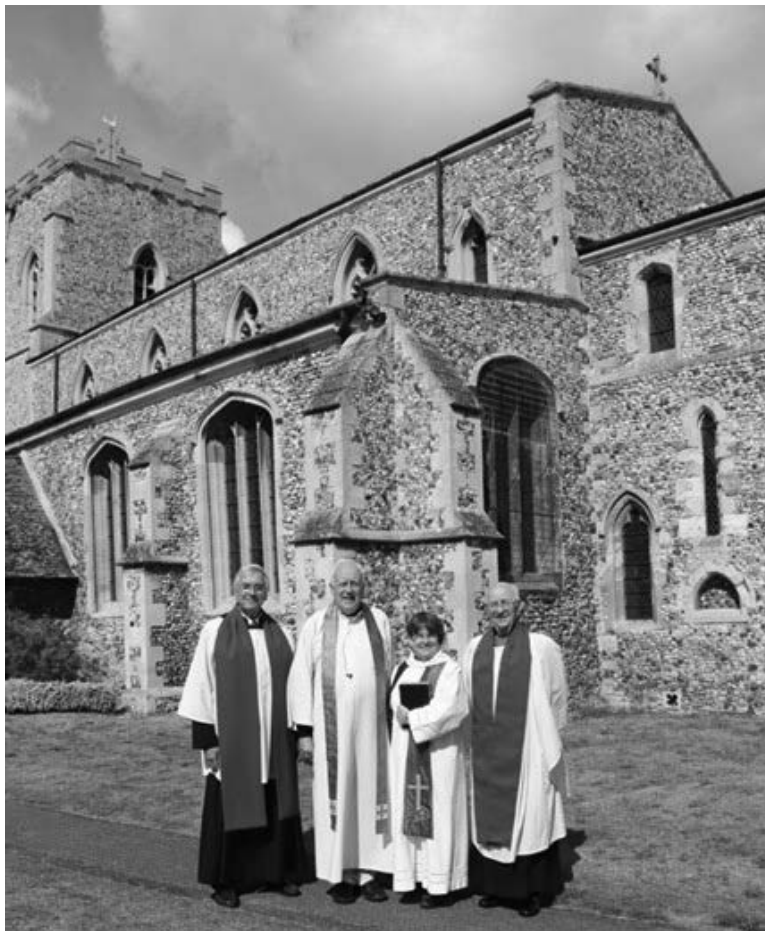


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**The Parish Magazine
of the Shingay group of Parishes**



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

October 2022

Prospect

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

Rector

Vacant

**Associate
Priest &
Prospect
Editor**

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**Licenced Lay
Minister**

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Prospect Production

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Deadline for November edition - 15 October
Please send all material for inclusion direct to Ann Lynn please.

Letter from our village churches

Do you ever stop and think how very privileged we are to be living in this country?

It's very unlikely that anyone here wakes up in the morning, finds a bucket and then walks a mile or more to fetch water. Unfortunately, huge numbers of people in the world have to do just that. Most frequently they are small girls who then miss out on school. Granny Cole, the lady who used to live in my old house in the High Street, Guilden Morden, used to recount how she had to walk down to Trap Ditch in order to fetch water.

I once taught in a girls' Grammar School in West Africa where there was no running water. There were huge underground tanks that filled up in the wet season. Every girl and every member of staff were each allocated one bucket of water per day. That was for drinking and personal washing. Every drop had to be boiled and filtered before it was fit to be used.

Water was used twice or more times. What you washed yourself in was saved to wash clothes. Then it might be used to clean floors. It was finally used to water the plants.

The weather this summer has been very like a tropical dry season while we waited and waited for the rain to come. In the tropics you knew the dry season was coming to an end because you could hear the rain coming and every girl regardless of what we were doing in the lesson would rush outside to the games field and dance with delight as they got soaked. They certainly valued water. It was a real joy for me when I returned home to turn on a tap and see real wet water come out.

