

Prospect

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



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

September 2025

Prospect

The Parish Magazine of the Shingay group of parishes

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 Fr 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

Licenced 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

Ann Lynn (production editor)

shingayprospect@aol.com 07710577753 (please leave a message)

Mrs Gillian McKee (advertising)

Hill House, Cheyney Street, Steeple Morden SG8 0LR

01763 852380

shingayprospectadverts@gmail.com

Deadline for October - 15 September. Please send all material direct to Ann Lynn

September of Commencement

The month of September has carried many mixed emotions in me for years. I think it has to do with the fact that more than thirty years of my life (and I have not yet reached my forties) I have spent in the world of academia in one way or another. And

September has always been the season of beginning the course. While I said goodbye to wonderful hot summers of enjoyment, September would be my blue January; back to the daily routine of studying hard and the beginning of the cold season.

Yet, where the summer ends, autumn starts to show its face. New opportunities would come my way. I still remember the September when I first took French language, and how my father would correct my pronunciation of the verbs in the infinitive as I read the brand-new textbook.

In the life of the Church, September could be qualified as the beginning of the end. We continue ordinary time until we reach the end of the liturgical year. Then we give way to the new one with advent.

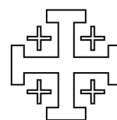
In the USA, one of my countries of nationality, September is the time when people are allowed to start making plans for autumn without social judgement, and they can finally give in to the pressures of big supermarkets which had been offering Pumpkin-Spice Latte and Halloween decorations since late July.

Perhaps this hectic dance of starting new things and getting ready to finish old ones can make this month seem intimidating. What will the (academic) year ahead be? How tough will next winter be? How much spring cabbage or onion will I plant this autumn?

On the other hand, I get excited starting new things. I think even all the different martial-arts that I tried throughout my childhood begun in September. My favourites were Aikido and Taekwondo.

In September we also start getting nature's true colours. As Christian author Sally Lloyd-Jones says in her wonderful book *Thoughts to Make Your Heart Sing*: "In the autumn, trees produce less chlorophyll, the green fades, and so the leaves show their true colors – blazing reds, yellows, golds! ... And the Bible says you can't see all you really are either. But one day, when God mends his broken world once and for all, you'll be all he made you to be – and then your true colours will come shining through."

Starting new things helps us discover our true colours. And starting in September



Rector's Letter *(continued)*

can put us at an advantage with some distance from a New Year's resolution or "Operation Bikini" (as it is known in Spain) in preparation for summer.

Perhaps this September you might want to have a go to our very promising Bellringing group in the benefice. We can be proud that this year one of our youngest members has made quite the impression at the Ringing World National Youth Contest (RWNYC). I believe that the Shingay Churches can be a great training centre for the next generation of bellringers to learn and enjoy this long and relevant tradition of our English culture. It is a unique socio-cultural activity beyond any particular church community. It is rather a family of their own who care for each other and literally listen to one another to make beautiful music for God and the world. By listening to one another and making things beautiful we can show our true colours to the world.



Over the summer, a number of our friends took part in a series of Benefice Prayer Walks – a modern take on the tradition of Beating the Bounds. These walks offered a wonderful opportunity to pray for our parishes, enjoy fellowship, and connect with our wider community. Keep an eye out on our social media pages for news of future walks.

News from the parishes

All Souls Service

You are warmly invited to a service of remembrance and giving thanks for all those who we love and see no longer on Sunday, 2nd November. This yearly, peaceful and reflective service will be an opportunity to come together to give thanks and remember those people we have loved who have died. There is an invitation to all to join us, along with any family members or friends that would like to be there with you.

The service begins at 5pm in St Peter and St Paul's, Steeple Morden.

We will be serving tea and cake between 4 to 4.30pm for anyone who would like the opportunity to relax in a friendly atmosphere before the service.

We look forward to welcoming you to this special service.

Ride and Stride for Churches September 13th 2025

The McKees and the Furmstons are looking for sponsorship when they take part in this year's cycle ride round the Deanery in aid of The Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust (CHCT) - see page 13 for further details.

