

Prospect

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



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

July/August 2025

Prospect

The Parish Magazine of the Shingay group of parishes

www.shingaychurches.co.uk

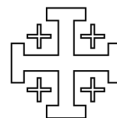
Rector	Father Sam Perez, The Rectory, 18 High Street, Guilden Morden, Royston. <i>rector.shingaychurches@gmail.com</i> Day off Thursday	
Associate Priest	Revd Ann Bol, 36 Hillfield, Foxton, Cambridge CB22 6RZ 01223 871058 <i>RevAnn801@gmail.com</i>	
Licenced Lay Minister	Cyril Harris, 10 Silver Street, 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

All advertising & editorial copy to:	Ann Lynn <i>shingayprospect@aol.com</i> 07710577753 (please leave a message)	
Advertising enquiries:	Mrs Gillian McKee, Hill House, Cheyney Street, Steeple Morden SG8 0LR 01763 852380 <i>shingayprospectadverts@gmail.com</i>	

Deadline for September edition - 15 August
Please send all material for inclusion direct to Ann Lynn please.

The mode of Beeing



Shingay Churches

ADDING GIFTS

It has been several years now that I made the conscious decision to stop using sugar on my coffee and substituted it with a spoonful of honey.

This is my daily drink for breakfast: a warm cup of *café con leche* (as we call it in Spanish) in my favourite mug from the State of New Hampshire topped with a spoonful of honey (preferably local). It is part of my morning ritual to get going every day.

There are times when I am mindful of the great benefits of honey and who make it possible for me to enjoy my daily dosage of honey.

Bees are everywhere in my life. It is thanks to them that I get honey on my coffee, it is thanks to her that I can light up a candle in church and meditate. It is thanks to her that the plants in my garden grow year after year. They are quite the unnoticed essential of my life.

Scientific research has shown countless times by now how important bees are for our eco-system. Yet, I have been recently struck at the great similarities of bees and Christians. A bee is not particularly noticeable until they sting. They are not too fuzzy, and they constantly do their task for which they have been designed. They work hard. They give all their work to others, and no one ever thanks them. A bee's life is the ideal Christian style for being the Church. Each have their tasks and they all fulfil their duties with excellent communications. I remember how I learnt the specific language system that bees have in my linguistics classes at university, which qualifies it as a language in its own right.

They together defend the panel, and they together conform the beehive. They are individually important, yet they need each other for survival. They live in community and share everything, yet they have one Queen, the provider of life.

I said a bee is very much the ideal Christian community because the essence of being a bee is the essence of the Christian community. As a Christian, I am supposed to find my unique gift. I am encouraged to not keep this gift for myself, but to use it for the betterment of the community. I am supposed to do this without any fuzz and always at work with it.

As Christians we are supposed to see everyone as equals (regardless of the job we have within the life of the community), yet we all have the same King who is the giver of life. We are supposed to communicate and interact with one another, especially when there is danger lurking around. And, like bees, we too have a distinctive outlook. *(continued overleaf)*

Rector's Letter *(continued)*

While I would not look very nice in black and yellow, the outfit I do wear shows everyone what is my task in the community. Others simply wear a little cross necklace, or a tattoo. These, of course, are not mandatory, but they certainly help in the formation of one big Christian-hive. Like a bee-sting, Christians are encouraged to speak truth to power, to advocate for the ones without voice and that makes our presence sometimes stinging to those on the receiving end.

It is little wonder that people are still fascinated by bees, as the armorial of bees (founded in 2023) testifies. Jean-Eudes Pierra, one of the founding members puts it very clearly in an article he wrote: *"Throughout the centuries, the bee has taken on various meanings. In ancient Egypt, it was associated with royalty. For Merovingian kings, it represented the resurrection of Christ and royal dignity, a symbol later adopted by Napoleon to replace the fleur-de-lis on his coronation robe. Today, the bee is often seen as a symbol of hard work, cooperation, and order in society. It embodies a well-organized community where each individual has a specific role to play."*

Hard work, collective activity and orderly life in community are good lessons that we can all learn from bees for the sake of others.

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

Fr Sam

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.*



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.

**27 June
4, 11 & 16 July**

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



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CHURCH FUNDS**

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Do you enjoy reading Prospect?

Why not consider supporting us?

