

Prospect

The Parish Magazine
of the Shingay group of Parishes



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

October 2024

Prospect

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

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Please send all material for inclusion direct to Ann Lynn please.

Letter from our village churches

God has called the whole body of the Church to share in his mission to the world. Within that body, he calls some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip all his people for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ. (From the Institution, CofE)

Being part of the Church of the Church of England means learning a whole new vocabulary. When I first joined the CofE, I found it a real challenge to learn the various names and roles that appear in the church hierarchy. Here's a quick lesson relevant to our welcoming our new Rector.

As you know, over the last couple of years, The Shingay Group of Churches have been without an *incumbent* – a Priest in Charge. We have been *in vacancy*. We are now thrilled to be preparing to officially welcome Reverend Samuel Perez as our new Rector. So, what is a *Rector* and is it different from a *Vicar*?

Today, both names are used interchangeably and there is no difference. However, historically it came down to how they were paid a living. In those days, churches were funded by *tithes*. This was a local tax that was levied on everyone and they were expected to pay one-tenth of all they produced to the church either in cash or produce, the latter being stored in the tithe barns. The Rector would be entitled to receive all the tithes. Some Rectors were clergymen but some were not (*Lay Rectors*). If the Rector had a clergyman working with him, he would be referred to as the *Vicar*. The Rector would be responsible for paying a lesser share of the tithe to the Vicar for his up-keep. Today, those parishes that historically had a Rector, have retained that title. Similarly, where the clergyman was historically a Vicar, they have Vicars today.

And of course, remuneration is very different nowadays too. Clergy are now paid *stipends*. A *stipend* is essentially funded by the donations of those who regularly attend or support the local church. The Church of England does not pay its clergy and staff from historical wealth. The money managed by the Church Commissioners essentially only goes as far as paying for the bishops, the central organisation, pensions, and the training of new clergy. Funding our local priest is up to us. What it comes down to is, if we want to keep a Rector for the Shingay Group then we have to raise the money to pay for him.

But for now we are looking forward to Wednesday October 2nd, when Father Sam will be authorised by Bishop Dagmar for the spiritual and pastoral care of all the persons within the parishes (the *Institution*), and then given the responsibility, by Archdeacon Alex, for the property and running of the Benefice (the *Induction*).

We thank God for sending Father Sam to us, and we pray for him as he prepares for October 2nd and all that follows in our shared journey. *Revd Ann Bol*



A special presentation took place following the Harvest service at Wendy Church on 22nd September.

John Jenner, churchwarden at Litlington Church, presented Revd Ann Bol with flowers and a small gift to mark our appreciation to her for all her love and support during the vacancy.

ASK THE RECTOR

In preparation for the arrival of our rector to our Group of Parishes, you are invited to ask him questions you might want to know about him

ABOUT HIS LIFE

Fr Sam is originally from Spain, but where exactly? How much influence has his culture in his life?

ASK, AND IT
WILL BE
GIVEN TO
YOU

MATTHEW
7:7

HOW TO ASK

follow the QR code on the right and post your questions there. We cannot guarantee that all will be answered, but we will try

SCAN THE QR CODE



We've had a quiet month in the area of hatches and matches, with everyone off on their summer holidays. If you have an enquires yourself, please contact Fa. Sam or Revd Ann to talk through what we can offer and what you would like. Contact details inside the front cover.

William Rothery Pye

Will Pye lived in Steeple at The Fox and The Walnut House, until he moved to Australia in 2001. There he settled and founded a successful business, although his life changed in February 2011, when as a fit 6'3" 31 year old, he was diagnosed with a brain tumour.

He reacted with surprising good humour and heroic determination to self-cure. Over the years, through his energy, vision and studies, he developed an all-embracing approach to life, about which he taught and lectured - leading events and retreats world-wide. As a modern

measure of influence, type "Will Pye" into Google and the results evidence his global reach and extensive on-line following. He wrote two books *Blessed with a Brain Tumour* and *The Gratitude Prescription*.

Will was a funny, charismatic, courageous, generous, intellectually gifted and loving man, who offered support and inspiration to others through his charitable and spiritual activities.