It is usually a very hot Saturday and we struggle to cover 30 miles or so. We hope to find cold water at all the churches we find where the door is left open!

Money raised is split between the CHCT and the individual churches.

Please join us for all or part of the ride if you can. There is no speeding!

McKees 01763 852380

Furmston 01763 852125

Steeple Morden Concert

Please 'SAVE THE DATE' Saturday November 8th in Steeple Morden Church.

For a concert entitled '*Visions of Paradise*' with Music of Remembrance and Consolation presented by New Cambridge Singers

Tickets go on sale soon from Prothero's shop. Retiring collection for the RBL.

Macmillan Coffee Morning
St Mary's Guilden Morden
Saturday September 27th



**IN AID OF
CHURCH FUNDS**

Cream Teas

SUNDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER

2.30PM – 5PM

**Hill House, 24 Cheyney Street,
Steeple Morden
(home of David & Gilly McKee)**

Tickets:

**Adults £5 Children 4-12yrs £3
from D&G McKee 852380 or on the Gate**

Christmas Tree Festival

IT'S TIME TO PLAN YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE!

We're holding our Steeple Morden Christmas Tree Festival again so whether you're planning a tree as an individual, a family, club or organisation we look forward to welcoming you.

The Festival will run in church from Friday 21st to Sunday 23rd November.

Details of how to take part can be obtained from Anne Hassall, 01763 853490.

Do you enjoy reading Prospect?

Why not consider supporting us?

We produce 1500 copies of Prospect each month which are distributed throughout the Shingay villages. Everyone involved, from Editor through to the delivery team, are volunteers and until now we have met costs through advertising revenue.

How can you help?

If you have a local business, consider advertising with us! See details below of how to contact Gillian McKee for more information.

If you'd like to offer a donation towards our costs please contact our Group Treasurer George Lynn (georgelynn12@aol) for payment details.

It costs £4 per household per year to receive Prospect—every little helps!



Contact us for details:

Mrs Gillian McKee,


Hill House, Cheyney Street,

Steeple Morden SG8 0LR

01763 852380

shingayprospectadverts@gmail.com

News from the parishes



SINCLAIR
Helen Johnston
(née Murray)

Born in Galloway, Scotland
but lived happily in Odsey for 60 years.

Loving Mum, Sister, Granny, Great Granny,
Auntie, Friend and Wife to Alex for 65 years.

Died peacefully in Bexhill close to her family.

Fundraiser for Dr Barnardo and RSPCC.
Steeple Morden WI and Bowls Club.

Family came first.

Her friends were many, knitting and baking
renowned and laugh infectious.

Always in our hearts.
Pat, Harry, Mina, Jennifer, Caroline, Rob,
Barnaby and Audrey


The Shingay Churches invite you to

BICYCLE BLESSING

**SHINGAY CHURCHES
WITH ALL CYCLISTS OF OUR
PARISHES**

September 28, 2025
9.30 AM
St. Michael's Church, Abington Pigotts

CHURCH LN, ABINGTON PIGOTTS,
ROYSTON
SG8 0SH



Shingay Group of Churches

DAILY BIBLE READING

Every day at 10.00 am for One Year

GATHERING FOR READING
St Mary the Virgin, SS. Peter & Paul, St. Catherine

WHERE WE READ TOGETHER
*We shall meet Mondays, Wednesdays and Friday
mornings in the churches (above) at 10.00 am
During very cold seasons, on Christmas, New Year and
other special occasions we shall meet on Zoom with
prior notification. Times will change according to
availability.*

Fr Sam



Shingay Churches
ADDING GIFTS

Church Training Sessions



If you are passionate about the Word of God and would like to serve during our weekly services, please look out for our special Shingay Churches training sessions

- Reader in the service
- Chalice assistant
- Altar server
- Intercessors training

Café Church In Steeple Morden

Café Church will be open from 9am
on Fridays during term time.
12, 19 & 26 September
3, 10, 17 & 24 October

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

St Catherine's Church Litlington Book Cafe

10am — 12noon

Held on the first Saturday of
each month in Church

**6 September,
4 October**

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

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Shingay Churches
ADDING GIFTS

Harvest Thanksgiving and Lunch

Harvests are in so now is a time to reflect and give thanks for God's generosity and goodness.