Like everyone, the production team for Prospect is feeling the pinch—our printing costs have escalated in recent years and we are struggling to meet costs. 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,
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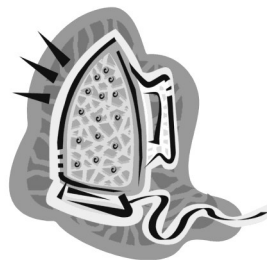
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It is always difficult to write about the weather in these Countryside Notes, since I cannot predict what it will be like when you read this. However, in March this year we had no rain at all, and in April 24mm and May 16mm only. Luckily, a reasonably wet winter locked moisture into the soil sufficient to see us through this dry Spring. I am also a great believer in “reversion to mean,” so I fear a wetter summer. Last year, we had 67mm of rain in the first two weeks of July, after a dry (though cold) June. It even rained on 15th July, which is St Swithin’s day. St Swithin was chaplain to Egbert, King of Wessex in 9th Century, and it was claimed that if it rains on St Swithin’s Day, it sets the pattern for the rest of the summer, or the next 40 days! We shall see. St Swithin’s insignia shows rain **and** apples, for the rain on his Saint Day is St Swithin blessing the Apple crop to come (apples that are on the tree on 15th July, will ripen to picking).

There is no statistical evidence for either rain or drought for 40 days after St Swithin Day, however, at this time of year, a jet stream often settles over the UK and sets the weather for weeks ahead. Farmers fear this July rain as it can lay the crop (as can dogs running through the cornfield, mind you) which then attracts the Woodpigeons to the feast, and prolonged wet weather then induces the seed to germinate on the ear and spoil the harvest.

Such was our wet summer last year that there seemed to be brown slugs everywhere. These were largely the Large red slug (distinctive for the orange foot fringe, but otherwise orange, brown, green or grey) or the Green-soled slug (well described, but green or brown or grey) or the Dusky slug (yup, greeny/browny/grey, but with two faint lateral bands running down its body). Now that the Black-birds have eaten all our cherries, maybe they will return to the job in hand of eating my slugs and snails. Go now and lift a few pots in your garden, gather some slugs and see how many fit into one of these three categories. And then there is also the Leopard slug, which eats other slugs, as well as fungi (like Puffballs), dog faeces and detritus. They live up to four years and reach 10-15cm long. Also known as Great grey slugs, in spring and autumn they will climb a tree or shrub and hang from a thick rope of mucus while they mate. The eggs are laid in clusters under stones or in the soil. To my surprise, I discover that there are among 30 species of gastropod (slugs and snails) in the UK. “Gastro,” by the way, means stomach and “pod” is Latin for foot (singular!).

The Big Butterfly count will be on 18th July to 10th August. Please log in to the Butterfly Conservation website and participate. Often the best naturalism is the observational powers of the people, the wisdom of crowds. *continued overleaf*

It is well worth a visit to our Clunchpit wood to see some of these. (Clunch is the soft, chalky limestone, which can be used as a building material. It has a gritty texture due to the presence of fragments of shell fossils, laid down in the Cretaceous age, between 145 and 66 million years ago). Take with you some butterfly identification sheets, there are plenty to be found on the internet.

Finally, a quick pass through flowers to note. The first and foremost are the Lime trees in Bassingbourn. Their scent in the first half of July is intoxicating. Either approaching the War Memorial down North End, or down the footpath through the Secondary School, lift your nose and inhale slowly. And then there is the Meadowsweet growing alongside our streams and distributaries. They are an Astilbe, all fluffy creamy flower heads, like sticks of seaside floss, sweetly-scented, loved by hoverflies and by anyone with a sense of smell.

Not scented but **so** worth a close examination, is the Wild carrot or Queen Anne's Lace, flowering. The intricacies of its petal formation and the detail of its tiny red floret at the very centre of its domed head, make for a pattern every bit as perfect as the lace on the sleeve of a C17th Century lady in a Dutch Grand Master's portrait or the crystal formation of ice in a snowflake. And then when flowering is over, the flower head curls up into a little bird's nest or fairy's purse.



Above our heads, the Perseid meteor shower is visible between 17th July to 24th August (at its peak on 12th August). It is a favourite amongst astronomers for its high hourly rate and bright meteors. Look between the constellations of Perseus and Camelopardalis, next to Cassiopeia (the big W) for the source of the meteors.

