



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



# Prospect

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

| Rector                                      | Vacant   |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
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Deadline for July/August edition - 15 June Please send all material for inclusion direct to Ann Lynn please.

## Letter from our village churches

#### One of the privileges of my role in the church is that I get to walk alongside people at some of the really important events of their lives.

At the birth of a child, there is much to celebrate. There are often many things to think about, and for some families having their child Christened is extremely important. It is a joy to be able to go into peoples' homes and meet new parents and new babies (or sometimes toddlers) as we prepare for the day when their child will publicly become members of the Christian Church and acknowledge their place as "children of God". For those families that continue to maintain a relationship with the local church, it is a joy to see these little people develop and grow, learning not only about the people around them and the wonders of creation but also the love that God has for them as individuals too.

A Confirmation is a service during which young people or adults confirm for themselves the promises made by their parents at their Christening. This is a time when they publicly declare their faith in Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord, following several meetings during which we discuss their own faith and what it means to "live-out" their faith. This service is always taken by The Bishop, making this a very special event for those involved. This year, our Confirmation Service will be held in June.

The next important life-event is a wedding. There are of course certain legal restrictions as to who can be married in a local church but generally speaking, if you live in or have lived in the village then you are entitled to be married in the local church. It's always great to meet the couple for the first time, and to get to know a little bit more about them: their backgrounds, how they met, who proposed and when, how long they have been engaged. Then I get to meet those people who are most important to them - those who will have roles during the marriage service. Finally, after almost all the preparations are complete, we have the wedding rehearsal the night before "the big day". This is always fun and a time of much hilarity as the excitement of the next day approaches.

The life-event in which I am most privileged to participate, is following the death of a loved one. This is a time when families are suffering deeply and trying to come to come to terms with the reality of their

## Letter from our villages continued

loss. During these visits I listen and hear stories and shared memories. There are usually tears and sometimes laughter, as they describe to me their loved one and what this person meant to them. To be invited, often as a stranger, into peoples' lives at this time is a great honour and extremely humbling.

So, if you have any questions about, or wish to discuss any of the above life-events, please feel free to contact me. My details can be found in the front of the Prospect. Of course, if you have a need to speak to me for any other reason, please also feel free to contact me directly.

Rev Ann Bol

Associate Priest

#### Shingay Group of Churches

#### LENT COURSE THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone involved in the Lent Course. Soup and bread was served after each session. Donations were collected for Christian Aid which resulted in a total of  $\pounds165$  (of which  $\pounds130$  was Gift Aided). *Cynthia Worboys* 

### The Mordens WI

We are a small, friendly group of ladies meeting on the third Thursday of the month, usually 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.



On June 15th we will be holding an Hawaiian Party - you are invited to bring along an Hawaiian lei for the competition.. We will be organising a Games Evening at our meeting on July 20th and August 17th will be our usually laid back, indulgent Afternoon Tea in a member's garden.

If you would like to join us at any of our meetings, or to know more about The Mordens WI, please contact Joyce on 01763 852087.

# St Catherine's Church Litlington Book Cafe 10am — 12noon

Held on the first Saturday of

each month in Church

3rd June, 1 July, 5 August

We have a selection of freshly brewed coffees, specialist teas and a range of freshly-baked cakes and biscuits. Our extensive second-hand book stalls offer books for sale for all the family.

## Café Church In Steeple Morden

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Café Church will be open from 9am on the following Fridays –

9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th June

Everyone is welcome for tea, coffee, home-made cakes, toys for the children and chat

2nd June is half-term, so no Café Church



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## In The Garden

One of the pleasures of summer is the chance to visit gardens when they are looking at their best. So, I thought I would write about some of my favourite places to go and gain inspiration, relax and enjoy their sheer beauty. Gardens are ever changing works of art in their own right. Some of the gardens mentioned below belong to organisations such as the National Trust whilst others are privately owned.

I love a garden where structure and shapes play an important part in the design and this is often fulfilled by the use of topiary. **Powis Castle Garden**, Welshpool, Wales, is a spectacular example with seriously huge, beautifully manicured yew hedges and free-standing specimens. The garden has Italianate terraces lined with herbaceous borders and there are good views across the Severn valley. I am in awe and wonder as to how the gardeners manage to clip the 30 foot high yew hedges. It requires a whole day there to fully appreciate this National Trust site.

In Cumbria, near Kendal, **Levens Hall**, a magnificent Elizabethan mansion has what claims to be the world's oldest topiary garden originating in 1694. The garden is the place to go to see all kinds of interesting and unusual, green sculptures, around 100, with actual names, fashioned out of box and yew. True works of art. Though the topiary is perhaps the most popular attraction there are also wildflower meadows, vegetable, herb and rose gardens and a willow labyrinth. The hall has rooms full of beautiful furniture, paintings and the oldest patchwork quilt in England.

