

# Prospect

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



*Detail of stained glass window in Abington Pigotts church*

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

**May 2021**

# Prospect

The Parish Magazine of the Shingay group of parishes  
[www.shingaychurches.co.uk](http://www.shingaychurches.co.uk)

## Rector & Prospect Editor

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

On the Sundays following Easter, we hear in church readings about Jesus's appearances to his disciples following the Resurrection. They are some of the loveliest stories in the gospels, and very much part of the story of Easter itself. But elements of them are quite puzzling. At one moment it sounds like Jesus is quite a ghostly figure, able to pass through walls. Yet in another moment, he is very definitely not ghostly, but very physical, with even wounds still there that can be seen and touched. And he cooks and eats what I always imagine to be a particularly delicious meal of barbecued fish.

If you've been able to see any friends or family in the flesh lately, you will know how much better that is compared to seeing them on a screen. It is still very frustrating not to be allowed to sing in church, and at one point after weeks and weeks of Zoom services where we could sing at home, when we were back in church, it occurred to me that we could sing there if we were muted. Just being silly now! This has made me appreciate all the more that we are corporeal, fleshly beings, and that is how God intended us to be. Yet at the same time we think of ourselves as more than just flesh. The Creed has the phrase "the resurrection of the body". I think that expresses that God promises that all that makes me "me" is encompassed in Christ's resurrection.

On Thursday 13th May, we mark the Ascension of the Lord. In much of Europe, because it has been regarded as a major feast day since the fifth century, it is a national holiday, but sadly not here. With the Ascension, Christ's human nature is now at the Father's side. It is as if this enables Christ to be present now in word and sacrament. And we can play our part in making Christ present in acts of forgiveness, generosity and love. This past year has provided countless examples of this, and let us be very grateful wherever and whenever we have witnessed that.

*Shamus Williams*

# Calendar of

## 2nd May (Easter 5)

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

## 9th May (Easter 6)

8.30am	Wendy	Parish Communion
9.30am	Litlington	Family Service
10.00am	Abington Pigotts	Family Service
10.00am	Guilden Morden	All-Age Worship
10.45am	Steeple Morden	Parish Communion

## Tuesday 13th May (ascension Day)

6.00pm	Guilden Morden	Holy Communion
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## 16th May (Ascension 1)

8.30am	Abington Pigotts	Parish Communion (PB)
9.30am	Litlington	Parish Communion
9.45am	Steeple Morden	Family Service
10.00am	Wendy	Morning Prayer
10.30am	Guilden Morden	United Service at Chapel

## 23rd May (Pentecost)

10.00am	Guilden Morden	Group Communion
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# Services

## 30th May (Trinity Sunday)

10.00am	Steeple Morden	Group Communion
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## 6th June (Trinity 1)

8.30am	Steeple Morden	Parish Communion(PB)
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8.30am	Abington Pigotts	Morning Prayer
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9.30am	Litlington	Family Service
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10.00am	Guilden Morden	Parish Communion
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Please see church notice boards in case it is necessary to make changes to this list. Thank you.

## Betty Pike RIP

Betty Pike was born, brought up and educated in Exeter, Devon – a city and county to which she frequently returned. On leaving school Betty went to London to train as a nurse at St Bartholomew's Hospital. Afterwards she completed a course in midwifery. She often cycled around London's East End delivering babies and visiting pre and post natal women. As her career progressed, Betty moved hospitals and ended her working life as a Sister Tutor teaching young nurses the craft.

On retirement Betty moved with her good friend, Margaret Jenner, to Basingbourn to live in the Jenner family home with Margaret's brother, John. As John was already a member of the congregation at Litlington Church, Betty and Margaret attended the services there too. Both ladies offered to do all that they could to enhance the life of the church. They took a turn on the cleaning rota and arranged beautiful flowers- even enrolling on a floristry course to hone their skills. They ran a popular Tombola at the annual village fete.

Betty was known for her cookery skills, making cakes for Church events and for the Red Cross Open gardens Scheme when she and Margaret helped provide teas. Betty enjoyed the company of other people and was interested in watching the children of fellow worshippers grow into adulthood.

In spite of the Covid 19 rules, Betty's funeral service was a lovely, fitting occasion. Fellow worshippers had put arrangements of spring flowers in church for the afternoon. People who knew Betty well conducted the service, rang the chimes, played the organ, read the two scripture readings and led the prayers. During lockdown many of us have missed seeing Betty and hearing her laugh. We appreciate all that she did for St Catherine's.

# Floodlight Diary

## **St Mary's, Guilden Morden**

Mar 22nd In loving memory of Frank VanderBorght. RIP

Apr 9th The lights were shining in honour of HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, with thanks for his awe inspiring service and dedication to the country and the crown. May he rest in peace.

Apr 14th In memory of Peter Dellar on the first anniversary of his death. He is much missed by all his loving 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**

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

### **TIME CAPSULE – March 2020 to December 2021**

St Peter & St Paul Church is planning a Time Capsule covering March 2020 to December 2021 which will be concealed in the church for future generations.

We are hoping that individuals, families and clubs across the village will take part in memorialising what has been an extraordinary, and hopefully unique, time.

Please think about how you can contribute – if you would like to talk about it please ring Gilly (852380) or Anne (853490).



