



CHURCH SERVICES

4 11.00a.m Holy Communion St. Mary's David
 11 9:30a.m Morning Service St. Mary's David Lancaster & Sally
 18 11:00a.m Morning Service All Saints Martin & David
 25 9:30a.m Holy Communion All Saints David
Saxlingham services 4th 9.30am, 11th 11.00am, 18th 9.30am,
 25th 8.00am HC, 11.00am

CHURCH FLOWERS

Flowers – All Saints- Pauline Carver/ Mary Seppings
South Window—Gwen Porter

St Mary's –Janet Sochon, Betty Torbitt, Judith Pleavin

Church Opening All Saints 4th-10th Marcelle Pine,
 11th-17th Geoff Fiddler, 18th-24th Kathy Beeson, 25th -31st Jane Bleas

St Mary's 4th-10th Roy and Joy Whittaker,
 11th-17th Alan and Julie Graham, 18th-24th Jimmy and Jennie Hazel,
 25th-31st Peter and Valerie Crowle

WHAT'S ON

¾	Hempnall Art Exhibition	Hempnall village hall
4	Willow Weaving	10.30am Hillside
6	Mobile Library	Afternoon
8	Village walk	10.15am Trinity hall
8	Parish Council Annual Meeting	7.00pm Trinity hall
9	The Butler- Film	7.30pm Poringland
17	Horticultural Society Plant Sale	9.00-1.00pm Saxlingham
18	Games in Saxlingham	10.00-1.00pm Saxlingham
24	Village market	10.00-12.00 Trinity hall
25	Village walk	10.15am Trinity hall

This month's 'Contact' is sponsored by Roger and Beryl Keen who say goodbye to their friends in the village and to Walnut Cottage after many years and welcome to Trevor and Michelle its new custodians.

A Debatable Sermon

'Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything.' So stated George Bernard Shaw. The PCC have been looking over the past year or so as to how things might change in Shotesham at a time when the Church of England appears to be gathering the will to change. How might this change occur locally? One such change which is being planned for **June 15th** (and this is an advance notice of this) is to consider more a debate rather than a sermon. During a sermon there are some who might question what has been said by the preacher or, at least, want to ask additional questions. We have planned to introduce so-called 'Debatable Sermons': this would take place during a somewhat foreshortened service (starting and finishing with well-known hymns, some prayers and a statement of the creed), thus allowing time for the subject to be deliberated or discussed. Questions may be asked by the congregation and/or a devil's advocate.

The atheist, Professor Richard Dawkins, has admitted that he can't be sure God does not exist but he admitted he was '6.9 out of seven' sure of his beliefs. 'I think the probability of a supernatural creator existing is very, very low,' he said recently. Do you agree? Come and hear the subject 'Does God exist', debated. If the formal of the concept of debatable sermons is acceptable or popular, other topics will be introduced and we would welcome ideas from the people of Shotesham.

'I cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the water to create many ripples'[Mother Teresa]. The PCC would like to create a few ripples in Shotesham.

PCC of Shotesham

SHOE BOX APPEAL Throughout the year I meet with a small group of ladies to collect and make items for the shoe box appeal (Samaritans purse). These are then sent at Christmas time to disadvantaged children in other countries. We currently need items such as small toys, stationary, sweets, soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste to include in the boxes. We also require wool and ribbons for the ladies who knit hats and puppets. I would really appreciate your support to continue with this work and therefore have left a box at the back of All Saints church where you can leave these items. You can also ring or text me for any queries on 07767757732 Thank you very much **Jill Masters**

Shotesham Parish Council See important notice enclosed with this edition of 'Contact'.

Shotesham Village Association

At the AGM on 26 March, the Chair, Bernie Fenn reported on the many and varied events over the past year, highlights being the summer fete and the Shotesham Murder Mystery and supper held in December and thanked all committee members for their support and organization. Planned events for the coming year were also summarized and suggestions taken from those in attendance – these included more events for children, young people and families, such as treasure hunt, den-building and film shows and many more. The Village Association always welcomes new ideas and involvement from all members of the community.

The Executive Committee for the next year are: Sue Astbury, Christine Burton, Pam Crawley, David Evens, Bernie Fenn (Chair), Lindsay Heywood, Ed Howard, Christine Howes (Sec.), Michael Knights, Anthony Lister (Vice Chair), Frank Mitchell, Jane Taylor, Gill Tewson and Raz Woollacott (Treasurer).

The Easter Village Market at Trinity Hall was again very successful, organized by Gwen Jackson, with prizes for Easter Bonnets.

