

# Prospect

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



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

**November 2025**

# Prospect

The Parish Magazine of the Shingay group of parishes

[www.shingaychurches.co.uk](http://www.shingaychurches.co.uk)

## Rector

Father Sam Perez, The Rectory, 18 High Street, Guilden Morden, Royston.

*rector.shingaychurches@gmail.com*

Day off Thursday

For those wishing to contact Fa Sam, he is available for calls on 01763 664032 at the following times:

Mondays 2.30pm-4.00pm                      Tuesdays 3.30pm-4.00pm

Wednesday 3.30pm-4.00pm                Fridays 2.30pm-3.30pm

Saturdays when not at Ask the Rector or other ministry events 10.30am-12.00noon

Sundays 3.00pm-4.00pm

Funeral directors only: if rector cannot be reached, contact assistant priest, Revd Ann Bol (01223 871058)

## Associate Priest

Revd Ann Bol, 36 Hillfield, Foxton, Cambridge CB22 6RZ      01223 871058

*RevAnn801@gmail.com*

## Licensed Lay Minister & Ministry Team

Cyril Harris, 10 Silver Street, Litlington. 01763 852107

Fiona Davis, 1 Silver Street, Guilden Morden 01763 852454

Mike Birrell, 3 Town Farm Close, Guilden Morden 01763 852174

Cicely Murfitt is also a member of the Ministry Team

## Bellringing

Kathy Tear, Guilden Morden      01763 853651

Paul Newman, Litlington      01763 244167

## Prospect Production

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Deadline for December/January - 15 November. Please send all material direct to Ann Lynn

# Fiona's Letter

As I walk through our woods at this time of year, with my camera slung hopefully around my neck, I am always struck anew by the beauty of autumn.



**Shingay Churches**  
ADDING GIFTS

The trees seem to save their most glorious colours for last – flaming golds and deep reds glowing in the low afternoon light. These are scenes that seem made for the lens, the pen, or the paintbrush – inviting artists of every kind to capture the splendour of the season in their own way. It is as though, before surrendering their leaves to the ground, the trees are giving one final, joyful burst of praise to their Creator.

And yet, behind that beauty lies a quiet truth: this splendour comes as the year is dying. The leaves fall, the branches grow bare, and the light fades earlier each day. The clocks have gone back, and we are bracing ourselves for the long winter ahead. But we know this is not the end. Hidden within every tree is the promise of spring – of renewal, of life returning once more. Death is not the final word.

As November begins, our thoughts turn inevitably towards Remembrance Day. Each year, as we say again those moving lines – *“They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old... We will remember them”* – we are reminded of the countless lives given in the service of others. Their sacrifice, too, speaks of a love stronger than death, and of a hope that endures beyond the passing seasons.

The crosses and memorials that stand in our cemeteries, churchyards and village greens may be grey, stark and bare – yet they point to resurrection. They remind us that, just as the trees will bud again, so Christ has promised that those who rest in him shall rise again with him.

As the days grow shorter and the nights longer, we look not only back in remembrance, but also forward in hope. Soon we will enter the season of Advent – that quiet time of waiting and watching, when we prepare to welcome the Light who came into our world and who will come again. May we walk through this changing season with thankful hearts – remembering, giving thanks, and trusting in the eternal springtime of God's love.

Fiona Davis, *Licensed Lay Minister for the Shingay Churches*



# News from the parishes

What do you call a gathering of licenced lay ministers? There was certainly a large flock of them in Ely on 4 October for a special service in the Cathedral where there was a service to welcome 7 newly licensed lay ministers and re-license all lay ministers for the triennium. Those present celebrated a collective 280 years of licensed lay ministry in the Diocese of Ely, with long service awards ranging from 3 to 45 years. Our very own Fiona Davis was one of 5 LLMs who received the **John Hullock Award**, having all completed their first three years as an LLM.



## Harvest Lunch for the Group October 5

We enjoyed a simple home cooked meal in St Mary's and we sent a donation of £120 to Jimmy's Night Shelter in Cambridge.

We also provided around 10 supermarket bags of groceries from the Group to boost their much depleted shelves.

## Café Church In Steeple Morden

Café Church will be open from 9am  
on Fridays during term time.

7, 14, 21, 28 November

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

## 'Many hands make light work!'

Father Sam and the Revd Ann were among a band of willing helpers who gathered at St Giles Church Tadlow to clean the Church and to hear from the 'Friends of the Friendless Churches' their hopes for it's future.

The Church is to be opened for baptisms, weddings and funerals as well as some services throughout the year.

It is good news to hear the Church will be available again for Worship.