***The Shingay Group Harvest Service will be:
October 5th at 10am, St Mary's Church, Guilden Morden.***

All are welcome to come and join us for prayers, reflection, and some good old Harvest Hymns.

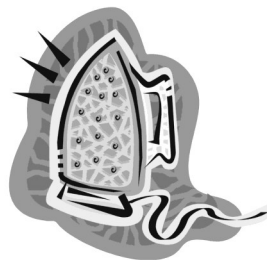
Then stay, as Lunch will follow at midday

If you plan to stay, please advise your Church Warden in advance, to ensure that we cater appropriately.

A £5 donation would be appreciated to assist with costs.

We will again be gathering canned and dry goods for Jimmy's Night Shelter in Cambridge. These items will be collected at the front, in the church before and during the service.

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MIKE O'NEILL



SUNDAY
28th SEPTEMBER
Steeple Morden
Village Hall
2.30 pm

Doors open at 2pm
Tickets for the concert
and tea £15
from

Gilly McKee 852380
Annie Urquhart 853829
Anne Hassall 853490
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BAR

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Night
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Calendar of Services

31st August (Trinity 11)

| | | |
|---------|------------|-----------------|
| 10:00am | Litlington | Group Communion |
| | | |

7th September (BMV)

| | | |
|--------|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 5:00pm | Guilden Morden | Group Patronal Vigil Communion (BVM) |
| | | |

14th September (Holy Cross Day/ Trinity 13)

| | | |
|---------|-------|------------------------------|
| 10:00am | Wendy | Group Communion by extension |
| | | |

21st September (Trinity 14) St. Matthew Apostle and Evangelist

| | | |
|---------|------------------|--|
| 10:00am | Abington Pigotts | Family Service with Litlington |
| 10:00am | Steeple Morden | Holy Communion |
| 10:00am | Guilden Morden | United Family Service with Chapel at St Mary's |
| | | |

28th September (Trinity 15) St. Michael and All the Angels

| | | |
|---------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| 9:30am | Abington Pigotts | Cycle Blessing (outside of church) |
| 10:00am | Abington Pigotts | Group Patronal Holy Communion |
| | | |

4th October (Saturday)

| | | |
|--|-----|---|
| | Ely | Fiona Davis relicensing as LLM at Ely Cathedral |
| | | |

5th October (Trinity 16)

| | | |
|---------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 8:30am | Steeple Morden | BCP Communion |
| 10:00am | Guilden Morden | Harvest Festival Group Communion |
| 19:00 | Litlington | Deanery Evensong with choir |
| | | |

12th October (Trinity 17)

| | | |
|---------|----------------|-----------------|
| 10:00am | Steeple Morden | Group Communion |
| | | |

And Tuesdays ...



Morning Prayer at Litlington Church Tuesdays at 10am

26 August, 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 September
followed by tea, coffee, and biscuits at 10.30am
Come, join and have a chat.

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SATURDAY
13TH SEPT
2025

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Floodlight Diary

St Mary's, Guilden Morden

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 28 July | Funeral of Graham Cole aged 78 years. RIP, a lifelong villager. |
| 31 July | Remembering Muriel Ward for her 95th birthday, from Della and family |
| 2 August | In memory of Bill Davies on his birthday, from Brenda, Jez and all the family |
| 24 August | Congratulations to Beverly and Charley Williams who were married 40 years ago, in St Mary's. |