So, let's thank God for our water and the other privileges we have like food, clothing, schooling and a relatively peaceful country. Most people in the world do not have those.

Cicely Murfitt, Ministry Team

Guilden Morden

I am delighted to be back producing Prospect and would like to add my thanks to those already expressed to Alex da Costa who has been at the helm for the past four years.

Some of you may remember me from my previous stint as production editor before Alex—for those who don't, I look forward to meeting you.

All copy is gratefully received for consideration. Please send jpegs rather than pdf files, thank you.

My preferred method of communication is by email as I am unable to take personal calls at work.

Ann Lynn

shingayprospect@aol.com



Harvest Thanksgiving

Harvests are in so now is a time to reflect and give thanks for God's generosity and goodness.

Harvest Services will be:

October 2nd at Litlington at 9:30am

October 9th at Guilden Morden at 10:00am

October 9th at Steeple Morden at 11:00am followed by lunch

October 9th at Abington Pigotts at 6:00pm

October 16th at Wendy at 11:30am followed by lunch

Come and join us for prayers, reflection, and some good old Harvest Hymns. And if you plan to stay for lunch after the service, please advise the Church Warden, to ensure that we cater appropriately.

We will again be gathering canned and dry goods for Jimmy's Night Shelter in Cambridge. These items will be collected in the church before and during the service.

Or you might like to donate directly to Jimmy's. Details on how to do this can be found on their website: www.jimmyscambridge.org.uk

Ann Bol

Service of Thanksgiving and Remembering for the Departed

There will always be anniversaries and special times when you miss a person who has died. This special peaceful and reflective service will be an opportunity to give thanks for their lives and to remember them. The service will be held on **Sunday October 30th** at the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul in **Steeple Morden, at 6pm.**

It doesn't matter whether the funeral took place in this church, or even if you have never been here before. The service is for everyone. There will also be an opportunity to say some prayers and light a candle.

We do hope that you will be able to join us and please bring any members of your family or friends who would like to be there with you.

We will be serving cups of tea and cake between 5:00 and 5:30pm for anyone who would like the opportunity to relax in a friendly atmosphere before the service.

Farewell to Shamus

August 28th was a beautiful, sunny day. It was also the Sunday when Shamus preached his last sermon as Rector of the Shingay Group of Parishes.

There was a good congregation with people from all six of the villages of the Shingay Group. The congregations from Litlington and Guilden Morden Congregational Churches were also present and one undertaker who had regularly worked with Shamus! For many present, Shamus had conducted a baptism, wedding or funeral of a loved one.

After the service, Ann Lynn made a speech and thanked Shamus for his 27 years of service and proposed a toast to him with Prosecco. Jessica Linskill then made a presentation to him on behalf of everyone, with flowers for Kate. Afterwards people went into the Churchyard to sit at tables under marquees. They enjoyed a cold lunch and dessert with tea/coffee.

The small team at Litlington who organised the lunch would like to thank everyone who contributed food for the buffet; brought chairs; brought tables; lent and erected tents or lent crockery. It was a memorable occasion which was possible because we all worked well together. Thank you!

PJS

Thank you to everyone who helped to organise the farewell events following our last service on 28th August. The weather was perfect for the outdoor lunch together, and everything seemed to go swimmingly. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the very generous goodbye gifts. Thank you for Kate's lovely flowers. The canvas print of photos, the wine, and the cheque! It is a day we will never forget.

Please pray for us as we prepare to move. We will in turn continue to remember The Shingay Group in our prayers, of course.

Shamus and Kate

shingaychurches.co.uk





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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 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 arranged.

The 22nd Ashwell Book Weekend

Saturday 1st October 10.00am-5.00pm

Sunday 2nd October 1.30pm-4.30pm.

Entrance £1.00, children under 16 free.