Will and wife Muse, were most recently in Steeple Morden visiting family over last Christmas. Having returned to Australia, the tumour, tamed for so long, was finally exerting deleterious control and Will spent his last weeks at home cared for by Muse and his mother, Anna.

William Rothery Pye died age 45 on 20th July 2024 in Upper Beaconsfield, Victoria, Australia, much loved and missed by his family. He was husband of Muse, son of Andrew and Anna, brother to Louise, uncle to Barney, William and Charlie, step-son of Olwyn, step-brother to Diana and Victoria and step-uncle to Olivia, Finley, Daley and Lenny.

Will's family are grateful for your many personal messages of support and condolence.

There have also been thousands of on-line messages from those, who having faced their own challenges, are appreciative of the life help and guidance Will shared over the years.



Anna Pye



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At a recent lecture given to members of Garden Organic by Tim Lang, (President of GO and Emeritus Professor of Food Policy at City University), he mentioned that Britain only produces some 55% of its food requirement. Should there be some catastrophe or a major change in circumstances and imports of food to this country suddenly stop, starvation may quickly become a reality here. So we need to build some food resilience into our society.

At the moment private gardens only grow about 1% of edible produce and perhaps we need to start thinking about how to use our gardens in a more food productive way. And October is a good time to do this by deciding what to grow for next year. This is because it is possible to improve the soil in your garden over winter so that it provides the plants you will be growing in the spring with more nutrients, making them stronger and increasing what you harvest. This month you can order bare-root fruit trees and bushes, to plant from November until March.

If you don't have an area for growing vegetables and fruit, one can get started now. Mark out an area which gets at least 4-6 hours of sunshine a day in the summer. The more sun it gets the bigger range of plants you'll be able to grow so a sheltered, south or south-west facing position is best. To get rid of weeds cover the area with cardboard, removing any plastic tape stuck to it. Place a thick layer of straw, that hasn't been contaminated with herbicides or pesticides, on top of the cardboard and leave over winter and into early spring. Both these materials will slowly break down and provide organic matter from which the soil will benefit and also prevent weeds from growing; any still there will be easy to remove next year.

If you already have an area that can be used for growing fruit and vegetables, a good way to improve the soil and increase the organic matter in it, is to spread a thick layer of well-rotted farm manure to decompose over the winter or to plant a green manure crop now. Seed companies can supply a green manure winter mix or a single variety, such as rye, vetch or field beans, so hunt around for something suitable for your type of soil.

You don't need a garden to grow fruit and vegetables. In fact, I have found that some vegetables including carrots, lettuce, dwarf French beans can all be grown successfully in large window boxes. This is partly because their position can be easily controlled; facilitating the protection from carrot fly and slugs and snails when they are raised about a metre or more off the ground. Fill the window boxes or other large containers with an organic compost and you can grow broad beans, corn salad, or garlic immediately.

Next month we'll be looking at what can be planted in the winter giving you a head start for 2025.

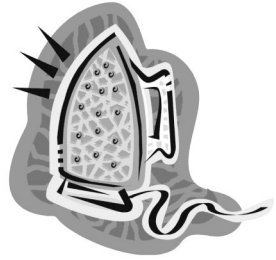
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COZY, AUTUMNAL PUMPKIN SOUP

It is officially the start of 'spooky season' and this recipe is a great way to embrace the coziness of, in my opinion, the best season! This recipe is undeniably hearty and delicious and can be enjoyed in so many ways as the ultimate comfort meal.

This recipe can easily be made vegetarian or vegan and its simplicity makes it so adaptable that you can't help but love it. Although the roasting process of the vegetables takes a while this recipe is so quick and easy to assemble as it requires very little preparation. I hope you love it as much as I do!

Ingredients:

1 medium-sized pumpkin (quartered and deseeded)	
1 carrot	
1 parsnip	Salt and pepper/other seasonings to taste
1 stick of celery	Chicken or vegetable stock and 300ml water
4 cloves garlic (whole)	100ml cream for garnish
2 onions	50g chorizo
Olive oil	

Preheat oven to about 180° fan, it is not exact in this case as all the vegetables in the soup will be roasted for about an hour. Add your pumpkin (round edge facing down) to a roasting pan, along with roughly chopped carrots, parsnips, celery, onions and garlic. Generously drizzle olive oil over the top of the veg, coating everything well, and finally season with a little salt and pepper. Roast the veg in the oven for about an hour or until it has softened so you can easily insert a fork into the middle.