## Easter Eggs - Thank You!

Once again the Church has received heartfelt thanks for the sixty-four Easter Eggs that were so generously donated this Easter. Mothers' Union delivered fifty-four to Cambridgeshire refuges and we delivered ten to Home Start. At least one refuge was planning an Easter Egg hunt, which will have caused great delight for the children. Thank you so much.

Anne Hassall

# **Guilden Morden Congregational Church Diary**

*[www.guildenmordencongregationalchurch.com](http://www.guildenmordencongregationalchurch.com)*

Now that restrictions are easing we can start to be a bit more positive about the future, so the following is a diary of events and services we would like to plan for May. In addition to live 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. We are also thrilled to be planning to re-start our Mix and Match sessions for babies and toddlers and their parents. Wherever possible meetings will be held outside to minimise risk, and please note that prior booking is necessary. Please check our website for any updated information on this exciting step forward.

Sun 2nd	10.30am	Family service live in Chapel, and by Zoom, led by Sandy
Wed 5th	9.15am-10.30am	Mix and Match. Outdoors. Indoors only if wet.15 adults only.
Sun 9th	11.00am	Service at Litlington. Sorry no Zoom
Mon 10th	10.30am	Men’s Guild via Zoom
Wed 12th	9.15am-10.30am	Mix and Match. Outdoors. Indoors only if wet.15 adults only.
Sun 16th	10.30am	Joint service with St Mary’s in the Chapel and via Zoom, led by Tony Frost
	2.30-3.30pm	Sunday School in the Chapel and via Zoom, led by Sandy Watkins
Wed 19th	9.15am-10.30am	Mix and Match. Outdoors. Indoors only if wet.15 adults only.
Sun 23rd	10.30am	Service in the Chapel and via Zoom, led by Tony Frost
Wed 26th	9.15am-10.30am	Mix and Match. Outdoors. Indoors only if wet.15 adults only.
Sun 30th	10.30am	Joint Communion Service with Litlington in the Chapel and via Zoom, led by Tony Frost. Please bring your own bread and wine.

Home group Zoom meetings Tuesdays 20.00pm. 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.

# **Litlington Congregational Church**

## **Meeting Lane SG8 0QF**

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Now is the time for sowing summer vegetables. I find some are much easier to grow than others, but the trick is to provide them with the conditions they need to succeed.

Let's start with carrots. The results I got from growing carrots in the border were pretty poor in comparison to growing them in a large window box or a raised planter filled with good compost. Keeping them at around a metre off the ground reduces the chance of damage by carrot fly, which hovers around at a lower level. Growing them in a mixture of compost and soil (or even last year's compost from bedding plants) gives them an easy substrate to grow through, so they grow long and straight. Beetroot also can be grown like this and will be ready to eat more quickly than carrots.

Courgettes are very easy to grow from seed and do so much better in a cold frame, greenhouse, or under a layer of gardeners' fleece than out in the open. I grow the variety 'Partenon F1' because it produces courgettes really quickly and doesn't need pollination. However, the taste is pretty average, so I also like to grow a yellow variety such as 'Gold rush F1'. and 'Romanesco', which are very tasty. When sowing the seeds, place them on their edge rather than flat in the compost, and don't over water or they will rot. Courgettes also grow well in large plant pots, 30cms in diameter or more. I don't use grow bags anymore, because I am trying to avoid single use plastic whenever possible.

For years I used to have a propagator that could fit four seed trays at a time and it was pretty good, but now I use a heat mat to germinate many of the vegetables and flowers I grow from seed because I need to a larger surface area. When I was a teenager, I germinated most of the seeds on a windowsill above a radiator with really good results. So, I think, as long as you can provide some form of heat to the bottom of the seed trays or pots, you'll get good results.

I've given up sowing peas and beans directly in the ground, as they get eaten by something before they get a chance to get growing. Instead I grow two to three in a 9cm pot and transplant them to the base of a bamboo or hazel wigwam and cover them over with empty plastic bottles which I use as cloches. They like really rich soil, so adding plenty of organic matter to a bed really helps.

Salad greens are much easier to grow than big lettuces. They can be grown in rectangular trays filled with compost. Sprinkle the seeds on top of well moistened compost, cover with a thin layer and place in a transparent plastic bag.

If you are growing potatoes, putting fleece over the top of the soil at this time of year will protect the emerging leaves from overnight frosts and give you a bigger harvest.

Vegetable growing is really rewarding and yes, it requires some effort, but it's worth it because they taste so good!

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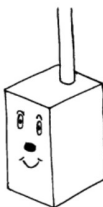
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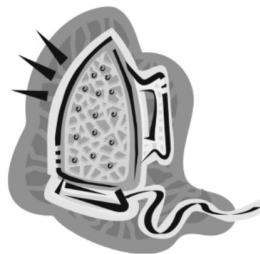


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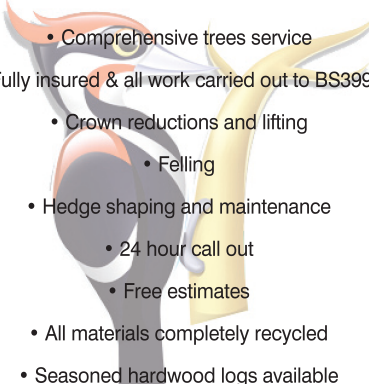


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