Much closer to home, now is the ideal time to visit the **Manor Hemingford Grey**, near Huntingdon. Created last century, by the author Lucy Boston, the garden has some beautiful topiary, but it also has gorgeous planting of irises which will be looking lovely now, followed by roses, including many oldfashioned varieties with delightful perfume. Funnily enough, Lucy Boston was also a patchwork quiltmaker and her work is exhibited in the house.

A visit to the **Crossrail Place Roof Garden**, in London will provide you with something entirely different and modern. This long, covered garden is a great place to escape from the noise and hubbub of urban life. It comprises of a very long space through which meanders a walkway with several places to stop and sit. Because it is situated on the meridian, the line that divides the eastern and western hemisphere, the planting has been created to reflect this. So, from the west there are numerous ferns and trees such as liquidambers and arbutus, whilst bamboos, maples and magnolias represent the east. It is free and open every day until dusk or 9pm in the summer.

I often come away from visiting these and other wonderful gardens with a feeling of inadequacy when I think of mine, but I try instead to take inspiration from them and remember that they have full time gardeners and volunteers who look after them! More information available at *yasfarooqui.co.uk* 



## **Steeple Morden Primary School**

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

We are currently looking for associate governors, who do not have children at the school, to join our friendly governing body inSeptember 2023. 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 (<u>chair@smpsgovernor.co.uk</u>) for more information.

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# **Floodlight Diary**

#### St Mary's, Guilden Morden

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

#### St Catherine's, Litlington

May 6<sup>th</sup> To celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III

May 12<sup>th</sup> in Loving Memory of George Powell RIP with love from Marion and the McCracken family.

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



| 4th June (Trinity Sunday)                                       |                             |  |  |
|---|-----------------------------|--|--|
| 8:30am  | Wendy                       | Holy Communion -Joint with Steeple Morden      |  |
| 9:45am  | Abington Pigotts            | Family Service<br>-Joint with Litlington       |  |
| 10:00am   | Guilden Morden              | Family Service                                 |  |
| 11th June (Trinity 1)   |                             |  |  |
| 10:00am   | Wendy                       | Group Communion                                |  |
| 18th June (Trinity 2)   |                             |  |  |
| 9:30am  | Litlington                  | Family Service<br>-Joint with Abington Pigotts |  |
| 9:45am  | Steeple Morden              | Children's Service                             |  |
| 10:30am   | Guilden Morden              | United Communion Service at St<br>Mary's *     |  |
| 25th June (Trinity 3)   |                             |  |  |
| 10:00am   | Litlington                  | Group Communion                                |  |
| 2nd July (Trinity 4)  |                             |  |  |
| 10:00am   | Litlington                  | Group Communion *                              |  |
| Please see church noticeboards in case of changes to this list. |                             |  |  |
| *   | O a manual in a last as the |  |  |

= Communion by extension

## And Tuesdays

Morning Prayer at Litlington Church, 10:00am 6<sup>th</sup> June 13<sup>th</sup> June 20<sup>th</sup> June 27<sup>th</sup> June followed by tea, coffee, and biscuits.

#### **Guilden Morden Congregational Church Diary**

#### www.guilden-morden-congregational-church.weebly.com

#### June 2023

We will be celebrating the re-opening of the church on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June from 3pm with tea & cakes and a bouncy castle for under 5's, followed by a short thanksgiving service at 4pm. Everyone welcome to come along.

|                      | •••            |   |
|----------------------|----------------|---|
| Sun 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 10.30am        | Café style service. Come and join us for croissants and coffee in our relaxed style of worship. All welcome |
| Mon 5 <sup>th</sup>  | 10.30am        | Men's Guild   |
| Tue 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 14.00pm        | COGS  |
| Wed 7th              | 9.00am-11.00am | Baby and Toddlers Group   |
| Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> | 15.00pm        | Celebration of Church re-opening  |
| Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> | 11.00am        | Joint service at Litlington   |
| Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> | 9.00am-11.00am | Baby and Toddlers Group   |
| Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> | 11.00am        | Joint service at St Mary's  |
| Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> | 9.00am-11.00am | Baby and Toddlers Group   |
| Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> | 10.30am        | Communion service in the Chapel   |
| Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> | 9.00am-11.00am | Baby and Toddlers Group   |
|                      |                |   |

Other group meetings:

Bridge Club Mondays at 19.30pm <u>Local History Group Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup></u> 15.00pm Film Club Friday 16<sup>th</sup> 19.30pm

Home group Zoom meetings Wednesdays 20.00pm.

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

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## LITLINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH DIARY JUNE

| Sun 4th  | 11.00am | Mrs Jackie Hal                           |
|----------|---------|--|
| Sun 11th | 11.00am | Mrs Sandra Galton ( joined by Guilden    |
|          |         | Morden Congregational Church)            |
| Sun 18th | 11.00am | Mrs Sylvia Jordan/ Mr David Jordan       |
| Sun 25th | 10.30am | Mr Tony Frost (service at Guilden Morden |
|          |         | Congregational)                          |

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