



CHURCH SERVICES

4	11.00a.m. Morning Service	St. Marys	Dawn
11	9.30 a.m. Morning Service	St. Marys	John
18	11.00a.m. Holy Communion	All Saints'	Dawn
25	8.00am HC and 11.00a.m. Morning Service	Saxlingham	Dawn

Saxlingham Services 4th 9.30am, 11th 11.00am, 18th 9.30am,
25th HC 8.00am & 11.00am

There is no service in Shotesham on Sunday 25th February. Please check on www.tasvalley.org - click on main menu, then select "Worship" for any changes. (The most likely changes would be to who is leading which service.)

CHURCH FLOWERS

All Saints'-Jane Blease, South window, Christine Howes
St Mary's- Polly Gould (No flowers in Lent)

What's On

1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Warm welcome	2pm-4pm Trinity hall
1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Table tennis	6.30- 8.00pm Trinity hall
6	Parish Council meeting	7.30pm Trinity hall
9	Film Night - The Old Oak	7.30pm Trinity hall
27	Garden Group meeting	7.30pm Trinity hall
28	Mobile Library	10.15 Grove 10.35 The Street

Trade Directory for Shotesham with small personal ads

Issued twice a year. Next issue will be with April 'Contact'. The fee for a trade entry is £10.00 per year for both issues or £3.00 to place a small personal ad. To advertise please contact Trish Leighton 01508 558487 or email mp95@btinternet.com. The entry should be up to 3 lines on A5 at this sized text (extra fee for more lines) Entries by **10th March** please to be included in April directory.

Thanks to David and Janice Merrick who have kindly sponsored this edition of 'Contact' to recognise that the Merricks made the right decision to move to Shotesham 25 years ago



SHOTESHAM CONTACT

February 2024

Thought from Dawn

Easter is early this year which means that Lent - traditionally a time of fasting - begins early too, on 14th February. Put chocolate into the equation (there's a lot of it about on 14th February) and you're faced with a dilemma – to fast or to feast?

What do we do when such a conflict of interest, or temptation, arises? Christians believe that a person's conscience – that inbuilt sense of right and wrong - is one way that God speaks to us. We can, of course, choose to listen to the voice of conscience or not. The more we listen to our conscience and 'do the right thing' – like exercising a muscle - the stronger it becomes. However, if we regularly choose to ignore or override what our conscience tells us, we risk weakening it and it then becomes easier to ignore. What's your default position? Do you follow your conscience or not? I know on those occasions when I've ignored the still small voice within, I'm left with a sense of unease, feeling out of sorts. And when I've done the right thing – perhaps even more when doing the right thing was difficult but I did it anyway – the feeling of peace was priceless. If you're up for a challenge, why not use the season of Lent to really think about the choices you make and how often you check in on your conscience. It's not so much about giving up chocolate as it is about giving up on decisions that ultimately will do you harm.

With my prayers and every blessing

Dawn

Team Rector dawndavidson@btinternet.com 01508 498924
The New Rectory, The Street, Saxlingham Nethergate, Norfolk NR15 1AJ

Help needed

We are looking for some help to fill rotas for flowers, cleaning and opening for All Saints church. The duties are not too onerous and would only involve an hour or two now and again.

If you could help or for more information please contact Jane Blease 01508558787 or janeblease@hotmail.co.uk

Shotesham Parish Council

A reminder that if your hedge and/or boundary is narrowing the pavement for pedestrians it is the householders responsibility to correct that. If we have to ask the council to help, then any costs associated with the work will be passed on to you. It is important as every schoolday all Fram Earl pupils have to catch the school bus at the All Saints junction. Similarly with no Norwich bus going to The Grove a significant number of residents are having to walk to All Saints as well. Please Help.

We are going to have our usual litter pick in March, at a date to be set nearer the time. If you would like to take part, we would be really grateful. Please let me know if you can help- heatherbelljackson@btinternet.com

Everyone is welcome at our meetings. They are held on the first Tuesday of every alternate month - the first one this year is on the 6th of February at 7.30pm in the Trinity Hall.

Shotesham Village Association

Shotesham Screen - next film (guaranteed improvement on last one!) is **The Old Oak**, the story of a village in the Northeast of England, where the mine closed and people feel deserted by the system. Many young ones have left and what was once a thriving, proud community struggles to keep old values alive, but there is growing anger, resentment and a lack of hope. Houses are cheap and available, and this makes it an ideal location for the Syrian refugees that have been accepted by Britain in recent years. How will the Syrians be received, and what will be the future for the last remaining pub in the village? *Imbued with the fiercely humanistic spirit that has defined Ken Loach's filmography, The Old Oak serves as a fitting finale to Loach's remarkable career.*

Friday 9th February, 7.30pm, Trinity Hall Shotesham. Tickets £5, Ice cream sold in interval. New Booking Details: Call 07702 832033 / 01508 550285 or email lindsayheywood@comcast.net

Shotesham Garden Group

On Tuesday February 27th, 7.30 -9 at Trinity Hall, Sally Bate, Vice Chair of the Norfolk Gardens Trust will be giving us insight into **Lancelot 'Capability' Brown**. He is referred to as the father of landscape architecture in Britain, whose influence was felt worldwide. Brown is known to have worked on over 240 sites in the UK, and at least three of his beautiful parkland commissions were in Norfolk - one of them is not far from Shotesham! Cost -£4 Everyone welcome

Your SVA committee was busy last month (see photo at www.shotesham.com) discussing and starting to plan some possible events for 2024, and below there's some dates to put in your diary. But before that, many thanks to all who responded to our recent poll regarding a possible fete and the work that's required to make it happen, more of that later. Firstly, the SVA AGM will be held on **Wed 26th March, 7.30pm at Trinity Hall**. As always everyone is welcome, and there's always room for some new faces & their ideas, both at the meeting and on the ctte. We will have a new Chairperson next year, so some younger and fresher personalities, as well as more experienced heads (trying to stay politically correct!), will be needed as we go forward. If you feel you'd like to help organise our renowned events, or would even like to attend a ctte meeting to see if it would be a fit for you, please respond to Ken at resotan@aol.com, or just come along and on the night and let us know. Drinks & nibbles and informal chat will be available following the meeting.

Of course AGM time is also **SVA donation time** and, despite huge inflationary pressures, the ctte's suggested donation amount remains **only £3** per person. A remittance sheet will be sent with next month's Contact, but in the meantime, you can, if you wish, pay in advance by bank transfer to account name Shotesham Village Association, acc no 23782145, SC 60-15-31, pls use reference of surname and SVA, (eg Smith SVA). Thank you in advance for continuing to support our village.

Next up after that will be Easter Monday, **April 1st** (no it's not a joke!), activities for the children on and around Church Hill, and on **Sunday 28th April**, the world famous (well The Globe famous at least) Shotesham Duck Race is back! Finally, we have a provisional date of **Saturday 6th July** for the return of The Shotesham Village Fete. It's intended that, as well as all the normal entertainments, the Fete will be based on the activities of the village, and hopefully it will be followed by some evening entertainment. More info on all three of these events will follow soon, but in the meantime, we'll be in touch with those of you who mentioned you'd like to help with the planning, or at the Fete, but assistance with the others would also be greatly appreciated. Any enquiries regarding assistance can be sent to Ken on resotan@aol.com.

Craft Fair and donations for EACH made £413. Thanks to all who supported.

The Bone Cancer Research Trust would like all used stamps also Royal Mail printed labels to raise money for research. Donations can be dropped off at Gwen Jackson's Hillside Farm Shotesham