



CHURCH SERVICES

2 nd	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Mary's	Dawn
9 th	9.30am	Morning Service	St. Mary's	John
16 th	11.00a.m.	Holy Communion	All Saints'	Austin
23 rd	9.30am	Morning Service	All Saints'	Dawn
30 th	10.30am	Benefice Service	Tasburgh	Austin & Dawn

Saxlingham Services 2nd 9.30am, 9th 11.00am, 16th 9.30am,
23rd 8.00am HC 11.00am

Church Flowers

All Saints- Julie Chilvers, Britt Riches (Altar)
Sue Astbury, Christine Burton (South Window)
St Mary's- Valerie Crowle, Betty Torbitt, Britt Riches

What's on

2	Village walk	10.15am Trinity hall
2	Estate walk	2.00pm Shotesham Park
1 /2	Open Gardens	Poringland,&Upper Stoke
5	Parish Council AGM	7.30pm Trinity hall
15	Surlingham School fete	12.00-4.00m Surlingham
18	Garden group visit	1.30pm Trinity hall
19	Mobile Library	10.15 Grove 10.35 The Street
22	Open Gardens in Saxlingham	1.00-5.00 pm

www.shotesham.com for all the latest information.



SHOTESHAM CONTACT JUNE 2024

Thought from Dawn

I was somewhat miffed to find I'd missed the recent display of the Northern Lights across our Norfolk skies and had to content myself with photos and hearing others describe the experience. One friend spoke of standing under the dome of the sky and witnessing an incredible display of colour and movement – days later she was still enthralled. Another spoke of rays of light emanating from a central point, as if the sky had peeled back to reveal the light of heaven itself.

Clearly, they were struggling to find words adequate to describe what they'd seen and the feelings it evoked. We are drawn to the beauty (and sometimes terror) of nature with its breathtaking landscapes, powerful seas and wild weather. Perhaps we recognise something of the maker's mark in the natural world.

The Bible tells us that God speaks to us through his creation. It makes sense then that the beauty and power of nature evoke such profound feelings within us, resonating deeply, connecting with the core of being, bringing us peace. Scientists have discovered that time spent in nature – walking in the woods for example – is good for our mental health and general wellbeing. Little wonder we feel refreshed after spending time outside – whether in those wide-open spaces or simply enjoying our garden.

May you experience the refreshing touch of God as you enjoy the blessing of his creation.

Dawn

Team Rector, dawndavidson@btinternet.com

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Thanks to Nick and Sue Astbury who have kindly sponsored this edition of Contact to celebrate 41 years of Shotesham life.

Parish Council

New kind of **Parish Council AGM 5th June 7.30 in the Trinity.**

Your opportunity to get to know your parish council

You are invited to come along, and over a drink, hear from the Parish Council about our year and the things for which we are responsible or support.

Such as ... Upkeep of the playing field, the Church graveyards, the provision of dog bins, the village website, upkeep of the benches, the defibrillator, the book box, the war memorial and Remembrance Day .and, indirectly, our precious network of village footpaths and so on.

There will also be someone from the SVA, the Commons Trustees as well as the village Tree Warden.

We want to hear from you with your thoughts about improvements in the village as well take you questions how the various organisations work.

Please come along.

Garden Group

Tuesday 18th June. Garden Group Visit

We are planning a visit to the **Walled Garden** in Little Plumstead on 18th June from 2pm to 4pm. This is a charming Community Garden with a lovely outside covered cafe. There will be a guided tour and talk and afternoon tea with time to wander, (hopefully in the sunshine) some plants for sale and a shop. Cost is £6.50 per person. Please let me know by Monday 10th if you can come as we have to order the cakes! Meet at Trinity 1.30pm for car share. Lindsay 550285/07702 832033

Shotesham Heritage Group - a message from Sara Webber

I'm pleased to report that the two recent talks on 'Shotesham in the 20th Century' raised a total of £460 for the Shotesham Heritage Group. Thank you to everyone who came along, Nick and Sue Astbury, and the Shotesham Village Association for supplying the wine. Some of the money will be used to buy more storage materials for the Archive and the rest will be put towards the costs of producing a book (hopefully before too long!)

If anyone would like to help as an active member of the group - or has any memories or photos (including of the 1960s-1980s), documents, title deeds etc that might be of interest - do please contact me on 01508 550190 or webber.sj@btinternet.com

Shotesham Village Association

April brought us two fun events arranged by the SVA. On Easter Monday we had the Kids Easter Fun Day based at All Saints Church. Although rain was threatened, we had a sunny afternoon with a popular Easter egg hunt in the churchyard and lively craft table in the church. Children of all ages enjoyed these activities and everyone was able to enjoy a huge range of cakes, tea and soft drinks provided by our sterling volunteers. Many thanks to all who helped out with the refreshments both on the day and beforehand. The focus then shifted to the grounds of the Old Rectory where Ken organised some hugely successful egg and spoon races. There were races for different age groups with worthy winners in all races although it was perhaps notable that almost all of the children managed to reach the finish line with their eggs still on their spoons but several adults lost their eggs before breasting the tape. More speed, less haste! But the main point of the afternoon was fun and this was something had by all. Many thanks to the late Peter Holmes for making the Old Rectory garden available once again for these races. Thanks also to the church to allow use of All Saints and the churchyard.

The other April event was the highly successful Shotesham Duck Race organised by Ken and Simon with the able assistance of our last minute duck marshall, Paolo. Thanks to Ken and Simon for organising this and to the Globe for helping with sales of the ducks.

Apart from helping out with the BBQ at the Shotesham estate open day on June 2nd, this is a quiet month for the SVA as we are gearing up for what promises to be a superb **Midsummer gala on Saturday 6th July** on the playing field. Events start at 2:00 p.m. and finish around 4: 30 p.m. before the evening's musical offerings run from 6:30 until late. Don't miss it!

Tom Higgin SVA Chairman

Saxlingham Nethergate Open Gardens All welcome! 1 - 5 pm Saturday 22nd June Tickets £5 and under 16s free. Cash only please. Tea, coffee and cake. No dogs except guide dogs.

In aid of St Mary's Church, Saxlingham Nethergate, and the Alzheimer's Society. Further details: 07939 504896 Anne

Surlingham School Summer fete 15th June 12.00-4.00pm

School playing field Free entry BBQ and Bar,

Fun dog show, Pony grooming, Craft fair and lots of stalls and games