**A great selection of books to browse
and buy for children and adults, both
fiction and non-fiction.**

**Tea, coffee and home-made cakes
available.**



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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Café Church In Steeple Morden

From 9am in
October on the following Fridays –
7th, 14th and 21st

There will be no Café Church on Friday 28th,
as this is half-term

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)



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853975**



CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

18th to 20th November

St Peter & St Paul, Steeple Morden

Have you started planning your tree?

We're hoping for a bumper number of trees this year so please make sure you plans are progressing.

Details and registration forms are available, so if you haven't received them already please contact Anne (853490), Annie (852905) or Gilly (852380) if you have any queries.



Children's Clothes Swap

2:30-4 pm

Saturday 8 October

Steeple Morden Church

Please bring unwanted but wearable children's clothes and shoes to swap, and take away some new items

Please pre-sort clothes into size/ age

FREE

Any queries? Contact Rosemary mad_cellist@hotmail.com

07729 856128 or via Facebook

Guilden Morden Congregational Church Diary OCTOBER 22

www.guildenmordencongregationalchurch.com

Sun 2 nd	10.30am	Harvest café style service. Join us for croissants and coffee in our relaxed style of worship. All welcome
Mon 3 rd	10.30am	Men's Guild in the Schoolroom
Wed 5 th	9.00am-11.00am	Mix and Match for parents and toddlers
Sun 9 th	11.00am	Joint service at Litlington
Wed 12 th	9.00am-11.00am	Mix and Match for parents and toddlers
Sun 16 th	10.30am	Joint service with St Mary's at the Chapel
Tue 18 th	14.00pm	COGS meeting
Wed 19 th	9.00am-11.00am	Mix and Match for parents and toddlers
Sun 23 rd	10.30am	Anniversary Service with blessing of time capsule, followed by lunch
Wed 26 th	9.00am-11.00am	Mix and Match for parents and toddlers
Sun 30 th	10.30am	Communion service

Other group meetings:

Bridge Club Mondays at 19.30pm

Local History Group Tuesday 4th at 15.00pm

Film Club Friday 21st at 19.00pm

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

Litlington Congregational Church Diary OCTOBER 22

You will receive a warm welcome at our Sunday services which commence at 11.00 am unless shown otherwise.

Sun 2nd		Reverend John Whittle - Communion Service
Sun 9th		Mr Thomas Dodd (joined by Guilden Morden Congregational Church)
Sun 16th		Mrs Sandra Galton
Sun 23rd	10.30am *	Mr Tony Frost

Sun 30th Mr Frank Pearson/ Mr John Iles

* To be held at Guilden Morden Congregational Church, Pound Green, Guilden Morden, SG8 0JZ

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 : litcchurch@aol.com

Your Local History

If you are interested in the fascinating history of our two villages, would you like to join a new **Local History Group for The Mordens**?

The Guilden Morden Group has been meeting for nearly 10 years and has held exhibitions and published books and other publications during that time.

Following discussions with Andrew Pye, Steeple Morden's local historian, we feel the time has come to expand the Group, if there is sufficient interest to do so.

We would propose meeting monthly, alternately in Steeple Morden and Guilden Morden.

To register your interest please contact Geoff Harper on 01763 853845 or by email to ***geoffkharper@gmail.com***

The Woodland Trust has recently purchased an extension to Tween Towns Wood thanks to the generous donations from a local guarantor and residents.

The 5.51 hectare extension will double the size of the existing woodland between Steeple Morden and Guilden Morden.

The extension, which is currently bare ground, will become new woodland, however tree planting will not take place for several years as we conduct site surveys and get relevant permissions in place. The land will be accessible for people to use, and we will start to manage new paths through it by summer 2023.'



Saturday 8th October - 10am to 1pm

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Tel 01763 853073

(please don't phone between the hours of 6 - 7 p.m.)

Floodlight Diary

St Mary's, Guilden Morden

7 October The whole family will be remembering, with love, Nick Best who passed away in 2021. RIP

17 October In memory of Peter Wilson – no lights, just memories.

The lights on the nave have been coloured purple for the length of the official mourning period for HM Queen Elizabeth II. May she rest in peace. With love and deepest gratitude from Guilden Morden.