Allow to cool on the side almost completely before removing the outer, orange skin of the pumpkin to be discarded. Blend all the veg into a smooth paste and transfer to a pan on the stove. Don't worry if the soup looks a little thick, add in your stock cube and water to create your perfect consistency. I used about 300ml boiling water which I then simmered on a low heat for about 15 minutes to reduce, however you can use more or less depending on your personal preference.

While the soup is gently simmering in the pan, chop your chorizo into small cubes and fry for a few minutes in a small frying pan until the bottom of the pan is coated in reddish oil. You don't need to add much oil to the pan before frying the chorizo as it produces lots of oil. I love this recipe because, like many of my others, it is so versatile and is just there for you to have fun with so be as creative as you like! This recipe can be made entirely vegetarian/vegan by using vegetable stock instead of chicken and omitting the chorizo entirely, dairy free cream can also be used and would be a brilliant alternative. To serve just drizzle with a little cream if desired and sprinkle the chorizo pieces and oil over the top!

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St Mary's Summer Club

This year's Summer Club (for children aged 5-11, from our local schools) took place at the end of August, in the two venues of St Mary's Church and the Congregational Chapel. We were completely full on a couple of days this year, which was lovely! Grateful thanks go out to all those adults who helped make this club possible, through their warm-hearted assistance each day.

The theme this year was 'Animals in the Bible', and the children learned all about God's love for his world and for us all, through the Old Testament stories of the Creation and Noah's Ark, as well as through the teachings of Jesus in the New Testament tales involving sheep and fish.

Children loved the games, crafts, treasure hunts and other activities; the prayer sessions involving Paws the mouse, and the Tuck Shop, where they got to choose their own food, 'paid for' with special coloured tokens each day!

They also enjoyed the Open the Book story-telling, which we used to bring Bible stories to life. We would like to take this opportunity to invite any adults who might be interested in taking part in 'Open the Book' visits to Steeple Morden and Guilden Morden primary schools.

You need to have a love of dress-ing-up and a desire to share God's love for children through Bible stories. If that sounds like you - please get in touch!!

Contact Fiona Davis on 01763 853454 or email fiona_davis7@hotmail.com.



“Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower.” (Albert Camus)

You will notice beech leaves turning bronze, and yet with green patches still on the leaves. There are caterpillars of the moths *Stigmella titirella* and *Stigmella hema girella*, which burrow away inside the leaf, and inside these caterpillars is a bacteria which causes the caterpillar to release a hormone in its spit, that delays the process of *senescence* (my word of the month: the process of deteriorating through age) on patches of the leaf which stops it turning brown or bronze

Long associated with fun and happiness, growing ivy up the walls of your house is said to bring good fortune. Ivy covered poles or “ale stakes”, were raised outside inns to show good wine & ale could be found within. And to dream of your future bride, a man must place an ivy leaf under his pillow on 31st October. Presumably snatched from the ale-stake garland upon leaving the pub!

As you will know, ivy flowers are an important source of late nectar for bees and hoverflies. And I have learned that there are some 30 species of UK hoverflies that rely on ivy nectar, such as the common Batman hoverfly, which has the superhero’s logo plain on the top of his thorax (middle section, anchoring the legs and wings), and the Noon fly, about 1cm long, black and hairy with big eyes, which can pass for a big housefly except for the telltale orange patch at the base of their wings. It will often bask in the October sun around midday. And then, the Hornet hoverfly, obviously masquerading as a Hornet but with larger eyes, at 2cm long, is the largest of our hoverflies. Another helpful differentiator, I read, from the European hornet was that this hoverfly has no sting. I wondered at what point, exactly, as you are being mobbed by a Hornet hoverfly, would you stop and exclaim, “Oh, cease panicking everyone. This is a harmless imposter. For, see, it has no sting.”