## CHRISTMAS TREE SERVICE and Toy Collection

The Christmas Tree Festival will finish with a service on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 4 pm.

All the trees will be lit and it will be a beautiful sight.

We are collecting toys in good condition, which will go via Mothers' Union to children in Cambridgeshire refuges and to Mary's Child, so please have a sort-out at home to make room for new toys that will be received at Christmas.

Toys can be brought to the service or delivered to Anne Hassall (853490).



## A Service for Those who have been Bereaved, as we Remember with Thanks those we have Lost Sunday November 2nd

There will always be anniversaries and special times when you miss a person who has died. This peaceful and reflective service will be an opportunity to give thanks for their lives and to remember them. There will also be an opportunity to say some prayers and light a candle, and the name(s) of those who have died will be said, if that is what you would like. Simply tell us before the service starts.

The service will be held **on Sunday November 2nd** at the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul in Steeple Morden, starting at **5:00pm**.

Before the service, we will be serving **tea and cake between 4:00 and 4:30pm** for anyone who would like the opportunity to relax in a friendly atmosphere.

It doesn't matter whether the funeral took place in one of our churches, another church, the crematorium, or somewhere else. And you don't need to be a regular church-goer. This service is for anyone who has suffered the loss of someone dear to them.

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.



## COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING AT TWEEN TOWNS WOOD

Join us at Tween Towns Wood on Saturday 29 November to plant new native trees and help create a thriving woodland for people and nature.

No experience is necessary and our friendly team will provide you with a demo and the appropriate tools. Drop in anytime between 10am and 2pm

Please wear suitable clothing and footwear for planting outdoors. Good waterproofs, walking boots or wellies and warm layers are advised, bring a pair of gardening gloves if you have them.

Meet at the entrance off North Brook End  
[What3words.com/campus.uptake.uptake](https://www.what3words.com/campus.uptake.uptake)



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Sat 29 Nov  
10am–2pm  
Bring your own  
hot drink!



St Peter & St Paul Church, Steeple Morden

## 12<sup>TH</sup> CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Friday 21st to Sunday 23rd November, 2025

We'd love for you to join us

Friday 9-4 / Saturday 11-4 / Sunday 11-4

Refreshments will be available

*Plus Preserves and Cake Stall & Raffle*

**Christmas Tree with Toy Service on Sunday 23rd at 4pm**

(We are collecting good condition 2<sup>nd</sup> hand toys for a local women's refuge and Mary's Child charity via Mothers Union)

We'd love to hear from you if you have a little free time and would like to help over the weekend please contact Gilly on 852380



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## ASHWELL AND BASSINGBOURN PATIENTS GROUP

### NOTES FROM OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING

We have said goodbye to two valued members of our dispensary team, Julie and Tammy. We thank them for their loyal service and wish them well for the future. Our newly recruited dispenser, Dorcas, will be joining us shortly.

We are pleased to welcome Dr Nisha to our clinical team. Until recently one of our registrars, she is being funded by our Primary Care Network (association of local practices) to work for us and Baldock surgery bringing extra appointments to our rotas.

There was a long discussion about the Government's new requirement for online appointment forms to be available all day when practices are open. The facility up until now has been withdrawn once daily capacity is reached. No one quite knows how best to manage this change which comes with no additional resources. The BMA has expressed grave concerns about patient safety if the GPs reviewing (triaging) these forms suffer from overload fatigue. They are considering industrial action.

A charity is due to supply wheelchairs to our surgeries for use by patients who arrive by car and who are in need of such assistance. This will save unloading and loading personal chairs .

Earwax removal is available under the NHS at Sollershott Surgery in Letchworth – appointments are made via our Reception. The Ashwell Frailty Hub continues to thrive and new members are always welcome.

GP surgeries receive their NHS funding and are overseen by regional Integrated Care Boards (ICBs). The current structure is changing and our present ICB – Herts and West Essex – is to become Herts, Cambs, Beds, Luton and Milton Keynes. We hope that this will mean closer ties with Addenbrookes but details are as yet unavailable.

# St Catherine's Church Litlington Book Cafe

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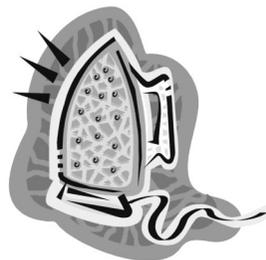
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When someone requests lemon in their G&T, it always gives me a sense of satisfaction and smugness, to be able to say: “ Just a minute, I’ll go and pick one especially for you”. Growing a lemon tree is relatively easy and very rewarding. Their strongly scented flowers and the decorative nature of their fruit make them good houseplants and these are some reasons why you should grow one. Citrus fruit trees are not hardy, so they need winter protection, but during the summer they benefit from living outside in a sheltered spot, enjoying the warmth of the sun from about May to October. They can give the patio a Mediterranean feel, especially when grown with other sun loving plants such as the climbing passion-flower or campsis in the background and osteospermums, and trailing geraniums at their feet. They should be brought indoors for the rest of the time and placed away from radiators, in a well-lit, frost free area, where the temperature doesn’t fall below 10 degrees C.