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

St Catherine's, Litlington

When two people request the church is floodlit on the same date, the lights are switched on for two days.

The price is only £5 to have the lights switched on for an occasion or a person. Please contact Pam Sharp 852425 or John Jenner 242127

S Peter & S Paul, Steeple Morden

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



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2nd October (Trinity 16)

8.30am	Steeple Morden	Parish Communion *
8.30am	Abington Pigotts	Parish Communion *
9.30am	Litlington	Family Service - Harvest
10.45am	Guilden Morden	Parish Communion *

9th October (Trinity 17)

8.30am	Wendy	Parish Communion
9.45am note later time	Litlington	Parish Communion
10.00am	Guilden Morden	All-Age Worship - Harvest
11.00am	Steeple Morden	Family Communion for Harvest + Lunch
6.00pm	Abington Pigotts	Family Harvest Service

16th October (Trinity 18)

10:00am	Abington Pigotts	Parish Communion * (PB)
9.30am	Litlington	Parish Communion *
9.45am	Steeple Morden	Family Service
10:30am	Guilden Morden	United Service at Chapel
11:30am	Wendy	Parish Communion * - Harvest + lunch

23rd October (Last Sunday after Trinity)

10:00am	Abington Pigotts	Group Communion

30th October (All Saints)

10:00am	Guilden Morden	Group Communion Archdeacon Alex Hughes
6:00pm	Steeple Morden	Service of Remembrance for the Departed

PB = 1662 Prayer Book

*** = Communion by Extension**

Please see church noticeboards for changes to this list.

And Tuesdays

Morning Prayer at Litlington Church, 10:00am

4th October

11th October

18th October

25th October

Come, join and have a chat





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We are currently looking for new governors and associate governors, who do not have children at the school, to join our friendly governing body.

We are particularly looking for someone with skills and experience in: HR, finance or health & safety. No knowledge of education is required, although useful.

The Governing Board operates at a strategic level and is not involved in the day-to-day running of the school.

For further information please contact
Karenza Nutley
(chair@smpsgovernor.co.uk)

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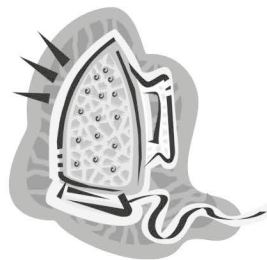
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Christine Furmston 01763 852125
Hilary Sharp 01763 852272
Anna Burwitz 01763 256871
Maggie Galan 01223 207307

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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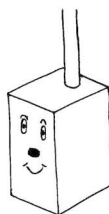
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Homage

I did not go to join The Queue,
But still I pray each person through,
As I sit with cups of tea,
Watching on the BBC.

Autumn leaves begin to fall
Outside vast Westminster Hall.
Still the endless, patient queue
Slowly weaves on into view.

Of course, I don't pretend to know
Why each dear person chose to go,
But there is something in us all
That longs to answer such a call.

From King or Queen to Saint or Pope,
When someone dear who gave us hope,
Like our own departed Queen,
Finally moves to pastures green,

Senses reel and sad hearts bleed,
And we feel a collective need
To pay homage and to keep
Our solemn vigil as we weep.

So I watch each grieving soul,
Entering that historic hall,
Where royal guards in splendour dressed
Guard their Colonel-in-Chief at rest.

Silence reigns, and all is still.
Faces crumple; shocked eyes fill;
Knees bend deeply; all heads bow;
Firm lips wobble; hot tears flow.

Their hands reflect the sense of loss:
Touch their hearts; make signs of the cross;
Salute earnestly; link in prayer,
As if they truly sense God there.

And God indeed is in that place:
His servant lies there, one whose grace
Was clear in every smile and word
That many millions saw and heard.

When we pay homage to our Queen
We show reverence to One Unseen,
And he takes home each precious tear;
For him, it's infinitely dear.

Fiona Davis 18/09/22