

## December

## CHURCH SERVICES

6	11.00a.m.	Holy Communion	St Mary's	Dawn
13	9.30a.m.	Christingle	St Mary's	Dawn
20	6.30p.m.	Carols by Candlelight	St. Mary's	Dawn & David
25	9.30a.m.	<b>Short service with Holy Communion</b>	All Saints	Dawn
27	9.30a.m.	Benefice Service at Saxlingham.		Dawn & Sally

## January

3	11.00a.m.	Plough Sunday	St. Marys	Dawn
10	9.30 a.m.	My Church Morning Service	St. Marys	John
17	11.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	All Saints	Dawn
24	9.30a.m.	Service of the Word	All Saints	Dawn
31	4.00 p.m.	Holy Communion BCP	St. Marys	TBA

Saxlingham December 6<sup>th</sup> 9.30am 13<sup>th</sup> 15.00pm (Christingle)

20<sup>th</sup> 15.00pm carol service 24<sup>th</sup> 15.00pm & 23.30pm HC 25<sup>th</sup> 10.30am

January 3<sup>rd</sup> 9.30am 10<sup>th</sup> 11.00am 17<sup>th</sup> 9.30am 24<sup>th</sup> 11.00am

**CHURCH FLOWERS December.** – All Saints- Jenny Walters,

Jane Blease, Ros Dix **St. Mary's** –, Valerie Crowle, Betty Torbitt,

Sheila Warne, Bernie Fenn, **January - All Saints** –

Jane Blease, Christine Howes **St Mary's** –Betty Torbitt, Bernie Fenn

## **WHAT'S ON December**

9	Garden group Christmas decorations	6.00pm Hillside
11	Film - Mr Holmes	7.30pm Poringland
11	Sax. Garden Society Party	7.30pm Trinity hall
14	Village walk	10.30am All Saints
15	Mobile Library	Afternoon
24	Carols round the tree	6.00pm Church hill
27	Village walk	10.30 am All Saints'
31	Fun Run Shotesham	11.00am All Saints'

## January

8	Shotesham <b>Film Night ---Amy</b>	7.15 pm Trinity hall
12	Mobile Library	Afternoon
14	WEA Classes	1.30 pm Saxlingham village hall
27	Shotesham Conservation/garden group	7.30pm Trinity hall

**The Foodbank.** we are still collecting and perhaps people could remember particularly at Christmas to make a donation, please. Collection points in both churches.

Thanks to the Village Association who have kindly sponsored this edition of 'Contact'.



## SHOTESHAM CONTACT

December 2015/January 2016

### Thought from Dawn

Cold crisp air, the softness of snowflakes glittering under the twinkling stars. The glow of candlelight, the smell of wood-smoke, spices, mulled wine and all the seasonal foods, the familiar sound of carols, church bells on a frosty evening... There is a sense of expectation in the air, a feeling of hope and celebration. This probably epitomises the Christmas season for most of us in this parish today...

Contrast all of this with the setting of the birth of Christ. Laid in a hasty makeshift crib - probably among some fairly unpleasant odours. Not in comfortable or even clean surroundings, but along with the livestock - just somewhere for an exhausted young couple to shelter as they got on with the business of delivering their firstborn. Our experience of Christmas depends very much on our location and circumstances. Numbers of refugees across Europe have increased dramatically over past months and the majority of them will find themselves in a situation somewhat akin to that of Mary and Joseph.

The child whose birth all Christians celebrate chose to be born into a working class family – in the middle of a census when accommodation was scarce. His own comfort was not a priority. Bringing peace to others was and is high on his agenda. In his birth he identifies with us in our struggles here and now while leading us into a brighter future. He continues his work among us today and looks only for the offer of a place to lodge, within each human heart.

May you know his peace this Christmas time and always. **Dawn**

Team Vicar dawn@tasvalley.org 01508 498924

**Christingle service at St. Marys 9.30 am 13<sup>th</sup> December Bring your young children or grandchildren. Candlelight Carol Service St. Mary's 20<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm - Bring a Torch. Christmas Eve 6.00pm Carols round the tree on All Saints' hill. Christmas morning 9.30 a.m. All Saints' there will be a short 45-minute service with Holy Communion suitable for all the family** During the Christmas period there will be charity collections at services.

**Remembrance Day collection:** Thank you to those who donated during the service. £152 was sent to British Legion and the same amount to Help for Heroes.