Growing citrus plants from pips can be fun, but they may never fruit so I recommend getting a grafted one from a specialist nursery or garden centre. Choose one that has a well branched head of deep green glossy leaves. Lemons tend to be the hardiest of the citrus family and my twenty-five-year-old one has put up with a lot of neglect, and is still doing well.

All citrus trees need a lot of sunlight and warmth to grow well and don’t really like draughty conditions. They hate sitting in pools of water, and like a rich fertile, free draining soil. I used to think that the pots of winter and summer citrus feeds stacked up by the plants in garden centres were just a ploy to get me to spend more, but they really make a big difference to the health of the plant. My lemon tree hardly ever produced any fruit until I started using these feeds. A few months after I started a comprehensive feeding regime I was rewarded with the delightful smell of lemon blossom pervading the house and then an amazing number of tiny fruit started to form. It takes many months for lemons to grow to full size and turn yellow, but it’s well worth the wait.

Given the right care, they can grow into large plants but are easy to keep in check with a bit of judicious pruning. When you are re-potting them, use either a specialist citrus compost or a John Innes No 3 and put some grit or gravel in the base of the pot to ensure good drainage. Beware of the peat free composts which can be spongy and hold far too much water for their liking.

Maybe I shouldn’t mention the C word, but I know someone who will be very pleased receive a lemon tree this Christmas. Better than a pair of socks don’t you think?

# Calendar of Services

2nd November (All Saints and All Souls)		
10:00am	Wendy	Patronal Group Holy Communion (All Saints)
5:00pm	All Souls (Service for the Bereaved - Remembering with Thanksgiving)	Steeple Morden with tea/coffee at 4:00pm
9th November (Remembrance Sunday)		
8:30am	Rem Ceremony only	Airfield
9:15am	Rem Ceremony only	Odsey
9:30am	Rem Ceremony + Service	Abington Pigotts
9:30am	Rem Ceremony + Service	Wendy
9:55am	Rem Ceremony only	Steeple Morden
10:55am	Rem Ceremony + RBL Ser-	Guilden Morden
10:55am	Rem Ceremony + Service	Litlington
16th November (2 before Advent)		
10:00am	Holy Communion	Steeple Morden
10:00am	United Service with Chapel at St Mary's	Guilden Morden
23rd November (Christ the King)		
10:00am	Group Communion	Litlington
4:00pm	Steeple Morden	Christmas Tree Festival Service
25th November (Tuesday)		
10:00am	Patronal Feast Communion	Litlington
30 November (Advent Sunday) Year A		
8:30am	BCP Holy Communion	Steeple Morden
18:30pm	Group Advent Service with Candlelight	Litlington



## Morning Prayer at Litlington Church Tuesdays at 10am

4, 11, 18, 25 November  
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# Floodlight Diary

## St Mary's, Guilden Morden

October 1	Remembering with love, Barbara Haines, on her birthday, from all the family.
October 9	With great sorrow I must say goodbye to Freda Adlington (Williams). Freda was 91 years old and like Barbara Haines and myself was one of the 8 village babies born in 1934. <i>CW</i>
October 19	Remembering Graham Cole on his birthday RIP
October 21	Remembering Linda Davies on her birthday RIP
October 31	Remembering Linda again with love on her passing, from all the family. RIP

*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 321347*

## S Peter & S Paul, Steeple Morden

Nov 16 In loving memory of Ian Wallace Symington RIP

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



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# Litlington Congregational Church

All are welcome at our friendly services

2nd Nov 11.00am

9th Nov 10.50 am

16th Nov 11.00 am

23rd Nov

30th Nov 10.30am

CAFE SERVICE in Church Hall

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE

At St Catherine's Church

Mr Frank Pearson - Communion Service

No service on this day

Mr Tony Frost ( At Guilden Morden Congregational Church)

## HALL HIRE

Our hall is available for your meeting or event for a voluntary donation. The 7.4 m X 5.7 m room has an independent entrance and a separate kitchen, toilet, large lobby area, car park and garden. Chairs and tables are available.