The Perseids are also known as the tears of St Lawrence, shed during his horrific martyrdom. He was treasurer of the Church of Rome and on notice of his imminent execution, he distributed the papal treasures to the poor (including the Holy Grail). His feast day is 10th August. He is depicted in the Royston Caves, which is well worth a visit to learn more of this legend.

Finally, the Buck Moon on July 10th rises over the horizon around 10pm and traverses the southern edge of our night sky until setting in the South West around dawn. Although not a supermoon, it will appear both huge and orange because it stays quite close to the horizon. The Sturgeon Moon is on 9th August.

ABINGTON PIGOTTS SUMMER FETE

Sunday 20th July 2025 2-5 pm



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Sun 17 Aug 2025,

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From Steeple Morden Recreation Ground from 10am



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1km £3 | 5km £6

10km £12

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Quiz Night - 17 Oct | Santa Fun Run - 14 Dec



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Calendar of Services

29th June (Ss. Peter & Paul, Apostles)

10:00am	Steeple Morden	Group Communion + BANNs
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6th July (Trinity 3)

8:30am	Steeple Morden	BCP Holy Communion
10:00am	Litlington	Holy Communion with AP
11:00am	Guilden Morden	Holy Communion

13th July (Trinity 4)

10:00am	Guilden Morden	Group Communion
	Litlington	Evening Service for Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust

20th July (Trinity 5)

8:30am	Wendy	Holy Communion
10:00am	Abington Pigotts	Family Service with Lit
10:00am	Steeple Morden	Children's Informal Service
10:30am	Guilden Morden	United Service at GM

27th July (Trinity 6)

10:00am	Litlington	Group Communion
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3rd August (Trinity 7)

10:00am	Wendy	Group Communion
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8th August (Trinity 7) (Friday) Feast of St. Dominic

09.00	Litlington	Feastal Holy Communion
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10th August (Trinity 8)

10:00am	Steeple Morden	Group Communion
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17th August (Trinity 9)

10:00am	Abington Pigotts	Group Communion
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Calendar of Services

24th August (Trinity 10) St. Bartholomew Apostle

10:00am	Guilden Morden	Group Communion
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31st August (Trinity 11)

10:00am	Litlington	Group Communion
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7th September (Trinity 12)

8:30am	Wendy	Holy Communion
10:00am	Litlington	Holy Communion with AP
10:00am	Guilden Morden	Patronal Holy Communion (BVM)



Morning Prayer at Litlington Church Tuesdays at 10am

24 June, 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 July, 5, 12, 19, 26 August

followed by tea, coffee, and biscuits at 10.30am
Come, join and have a chat.



5 JULY

10AM ST MARY'S GM

2 AUGUST

9.30AM ABINGTON
PIGOTTS

Floodlight Diary

St Mary's, Guilden Morden

10 June in memory of Tom Jones on his birthday. Love from Gillian and family RIP

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

St Catherine's, Litlington

8 May 80th Anniversary of VE Day - requested by Steve Nash

2 June 72nd anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation and the day Steve Nash was born.

13 June To celebrate John Jenner's 90th Birthday. The St Catherine's church family appreciates his faithful service as Churchwarden at St Catherine's over 47 years and his loyalty in being treasurer for 43 years.

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

5 June In loving memory of John Willmott RIP on his birthday

8 Aug In loving memory of John Lunness RIP on his 95th birthday

10 Aug In loving memory of Jean Elliott RIP on her birthday from her daughter Alison

23 Aug In loving memory of Clare Parrish (Huffer) RIP

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

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The Mordens WI

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Litlington Congregational Church

All are welcome at our friendly services

JULY

13th	11.00 am	Mrs Faith Paulding (Joined by Guilden Morden Congregational Church)
20th	11.00am	Mrs. Sandra Galton- Communion Service
27th	10.30 am	Mr Tony Frost (At Guilden Morden Congregational Church)

AUGUST

3rd	11.00 am	Mrs Sandra Galton- Communion Service
10th	11.00 am	Mr Peter Godbert (Joined by Guilden Morden Congregational Church)
24th	11.00 am	Mrs Davina Calbraith
31st	10.30 am	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*



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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.

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Guilden Morden	Christine Furnston 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.