### Shotesham Parish Council...

Defibrillator/CPR training.....The agreed CPR course was well attended. The informal, but thorough, format was very successful and hopefully those of the village who took part will agree that it was worthwhile.

Remembrance Day A dignified and thoughtful remembrance was held at the War Memorial followed by a service in All Saints church. Thank you everyone who took part in the ceremony outside.

Just a reminder to all households in the village :- if you can, could you make sure that your house is clearly signed so that "stand in postmen" and delivery people can find you from the road. The people who work in the village regularly manage ok, but training new people can be difficult for them. Thank you.

We are now required by Government to publish, on a website, the day to day expenditure of the Parish Council. This will be done via [shotesham.com](http://shotesham.com) website and hopefully we will initiate these in the new year.

### Shotesham Gardening and Conservation group

#### 9th December 6.00pm Hillside, The Common, Shotesham

To get you in the mood for Christmas there will be an evening making **Christmas wreaths and decorations from willow and other natural materials.** Any ideas welcome and bring anything from your own garden if you wish. Everyone welcome, at Christine Burton's potting shed, Hillside, The Common, from 6pm onwards £5 to cover costs. To help the festive spirit there will be mince pies and mulled wine.

and Weds. Jan 27<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm, Trinity Hall. A talk by Shelagh Ashe on **'The Italian Renaissance Garden and its Influence'**. Shelagh is an excellent speaker, who we have heard before, and her slides should help to dispel any "winter blues". Everyone welcome. Cost £3.

### Walking group

**"Monday 14th December:** Jane Taylor will lead a local walk (to relieve the rushing around during the busy run-up to Christmas) leaving All Saints Church at 10.30 a.m.

**SPECIAL CHRISTMAS TREAT! a post Christmas walk and brunch at forge cottage, by kind invitation of Tom and Jane on**

**Sunday 27th December.** Tom will lead a local walk to blow away the Christmas cobwebs, leaving All Saints Church at 10.30a.m. All those Walkers attending the walk are then invited to join Tom and Jane at their home for Brunch. Names to Jane Tel: 558751 if you plan to go please by 14th December.

[www.shotesham.com](http://www.shotesham.com) for all the up to date village information

### SVA Village Association

**Christmas Eve at 6.00** the very popular **Carols round the Tree** on the hill in front of All Saints', followed by mulled wine in the church, handbells and more carols. We look forward to seeing you; bring a torch. **There will be a charity collection for Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF)** [www.msf.org](http://www.msf.org) – **please give generously**

Every year a highlight is a group of children ringing hand bells and we would encourage more to get involved. Ted Burton arranges a few rehearsals beforehand so please contact him on [tedburton221@gmail.com](mailto:tedburton221@gmail.com)

The village is once again invited to take part in the annual

#### **New Years Eve 5 mile Fun Run/walk, at 11am.**

This year we will start and finish at All Saints Church with refreshments provided for all. All ages and abilities welcome to enter (free) what is a great way to end the Year and welcome in 2016. Contact Matt Sykes ([matt@mind-span.co.uk](mailto:matt@mind-span.co.uk)) or ([Davidevans1996@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Davidevans1996@hotmail.co.uk)).

### WEA Class in Saxlingham Village Hall

After a fascinating insight into the Russian World this autumn, we move on to NORWICH HERITAGE - people, events, activities that have shaped Norwich through its historic buildings and cityscape. Starting for 10 weeks on **Thursday 14th January** 1.30/3.00 - Fee £48. More information? ring 01508 550358

### Saxlingham and district garden Society

Xmas Party 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.30pm  
Trinity hall

### **Film night at the Trinity 2016 Friday 8th January 7.15pm "AMY"**

Intimate portrait of the life and career of singer/songwriter **Amy Winehouse**  
**Diary dates ; Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 7.15pm "THE GOOB" 18**  
Fiercely atmospheric coming of age drama, filmed in Norfolk, with Norfolk actors. colourful language.!?\*

### **Friday 11th March 7.15pm "SUNSET SONG"**

Tickets: £5 Bookings: 550122 [razwoollacott@gmail.com](mailto:razwoollacott@gmail.com)

### **Operation Christmas child**

I am very pleased to say that we managed to fill **330** shoe boxes this year to send to children in need in Central and Eastern Europe and parts of Africa. This will make a real difference to the children receiving them this Christmas. Thank you very much if you have contributed any items for the boxes. I will continue to leave a box in the church for anyone who would like to contribute items throughout the year. Any queries on the suitability of items please phone 01508 550306. *Jill masters*