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

St Catherine's, Litlington

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 10 July | For Alec John Gilbertson RIP on his 93rd birthday, With love from Beryl and family. |
| 6 August | In memory of Kumar Balani RIP - with love from all the Balani family. |
| 17 August | For Kumar Balani RIP on his birthday. With love from all the Balani family. Also for "King" Kumar RIP on his birthday from the Targett 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 321347

S Peter & S Paul, Steeple Morden

| | |
|-------------|---|
| 10 August | In loving memory of Jean Elliott RIP on her birthday |
| 23 August | In loving memory of Clare Parrish (Huffer) RIP |
| 27 August | Congratulations to Terry & Margaret Barnard on their 70 th Wedding Anniversary with love from all the family |
| 5 September | In loving memory of Ben Briars RIP on his birthday |

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

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October 16th Potting with Vicky

**November 20th Local community
choir and Christmas carols**

If you would like to join us at any of
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Litlington Congregational Church

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| | | |
|-----------|---------|---|
| 7th Sept | 3.00 pm | SONGS OF PRAISE (At GM Congregational Church) |
| 14th Sept | 11.00am | Mrs Davina Calbraith (Joined by GM Congregational Church) |
| 21st Sept | 11.00am | Mr David Freeman HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE |
| 28th Sept | 10.30am | Mr Tony Frost (At GM 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

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

A volunteer 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 | Frances Lucy 01763 852608 |
| Guilden Morden | Christine Furmston 01763 852125 |
| Litlington & Abington Pigotts | Hilary Sharp 01763 852272 |
| Bassingbourn & Kneesworth | Michelle Freeman 07971645558 |
| Orwell & Wimpole | 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

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 7th Sep | 3.00pm Circuit Songs of Praise service (please note no morning service) |
| Monday 8th Sep | 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 9th Sep | 2.00 – 4.00pm COGS |
| Wed 10th Sep | 9.00 – 11.30am Fun4Tots |
| Sunday 14th Sep | 11.00am Joint at Litlington Congregational Church led by Mrs Davina Calbraith |
| Monday 15th Sep | 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 17th Sep | 9.00 – 11.30am Fun4Tots |
| Sunday 21st Sep | 10.00am Joint service at St Mary's |
| Monday 22nd Sep | 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 24th Sep | 9.00 – 11.30am Fun4Tots |
| Sunday 28th Sep | 10.30am Harvest Festival Joint service with Litlington Congregational Church at the chapel including communion |
| Monday 29th Sep | 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 |

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 4 Sep at Steeple Morden Village Hall
Knit and Natter Every other Tuesday
Photographic Club Last Thursday of the month
Needle Bees Every 2nd Thursday 7.30 – 10.00pm

Home group Zoom and face to face meetings Tuesdays 20.00

Contact Emily for details emilymwilkinson@doctors.org.uk

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

www.shingaychurches.co.uk

Please come to the

25th ASHWELL BOOK WEEKEND



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Sunday 5th October from 1.30pm-4.30pm

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



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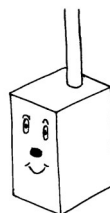
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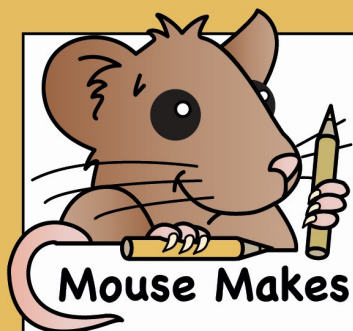
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"May the people **praise** you **God**...
The **land yields** its harvest, God,
our God **blesses** us."

- from Psalm 67:5-6

"Let us fear and respect the Lord our God.

He gives **autumn** and **spring** rains
at the right time. He makes sure that we
have the harvest at just the right **time**."

- from Jeremiah 5:24

"God... gives you **rain** from
heaven and good harvests
at the right times. He gives
you plenty of **food** and
fills your hearts with **joy**."

- from Acts 14:16-17

"So the one who **plants** is not
important, and the one who **waters**
is not important. Only **GOD** is
important because He is the one
who makes things **grow**."

- 1 Corinthians 3:7

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