is a rewarding way of making a voluntary contribution to the lives of local children in education.

We are particularly looking for someone with skills and experience in:

- HR
- finance
- health & safety

No knowledge of education is required, although useful. Enthusiasm and commitment are also key to any governor role.

The Governing Board operates at a strategic level and is not involved in the day-to-day running of the school. We are responsible for both the conduct of the school and for the promotion of high standards. The full Governing Body meets six times a year. There are also committee meetings, school visits, training, background reading and other requirements expected of governors.

Steeple Morden School is a friendly community school with high standards and expectations, following a philosophy to 'be brave, be kind, be the best you can be.' It is a Church of England (voluntary controlled) school with approximately 180 pupils attending.

If you think a governor role could be for you, then please contact Karenza Nutley (chair@smgpsgovernor.co.uk) for more information.



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Friday 2nd September

12:00 pm - 2:30 pm

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Save the Children

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Friday 7th October 7 for 7:30pm

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Larisa.plews@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/LarisaPilates>

The Mordens WI

We are a small, friendly group of ladies meeting on the third Thursday of the month in Guilden Morden Village Hall at 7.30 pm. We have a wide variety of activities to choose from and interesting speakers throughout the year.

In September Dr Margaret Ashwell will tell us about
"Brief (embarrassing) encounters with Royals and others," and

in October we will hear from Ian Cummings -
"From Tibet to the Tent - my Bake Off journey"

If you would like to join us, or to know about the Mordens WI,
please contact Joyce on 01763 852087. Transport can be
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Litlington Congregational Church

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SEPTEMBER

Sun 4th	3.00pm #	Songs of Praise-Mr Tony Frost
Sun 11th		Reverend Angus McCormick Communion Service. Joined by Guilden Morden Congregational Church
Sun 18th		Mr David Freeman
Sun 25th		Mr Frank Pearson HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE

To be held at Shillington Congregational Church, 47 Church Street, Shillington, Hitchin, SG5 3LJ

Our hall is available for your meeting or event for a voluntary donation. The 7.4 X 5.7 metre room has an independent entrance and a separate kitchen, toilet, large lobby area, car park and garden. Chairs and tables available. It will accommodate up to 30 people for meals and up to 45 for meetings and buffets. Contact:- littchurch@aol.com

COFFEE MORNING

THURSDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER

10.30 AM - 12.00 PM

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MEETING LANE

TEA, COFFEE, CAKES
AND A CHAT



Guilden Morden Congregational Church

www.guildenmordencongregationalchurch.com

June 2022

Sun 4th	10.30am	Café style service. Come and join us for croissants and coffee in our relaxed style of worship. All welcome
	15.00pm	Songs of Praise at Shillington led by Tony Frost
Mon 5th	10.30am	Men's Guild in the Schoolroom
Wed 7th	9.00am-11.00am	Mix and Match for parents and toddlers
Sun 11th	11.00am	Joint service at Litlington
Wed 14th	9.00am-11.00am	Mix and Match for parents and toddlers
Sun 18th	11.00am	Joint service at St Mary's
Wed 21st	9.00am-11.00am	Mix and Match for parents and toddlers
Sun 25th	10.30am	Communion service led by Fiona Davis
Wed 28th	9.00am-11.00am	Mix and Match for parents and toddlers

Home group Zoom meetings Tuesdays 20.00pm.
Contact Amanda for details, ajgenieman@gmail.com

Anyone wishing to book the rooms for social activities contact
Gerry Watkins 01763 852869

Calendar of

4th September (Trinity 12)

8.30am	Steeple Morden	Parish Communion (PB)
8.30am	Abington Pigotts	Parish Communion *
9.30am	Litlington	Family Service
10.00am	Guilden Morden	Parish Communion *

11th September (Trinity 13)

8.30am	Wendy	Parish Communion
9.45am	Litlington	Parish Communion
10.00am	Abington Pigotts	Family Service
10.00am	Guilden Morden	All-Age Worship
11.00am	Steeple Morden	Parish Communion

18th September (Trinity 14)

8:30am	Wendy	Parish Communion *
9.30am	Litlington	Parish Communion *
9.45am	Steeple Morden	Family Service
10:00am	Abington Pigotts	Parish Communion *
11.00am	Guilden Morden	United Communion * at St Mary's

25th September (Trinity 15)

10:00am	Steeple Morden	Group Communion
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Services

And Tuesdays

Morning Prayer at Litlington Church, 10:00am

- 6th September
- 13th September
- 20th September
- 27th September



Come, join and have a chat

Please see church notice boards in case of changes to this list.

* = Communion by extension

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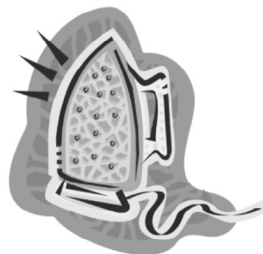
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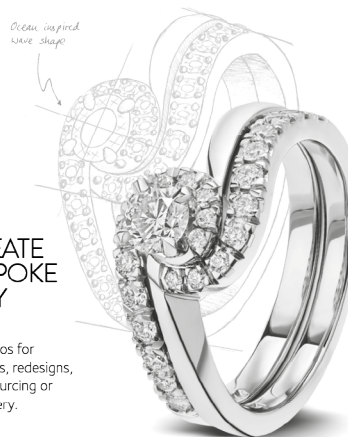
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Mobility Assistance


We have a folding wheelchair in St Mary's Church, provided by 'Wheels for Martin's Friends', which is available for short term loan. Please call Cynthia Worboys on 853217 if you need to borrow it. The Congregational Church in Guilden Morden also stores a chair for short term loan.

The Trustees of the 'Wheels for Martin's Friends' charity would like to hear from anyone who needs help with obtaining a permanent wheelchair or mobility aid. Call Peter Furmston 852125 or Heather Watts 852727 for further information.



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Guilden Morden

Litlington & Abington Pigotts

Bassingbourn & Kneesworth

Orwell & Wimpole

Hazel Smith 01763 852602

Christine Furmston 01763 852125

Hilary Sharp 01763 852272

Anna Burwitz 01763 256871

Maggie Galan 01223 207307

Please give at least 48 hours' notice if at all possible and only request help between 9 am and 6 pm, and not on Bank

Holidays, except in extreme emergency.

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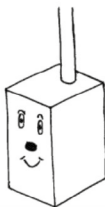
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