The winter will bring us all a remission from many irritating insects, whether Hornet or Wasp or the ubiquitous Housefly invading our homes, but as Melissa Harrison notes, “*no sooner have (the Houseflies)... left the stage, than their understudy appears in the form of the Cluster fly, which looks like a house fly but moves much more slowly and ponderously*”. They have short golden hairs on their thorax and pale and dark patches, like an irregular chessboard, on their abdomen. Also known as the Attic fly or the Grass fly, the life cycle of the Cluster fly is really rather grim... and short. In the summer, they will fly to your lawn and lay their eggs in cracks in the soil. Within three days, these hatch and the larvae (the maggot) will creep around until it latches on to an earthworm. They burrow into the earthworm and feed off it for several days until they are ready to pupate. They will then leave the worm and sit in the soil until they are ready to emerge. There can be four generations in a summer and on a warm day, you can see their swarm clustered on



St Catherine's Church Litlington Book Cafe

10am — 12noon

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5th October, 2 November

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In the Countryside *continued*

the side of a building basking in the sunlight. If they have invaded your home (usually, the attic), then you will know how difficult they are to remove permanently, as it seems that next year's generations will hone in on the chemical trail left by previous generations.

My diary says that on 1st October last year, there were Wild snapdragons (*Linaria vulgaris*) also known as Butter and eggs, Common toadflax or Flaxweed, flowering along Ashwell Street. They have yellow/cream flowers, which, as with your garden Snapdragons, children will want to pluck and squeeze the sides to make the flower "talk".

The Wild or Dog rose's hips or haws are also standing out in the hedgerows by now. Oranges were an early casualty in World War 2 and the Ministry of Food turned to our schoolchildren to collect Rose hips. By 1945, 450 tons or so of Rose hips were gathered in the autumn, to make into a syrup by Delrosa. This was rationed and provided to mothers because it had been discovered, only in 1930s, that Rose hips had thirty times more vitamin C than imported oranges as well as vitamins A, B & K also.

And the Hunter's Moon, another Supermoon, will rise after sunset on 17th October.

Calendar of Services

2nd October (Wednesday evening)		
7:00pm	Litlington	Institution and Induction Service of Revd Samuel Perez as Rector of the Shingay Group of Churches
6th October (Trinity 19)		
10:00am	Guilden Morden	Holy Communion
4:00pm	Abington Pigotts	Abington Pigotts Harvest Service
13th October (Trinity 20)		
10:00am	Abington Pigotts	Group Communion
20th October (Trinity 21)		
8:30am	Wendy	Holy Communion
10:00am	Abington Pigotts	Family Service with Litlington
10:00am	Steeple Morden	Family/Children's Service
10:30am	Guilden Morden	United Service <i>at GM Chapel</i>
27th October (Last after Trinity)		
10:00am	Guilden Morden	Group Communion
6:00pm	Steeple Morden	Service of Remembering with Thanksgiving <i>(tea/coffee at 5:00pm)</i>
3rd November (All Saints)		
10:00am	Steeple Morden	Group Communion
Please see church noticeboards in case of changes to this list.		
<i>* = Communion by extension</i>		

And Tuesdays ...

Morning Prayer at Litlington Church 10.30am



1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th October and
5th November



followed by tea, coffee, and biscuits.

Come, join and have a chat.

Floodlight Diary

St Mary's, 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 321347*

S Peter & S Paul, Steeple Morden

18 October In loving memory of Maureen Huffer RIP on her birthday

18 October In memory of Reggie Twiner RIP

19 October Happy 69th birthday to Steve Game

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

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. On 17th October Mr & Mrs Hardy's talk is entitled "Two go Digging."

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. Transport can be arranged.



Café Church In Steeple Morden

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

4, 11, 18 & 25 October.

We do not meet during school holidays.

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Ashwell and Bassingbourn Patients Group

We welcome two new registrars to the practice. They are Dr Ramia Jameel and Dr Nisha Sivalingam. These are doctors who have finished their medical training and who are completing their in-surgery placement to become GPs. We are also pleased to welcome a new member of our reception team who comes with experience of working in another practice.

Preparations are afoot to create a "Frailty Hub" in Ashwell. There are currently 11 such hubs in North Herts and Stevenage and they are proving very popular. This new hub would be open to residents in Cambs and Beds. Our surgery was delighted to host the initial meeting.

