

Prospect

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



*sunshine projecting an image of stained glass
in the Guilden Morden church chancel*

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

March 2021

Prospect

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

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Deadline for April issue - March 15th.
Please send all material for inclusion direct to
Alex da Costa rather than via the Rector. Thank you.

At the time of writing, it is not clear when it will be recommended that we return to services in the churches. If it is possible to do that, details will be posted on church noticeboards and on our website

www.shingaychurches.co.uk. If it is necessary to continue worship only online, then I expect that services using Zoom will continue to be at 10am each Sunday. Please see the website for Zoom details, and if you'd like to receive regular updates about services, please email me: shamuswilliams@waitrose.com. Normally a list of services is printed in Prospect, but you will understand the difficulty of doing so this month because of the uncertainty about the timing of a loosening of the lockdown.

During Lent, the suggestion is that we have online meetings using Zoom on Tuesday lunchtimes. These will start at 12.15pm, with the idea being to have our lunch "together" (preferably with cameras not too close to mouths munching!). In other years this has been a simple lunch of soup, bread and cheese, with any money saved going to Christian Aid. Of course you are entitled to eat whatever lunch you like in your own home! If you do want to contribute to Christian Aid, please do this individually. Details on how to contribute are available on Christian Aid website. At 12.30pm, we would then have a short reflection on the "Seven Last Sayings of Jesus", followed by a service suitable for the middle of the day (midday Office). We should end by approx. 12.50pm.

Lent Reflections, Tuesdays at 12.15pm

The Seven Last Sayings of Jesus

Feb 23	"Father forgive them..."
March 2	"Behold, your mother. Behold, your son..."
March 9	"I thirst..."
March 16	"My God, why have you forsaken me?"
March 23	"Today, you will be with me in Paradise..."

Good Friday (details for this to be confirmed)

April 2	"It is finished..."
	"Father, into your hands I commit my Spirit..."

Zoom info for these Tuesday lunchtime meetings:

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82353275596?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82353275596?pwd=eHZYMEd0NmY5YlBheWNGam54M3hJQT09)

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Meeting ID: 823 5327 5596 Passcode: 659938

Shamus Williams

CHURCH OF ST PETER & ST PAUL

THANK YOU

The members of the PCC and everyone associated with the church would like to say a massive **“THANK YOU”** to everyone who responded to our finance appeal which we delivered to every house in the village shortly before Christmas. The generosity of your response has been fantastic and we are now much better equipped to face the challenges ahead in 2021 and beyond. Thank you to everyone involved.

EASTER EGGS

We are hoping to be able to send Easter Eggs again this year to children in Cambridgeshire refuges. If you are able to contribute this would be greatly appreciated - we are looking for just ordinary chocolate eggs, which would be passed on by Mothers' Union. Please contact Gilly McKee (852380) or Anne Hassall (853490). Hoping to hear from you!

DIARY DATE

We are planning a Spring Fair (Covid guidelines permitting) on Saturday, 24th April, 10am to 1pm.

Floodlight Diary (cont)

St Mary's, Guilden Morden

February 13th In loving memory of Joe Holroyd from Pat and all the family 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

March 10th In memory of Arthur Goddard RIP

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

Guilden Morden Congregational Church Diary

www.guildenmordencongregationalchurch.com

Given the current situation and the lack of certainty concerning future regulations, the following is a diary of events and services we would like to plan for March. Although the regulations permit face to face services we are also continuing to provide online services via Zoom. Please refer to our website (link above) or our facebook page for more up to date information. For those wishing to join a “service” zoom meeting the code is 933 0302 5193 passcode 2c1h3G.

MARCH

Fri 5th	10.30am	World Day of Prayer. Zoom service from the Chapel led by members of local churches
Sun 7th	10.30am	Family service via Zoom with children's activities, led by Tony Frost and Sandy Watkins
Mon 8th	10.30am	Men's Guild via Zoom
Sun 14th	11.00am	Service at Litlington. If we are unable to hold a service at Litlington there will be a zoom service led by Tony Frost
Sun 21st	10.30am	Joint service with St Mary's at the Chapel, and via Zoom, led by Tony Frost
	2.30-3.30pm	Sunday school via Zoom, led by Sandy Watkins
Sun 28th	10.30am	Palm Sunday Communion in the Chapel, and via Zoom, joined by Litlington, led by Tony Frost
Sun 4th	10.30am	Easter Sunday service with children's activities in the chapel, and via Zoom, led by Tony Frost and Sandy Watkins.

Home group Zoom meetings Tuesdays, Contact Amanda for details.

Measures to enable the start of other activities in the Chapel and schoolroom are now in place, and the buildings will be available for general use once the strict regulations have been relaxed sufficiently for activities to be allowed.

Insects are important for pollinating our fruit, vegetable and flowering plants and their existence is being threatened from several environmental forces. These include the loss of wildflower habitats, climate change, pesticides and diseases. Gardening for wildlife has become more important than ever, so here are some things you can actively do to make your garden an insect friendly environment.

Garden without using pesticides and herbicides because they disrupt the lifecycle of many animals and kill bees.

Grow nectar-rich plants which will provide food for bees and other insects throughout the year. In the winter, plants such as snowdrops, Christmas Box (*Sarcococca*), winter flowering honeysuckle (*Lonicera x purpusii*), Mahonias, and evergreen clematis (*Clematis cirrhosa*), are all in flower and rich in nectar that insects can feed on. Taking time to inhale the delicious scent that these plants produce is also great garden therapy for human beings.

As most plants flower in the spring and summer, there's always plenty of pollen and nectar around at that time of year. But to give the insects an even better chance, try growing plants which are especially nectar rich. The University of Cambridge has a really attractive bee border full of plants that insects can feast on, and a helpful list of suitable plants to grow which can be downloaded from their website. My favourite plants in this category include foxgloves, lavender, *Iris sibirica*, and salvias.

Plants which continue to flower into autumn will extend the availability of food for bees and other insects. These include the tall and airy *Verbena bonariensis*, Cosmos and Devil's bit scabious and sedums. Mature ivy plants produce nectar rich flowers in the autumn providing sustenance for butterflies, bees, hoverflies and the resulting fruit is eaten by blackbirds and thrushes over winter.

Grow a patch of nectar rich flowers.

Many hardy annuals and wild flowers that are great for insects including bees and butterflies, are very easy to cultivate. Candytuft, *Nigella*, cornflowers, Californian poppies, ox-eye daisies, and yarrow are just a few examples. These can be sown outside in the garden from now through to May. Create a patch of weed-free soil which is broken down to a fine texture. Make grooves in the soil about 1-2 cms deep and 15cms apart. Water them thoroughly. Sprinkle the seeds thinly into the grooves and rake

In the Garden (cont.) *Yasmeen Brigstocke*

the soil back over, gently firming it down with the your hand or the back of a rake. Protect the area from cats and birds by placing some mesh over it. Water regularly to keep the soil moist. When the seedlings emerge they should be thinned out so that they don't become too overcrowded. Many hardy annuals flower within three months of sowing.

Make bug hotels to provide shelter for insects.

This is something children might enjoy being involved in. The bug houses can be very visually imaginative constructions. Made from recycled materials such as corrugated card, pieces of wood as well as hollow stems of reeds, grasses, sections of bamboo canes and even broken roof tiles and air bricks, they will provide homes for ladybirds and a whole host of insects to hibernate in. There are many youtube videos online explaining how to construct them.

March is such a beautiful month as everything bursts into life so I hope you get a chance to enjoy watching the wildlife in your garden.



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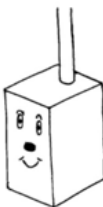
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