The Cycle Ride (Tour de Shotesham) was great fun again this year, the Yellow Jersey taken by David Burton. Prizes were also awarded for fastest lady, fastest under 16 and a special prize for Tandem riders Christine and Ted Burton – chocolate medals all round!!

This year for the first time a **Fun with Easter Eggs** event was held on a lovely sunny Easter Monday afternoon at All Saints Church where over 30 children, along with parents and grand-parents decorated eggs, competed in egg and spoon races and an Easter egg hunt in the church yard, followed by tea and buns – a most enjoyable event sure to be repeated. Thanks to all helpers and to Peter Holmes for the use of his lawn.

The Village Association is planning to set up a new **village web site**, but before we spend any time or money on the project, we would require a small team of volunteers who would be willing to give some time in order to maintain the web site once it is set up. If you think you could help with this exciting new project, please contact either Bernie Fenn 558407 or Frank Mitchell 558545. Thank you

We are aware that several new families have recently moved into Shotesham, whom we welcome into our community. If you would like to be included on our mailing list, please contact either or Bernie Fenn –

Diary Date – Friday 6th June 7.30 Trinity hall – Wine Tasting event – for details contact

Shotesham Garden/ Conservation Group

Willow weaving for your garden, new ideas and old favourites, a hands on workshop on Sunday May 4th 10.30 onwards at Christine Burton's, **Hillside, The Common**, bring your own sandwich, but hot soup will be provided. Everyone welcome, suitable for all the family. Cost £5 to cover materials. Tel 550364 for directions.

Poringland Community Cinema - The Butler Friday 9th May

at Poringland Community Centre Tickets £4

Doors open 6.45pm starts 7.30pm Tickets on sale at Budgens or the door

Village Games Roadshow Sunday 18th May, Saxlingham. 10.00-1.00pm

For those thinking of being part of Team Shotesham in the coming Village Games in June, this is an informal and fun opportunity to have a go at various activities, such as Archery, Table Tennis, Rounders, as a fore-runner to the Real Games. **Please do try and come along.** June isn't that far off; so please let me know asap if you are a potential Team Shotesham player.. **Raz 550122**

Saturday 24th May- Village Market – Trinity Hall - 10.00am –12.00

Raffle for the Nelson journey.

Stalls: local pork.cakes.chutneys.jams/marmelade/lemon curd. savory baking.craft. cards.avon.honey.secondhand books.plants.eggs.fudge.

Any prizes for raffle gratefully received thanks. 😊

Gwen and Trish. (01508 550337)

Shotesham walking group Thursday 8th May and Sunday 25th May

Fritton common and Morningthorpe Meet at Trinity at 10.15 for lift share **Sunday 25th May** a walk around the UEA Meet at 10.15 at the Trinity Everyone welcome.

Fund raising for Japan Thank you very much to everybody that kindly donated jumble for the Jumble Sale and have attended my recent fundraising events. I am delighted that the Jumble Sale raised £468, the Quiz and Picnic Evening raised £254 and the Craft Fair raised £208. I am extremely grateful and really appreciate everyone's support. The next fundraising event is An Evening with local artist, John Patchett, who will be giving a talk, demonstration and book signing on Wednesday 9th July at the Trinity. Entrance: £4 to include a complimentary Pimm's or soft drink. We would love to see you there! **Laura**

Shotesham Parish Council.

For several decades the Parish has rented land in The Street for the villagers' use as the Community Playing Field.

In recent years negotiations have taken place with the landowner and the Parish Council to enable safe on-site parking, changing facilities and recreational equipment to be installed. These requests were opposed by the landowner.

As a result of the latest discussions we have reached a stage where we might soon enjoy these facilities through the possibility of a formal 20 year lease.

There is a proviso, and that is should the landlord terminate the lease at the end of its period, and not extend it, the village {through the Parish Council} will have to clear the site at its own expense. Such a task could be expensive and require substantial funds. Such costs will have to be provided by the village. As a direct result the annual precept will need to be increased over the period of the lease to build a reserve to meet potential future costs. Grant monies may be available to finance part of the costs of development, but are unlikely to support the removal of apparatus.

Of equal importance....Are there enough committed villagers prepared to invest time to help manage the necessary fund raising, day to day oversight, and monitor health and safety aspects etc?

- Do you wish the Parish Council to continue its discussions so that the village has a useful and practical playing area in its control, for at least 20 years?

And

- Are you prepared to help managing the site and its facilities?

Any comments to

John Hope, 550368 or

The Clerk, Jeff Gough, 550358 , Or why not share your views at the

Annual Meeting held at The Trinity Hall on 8thMay at 7.00 pm where it will be on the agenda .