Patients seem to be getting used to the new online appointments system which has led to a sharp decline in telephone communications.

We are alarmed at the number of appointments missed by patients not turning up. There were 27 in one day recently. This is obviously a waste of resources. If you can't attend please inform the surgery as soon as you are able so another patient can have that appointment.

Patients aged 75-79 and pregnant women over 28 weeks are being offered the new RSV (respiratory virus) vaccine.

The surgery was alerted to the fact that recent repeated text messages about flu clinics were unclear. This was because the external provider of this service did not convey the message as we had intended. Apologies for this.



11TH CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Friday 22nd to Sunday 24th November, 2024

St Peter & St Paul, Steeple Morden

Have you started planning your tree?

If so get together with friends, family, clubs or organisations.

We just bet you are 'pining' to show your talents

Help us to beat last year's 36 trees and make this year

TREE-mendous.

Registration forms and festival details can be obtained from Anne Hassall, 853490 – so what are you waiting for – give her a call now.

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 or Annie on 853829

Guilden Morden Congregational Church Diary

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. Mondays 9.30 - 11.30am Open Church.

Come and have a chat with our minister, Tony

Sunday 6th Oct **10.30am** Café style service – Harvest Service. Come and join us for croissants and coffee in our relaxed style of worship. All welcome.

Monday 7th Oct **10.30 – 12.00** Men's Guild

Tuesday 8th Oct **14.00pm** COGS

Sunday 13th Oct **11.00am.** Joint Service with Litlington at Litlington

Sunday 20th Oct **10.00am** Joint Service with St Marys at the Chapel

Monday 21st Oct **7.00pm for a 7.30pm start** Community Choir

Sunday 27th Oct **6.30pm** Joint communion service with Litlington at the Chapel

Fun4Tots Wednesdays from 9.00am to 11.30am

Bridge Club Mondays at 19.30pm

Community Choir Mondays at 19.00pm

Knit and Natter Alternate Tuesdays at 10.00am from 3rd September

Local History Group Wednesday 4th September 15.00pm

Photographic Club Tuesday 17th September 19.00pm

Home group Zoom meetings Tuesdays 20.00pm.

Contact Emily for details, emilymwilkinson@doctors.org.uk

*Anyone wishing to book the rooms for social activities contact Gina Ferrari
ginaferrari57@gmail.com*

Litlington Congregational Church

October 2024 *All are very welcome at our services*

6th 11.00am Mr Peter Godbert

13th 11.00am Mr David Jordan (Joined by Guilden Morden Congregational Church)
CHURCH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

20th 11.00am Mrs Jackie Hall (Communion Service)

27th 10.30am Mr Tony Frost (At Guilden Morden Congregational Church)

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 : litchurch@aol.com

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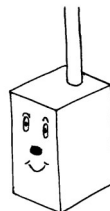
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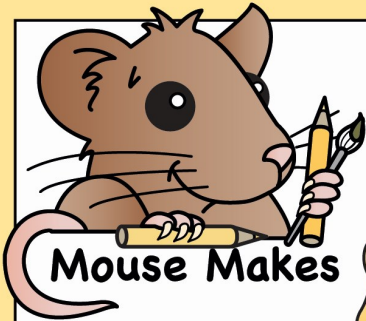
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WALK WITH THE LORD

"Teach me your way,
O Lord, that I would
walk in your _____."
Psalm 86:11



"For we **walk** by

not by sight."
2 Corinthians 5:7

"**Walk** in

as Christ loved
us and gave
himself up for us."
Ephesians 5:2

"**Walk** by the

"
Galatians 5:16



Jesus said:
"I am the light
of the world.
If you

me you won't
have to **walk**
in darkness
because
you have
the light
that leads
to life."
John 8:12



"**Walk** in
a manner
worthy of the
Lord, fully pleasing
to him, bearing
_____ in
every good work
and increasing in
the knowledge
of God"
John 8:12

_____ is everyone who
fears the Lord,
who **walks** in
his ways."
Psalm 128:1

- GOD • JESUS • LORD • WALK
WAYS • STEP • FEET • PATH • GO • TEACH • KNOWLEDGE • LIGHT

Find the words from the questions too!