July 2025

Tuesday 1st July	2.00 – 4.00pm COGS
Sunday 6th July	10.30am Café style service. Come and join us for croissants and coffee in our relaxed style of worship.
Monday 7th July	10.30 – 12.00 Men's Guild 9.30 - 11.30am Open Church. Come and have a chat with our minister, Tony
Wed 9th July	7.00 for a 7.30pm start Community Choir
Sunday 13th July	9.00 – 11.00am Fun4Tots 11.00am Joint at Litlington Congregational Church led by Mrs Faith Paulding
Monday 14th July	7.00pm for a 7.30pm start Community Choir
Wed 16th July	9.00 – 11.00am Fun4Tots
Sunday 20th July	10.00am Joint Service at St Mary's
Monday 21st July 7.00pm	for a 7.30pm start Community Choir
Wed 23rd July	9.00 – 11.00am Fun4Tots
Sunday 27th July	10.30am Joint service with Litlington Congregational Church at the chapel including communion
Monday 28th July	9.30 - 11.30am Open Church. Come and have a chat with our minister, Tony
Wed 30th July	9.00 – 11.00am Fun4Tots

August 2025

Sunday 3rd August	10.30am Café style service. Come and join us for croissants and coffee in our relaxed style of worship.
Monday 4th August	10.30 – 12.00 Men's Guild 9.30 - 11.30am Open Church. Come and have a chat with our minister, Tony
Wed 6th August	9.00 – 11.00am Fun4Tots
Sunday 10th August	11.00am Joint at Litlington Congregational Church led by Mr Peter Godbert
Wed 13th August	9.00 – 11.00am Fun4Tots
Sunday 17th August	See Church notice board for information
Wed 20th August	9.00 – 11.00am Fun4Tots – <u>10 years Reunion</u>
Sunday 24th August	See Church notice board for information
Wed 27th August	9.00 – 11.00am Fun4Tots
Sunday 31st August	10.30am Family Communion

Other group meetings:

Please see our website

RIDE + STRIDES for Churches

SATURDAY
**13TH SEPT
2025**

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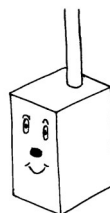
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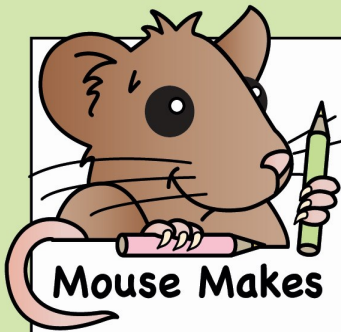
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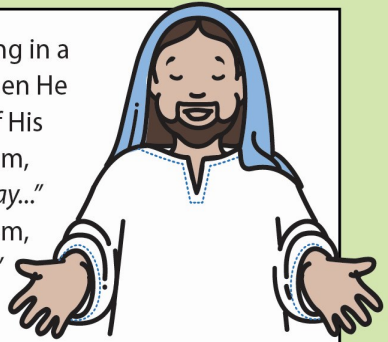


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"Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray..." And He said to them, "When you pray, say..."



Our _____
 in _____,
 hallowed be your
 _____, your
 _____ come,
 your _____ be done,
 on _____ as it is in
 _____.
 Give us today our daily
 _____.
 _____ us our
 S _____ as we forgive
 those who sin against us.
 Lead us not into

 but _____
 us from _____.
 For the kingdom,
 the _____ and
 the _____ are
 yours now and forever.
 Amen

D T E O P R G O D
 F E E B R E A D I
 O M G T O P P G S
 R P W R T E O L C
 G T L E E N W O I
 I A O S C T E R P
 V T R P T A R Y L
 E I D A I N A M E
 N O S S O C D A S
 E N P S N E V F W
 S K P E V I L A I
 S I R S I N S T L
 Y N A E A R T H L
 G Y H E A V E N
 I D E L I V E R E
 F O R G I V E V E
 A M E N W O R L D
 I L F L J E S U S



Fill in the missing words of the Lord's Prayer then find them and these extra words in the word search:
 LORD'S PRAYER
 DISCIPLES
 JESUS
 GOD
 WORLD
 NEEDS
 FORGIVENESS
 TRESPASSES
 PROTECTION
 REPENTANCE



The versions of **The Lord's Prayer** we say today come from the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.
 Which version do you use in your church?



Read
 Matthew 6:9-15
 and
 Luke 11:1-4

