



CHURCH SERVICES

No services until further notice

All Saints and St. Marys will still be closed until further notice.

Prayer resources available on www.churchofengland.org (click on 'prayer and worship')

If you have any questions or need assistance — please do not hesitate to be in touch – if we can help, we will.

Churchwardens

Jane Blease tel 558787 email janeblease1@btinternet.com

John Torbitt tel 499541 email johnatorbitt@gmail.com

PCC member

Bob Harris tel 550672 email hill.cottage@btinternet.com

The Flowers of Spring

Primroses, daffodils, jasmine and crocus,

Pale chilly flowers of hesitant Spring

Gathered with catkins and new budded branches

Set in a bowl by the window, they bring

Promise of poppies and daises and roses-

All the bright tangle of full summer bloom

The flowers of Spring from new poems by Mary Wilson

Check your website www.shotesham.com for all up to date information

Thanks to Trish Leighton who has compiled the Shotesham Trade Directory which is included with this issue.

This edition of Contact is being circulated via our village email list. A few paper copies are available in All Saints church porch. Please get in touch with the editor Pat Harris 01508550672 or hill.cottage@btinternet.com if you have had any difficulties in accessing a copy.

Thanks to Jimmy Hartley and family who have kindly sponsored this edition of 'Contact'.

If you would have your future copies of 'Contact' sent by email while the current situation continues, please send your email address to emmahandbury@hotmail.com Your email address will be confidential



SHOTESHAM CONTACT

April 2020

Thought from Dawn

Our usual pattern of Sunday services and other mid-week gatherings have been put on hold but the Church of England has not shut up shop - words from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York in a recent letter to church leaders.

The reality is that 'Church' is not a building. 'Church' is a community of people who will continue to look for ways to love our neighbour and to serve our local villages, as a matter of priority, regardless of whatever crisis is happening. I read recently that 'Hope is love stretched into the future....' and it's important for all of us, whether believers or not, to keep the long view in mind knowing that 'this too will pass...'

Be responsible in taking precautions as advised by the government and medical professionals remembering that the word is 'pandemic' not 'panic'. Let's keep a sense of proportion in all of this.

It's in times such as these, over the centuries, that people have turned to God and found real comfort in discovering a living faith. The Bible says: *'Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.'* (Philippians 4:6-7)

With Easter approaching, we recall that God brought the miracle of the resurrection out of the hopelessness of death and over the coming weeks and months as our own story unfolds, I am convinced that we will see positive things emerging despite the difficulties - it would be good to share such encouragements whenever and however we can.

Meanwhile, God bless you – your Church is praying for you all!

Dawn Team Rector dawn@tasvalley.org 01508 498924

Shotesham Parish Council

We know that people are keeping in touch with neighbours and offering help, but if you have not been approached and you need either contact with someone for a chat, or something doing, then contact one of the 4 people below as we have been offered help by lots of people and we can put you in touch.

Do you need prescriptions picking up? We have volunteers who will collect them for you and deliver them to your door.

The website is a very good way of putting out information to you, asking questions and suggesting helpful ideas. Please check it regularly- it's instant and hopefully is available to nearly everyone in the village. The address is www.shotesham.com

Thank you for those who have offered to help- we are extremely grateful. The contacts are:-

Bob Harris. 550672. hill.cottage@btinternet.com
Jeff Gough. 550358. clerk.shotesham@outlook.com
Heather Jackson 550785. heatherbelljackson@btinternet.com
Ken Munro 550736. resotan@aol.com

The next three months! Now is the time to plan ahead. If you grow vegetables and have spare seedlings then find a good home for them; why not put them on the website? www.shotesham.com If you want to grow vegetables but need help we'll see what we can do. Don't hesitate to ask us. The garden group will be putting tips and advice on the website.

Pork products, duck eggs and honey

are available from Gwen Jackson (Fawnfield pigs) tel 550337 with your order. She will leave the items ordered outside for you to collect. Please pay by Bacs transfer not cash.

Foodbank As the churches are closed donations can be left at the supermarkets or it is also possible to donate money directly to Foodbank details at www.networknorwich.co.uk/Publisher/Article.aspx?ID=176585

Shotesham Village Association

As if you hadn't guessed already there will be no village events until further notice, but following the Govt statement on the 23rd March, we can at least still go out on a limited basis for exercise. We expect the Common and other Shotesham footpaths will be regularly used, so please remember to keep the required distance away, whilst giving fellow walkers a cheery 'hello' - a smile goes a long way in these difficult times.

As we head into spring our village and all its surroundings is coming back into full bloom, with plants and wildlife aplenty. Why not share your walking stories and perhaps some photos with the village by getting them on the website, send any items you'd like to share to resotan@aol.com and help us all get through this.

We're all going to be pretty isolated for some time to come, but you always keep up with local info via our website and village email system. If you don't currently receive the village emails and would like to, now would be a good time to provide us with your email address. These can be sent to our email compiler Emma at emmahandbury@hotmail.com

The SVA will still be more than happy to accept your annual donation. All monies received help us (in normal times) to keep all the village activities going, but more particularly in current conditions, to maintain our website and email information service. Your contribution of a minimum of just £3 per adult, will be much appreciated. Best way to pay is by BACS transfer to, Account Name - Shotesham Village Association, A/C no 23782145, Sort Code 60-15-31. Reference SVA sub. Many thanks in anticipation.

Walking group

After a lot of thought, I have decided that we should suspend the walking group activities for the foreseeable future, whilst we all try to follow government advice on either social distancing or isolation.

Walking is hugely important to our emotional and physical well-being, and I am sure most of us will continue walking around our lovely footpaths.

Judie

Belfry Open Day at Saxlingham church on Saturday, 4th April, Unfortunately, in view of the Coronavirus outbreak, this has had to be postponed. It is planned to re-arrange it when the present situation is resolved