It will accommodate up to 30 people for meals and up to 45 for meetings and buffets. contact [litcchurch@aol.com](mailto:litcchurch@aol.com)

## SAY ONE FOR ME

We have an arrangement whereby the minister and congregation will say prayers on your behalf. Are you, or somebody you know, unwell, grieving, having a difficult time or a concern or need? There is a Prayer Box to the left in the front Church porch for you to post your prayer request. Using card or paper show the date and first name of the person for whom we should pray and the reason.

Alternatively, send a email. *With God nothing is impossible Luke 1.3*



## **Heron Self Help Scheme**

scheme for **Cambridgeshire residents only** offering emergency transport to the doctor, hospital, etc.

For help contact your co-ordinator as shown below.

The charge for this service is 30p per mile payable to the driver.

Steeple Morden

Guilden Morden

Litlington & Abington Pigotts

Bassingbourn & Kneesworth

Orwell & Wimpole

Frances Lucy 01763 852608

Christine Furnston 01763 852125

Hilary Sharp 01763 852272

Michelle Freeman 07971645558

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.

### **CAN YOU HELP US TO HELP THOSE WHO NEED OUR SERVICES?**

We are in urgent need of volunteer drivers in all villages. A mileage allowance is paid, and insurance cover provided.

Please contact one of the above, as appropriate, if you can help.

# Guilden Morden Congregational Church Diary

[www.guilden-morden-congregational-church.weebly.com](http://www.guilden-morden-congregational-church.weebly.com)

Every Friday at 10.00am in the Chapel you are also welcome to join an informal gathering of those praying for our villages and our world.

- Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov** 10.30am Café style service. Come and join us for croissants and coffee in our relaxed style of worship. All welcome.
- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov** 10.30 – 12.00 Men's Guild  
9.30 - 11.30am Open Church. Come and have a chat with our minister, Tony  
7.00 for 7.30pm Local Vocals sponsored by GMCC
- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> Nov** 2.00 – 4.00pm COGS
- Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Nov** 9.00 – 11.30am Fun4Tots
- Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> Nov** 10.00am Remembrance Service
- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> Nov** 9.30 - 11.30am Open Church. Come and have a chat with our minister, Tony  
7.00 for 7.30pm Local Vocals sponsored by GMCC
- Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Nov** 9.00 – 11.30am Fun4Tots
- Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Nov** 10.00am Joint service at St Mary's
- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> Nov** 9.30 - 11.30am Open Church. Come and have a chat with our minister, Tony  
7.00 for 7.30pm Local Vocals sponsored by GMCC
- Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Nov** 9.00 – 11.30am Fun4Tots
- Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov** 10.30am Service led by Mr David Freeman
- Monday 24<sup>th</sup> Nov** 10.30 – 12.00 Men's Guild  
7.00 for 7.30pm Local Vocals sponsored by GMCC
- Wed 26<sup>th</sup> Nov** 9.00 – 11.30am Fun4Tots
- Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> Nov** 10.30am Joint communion service with Litlington Congregational Church at the chapel (1st Sunday of Advent)

Other group meetings:

Bridge Club Mondays at 19.30

Community Choir Mondays at 19.00 for a 19.30pm start (term time)

History Group Wednesday 5 Nov at Steeple Morden Village Hall

Knit and Natter Every other Tuesday

Photographic Club First Tuesday of the month

Needle Bees Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 7.30 – 10.00pm

Home group Zoom and face to face meetings Tuesdays 20.00

Contact Emily for details [emilymwilkinson@doctors.org.uk](mailto:emilymwilkinson@doctors.org.uk)

Anyone wishing to book the rooms for social activities please contact Gina Ferrari

[ginaferrari57@gmail.com](mailto:ginaferrari57@gmail.com)

# Steeple Morden Village Hall

Registered Charity Number 300421

29 Hay Street Steeple Morden Hertfordshire SG8 OPD

<http://www.steeplemordenvillagehall.co.uk>

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**For full details and how to book log on to the following site**

<https://hallbookingonline.com/steeplemorden> or use the QR code



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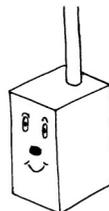
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# Shingay Services for Remembrance Sunday

9<sup>th</sup> November 2025

8:30am	Remembrance Ceremony only	Airfield
9:15am	Remembrance Ceremony only	Odsey
9:30am	Remembrance Ceremony + Service	Abington Pigotts
9:30am	Remembrance Ceremony + Service	Wendy
9:55am	Remembrance Ceremony only	Steeple Morden
10:55am	Remembrance Ceremony + RBL Service	Guilden Morden
10:55am	Remembrance Ceremony + Service	Litlington