



CHURCH SERVICES

1 11.00a.m. Holy Communion
 8 9.30 a.m. Morning Service
 15 11.00a.m. Holy Communion
 22 9.30 a.m. Morning Service
Saxlingham Services 1st 9.30am, 8th 11.00am, 15th 9.30am,
 22th HC 8.00am & 11.00am

St. Marys Dawn
 St. Marys Dawn
 All Saints' Austin
 All Saints Dawn

CHURCH FLOWERS

All Saints'-Jane Blease, South window, Christine Howes
St Mary's- Polly Gould, Julia Moncrieff

What's On

| | | | |
|----------------|---|--------------|------------------------|
| 1 | Village walk | 10.15am | Trinity hall |
| 4 | Yoga | 6.30 pm | Trinity hall |
| 5, 12, 19, 26 | Warm welcome | 2pm-4pm | Trinity hall |
| 5, 12, 19, 26, | Table tennis | 6.30- 8.00pm | Trinity hall |
| 10 | Garden Group Talk-Empire beneath our feet | 7.30pm | Trinity hall |
| 12 | Poringland WI | 2.00pm | Poringland |
| 13 | Film Night - Jane Austin wrecked my life | 7.30pm | Trinity hall |
| 22 | Big Breakfast | 10.00-12.00 | Trinity hall |
| 25 | Yoga | 6.30 pm | Trinity hall |
| 25 | Mobile Library | 10.15 | Grove 10.35 The Street |

Shotesham yoga continues on a weekly basis from 18.30 - 19.30 on Wednesdays during school term time which can be found here

- www.norfolk.gov/schooltermdates . Next block Jan 14th - Feb 4th, followed by Feb 25th for another 4 weeks. Enquiries via our very own Shotesham Yoga teacher, Kendra -kendracollier0@gmail.com or 07748009411

Martijn and Emma Muntingh and Terry and Polly Gould are sponsoring this edition of Contact to mark their serendipitous house swap here in Shotesham last September!



SHOTESHAM CONTACT

February 2026

Thought from Dawn

We spend quite a bit of life waiting..... speaking personally, I (along with my husband) have been waiting almost six months to complete a house sale and purchase (still ongoing), almost a year for my husband's planned surgery... and now I sit in the hospital canteen waiting for him to return to the ward so I can go and be with him.

At times a wait is long, perhaps years. Or it may be the length of a checkout queue; waiting for the lights to change; waiting for a response; waiting for news. Some waiting is fraught with anxiety – at other times we can hardly contain our excitement. Since waiting is an inevitable part of life we may as well learn to wait well.

Waiting can enrich our experience in many ways, teaching us valuable lessons about ourselves or others. With hindsight, I've often noticed that waiting for something has meant that the timing of whatever I'd been anticipating has been better than if things had happened sooner.

God is at work in our waiting. We may not notice it at the time, particularly when it involves difficulty and challenge but there is a plan and purpose to it all. Reflect on that, next time you're frustrated by having to wait....

Every blessing

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

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.

Shotesham Parish Council

Thinking ahead would you like to join in the annual village litter pick in March? For more information and/or offer help please contact - heatherbelljackson@btinternet.com

Warm welcome is each Thursday afternoon 2-4pm in the Trinity hall. Everyone is welcome for tea and cakes.

Shotesham Gardeners

On **Tuesday February 10th 7.30** at the Trinity Hall, **Jim Paine**, formerly from Walnut Tree Garden Nursery, will be taking us on a journey into the astonishing '**Empire Beneath Our Feet**'. In this talk we will see how 'garden soil' is richer, more complex than we probably ever realised and how its health is essential for successful gardening. Open to everyone, cost £3 on the door. Contact Sue Astbury susan.astbury49@btinternet.com for more information

It's back, over the weekend of **Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th of June** we are holding **Shotesham Open Gardens 2026**. This time we will be raising money for children's charities, the major beneficiary being the NSPCC <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/> I am glad to say that we already have some gardens that will be open for visits but if you would like to open your garden too, big or small, tidy or untidy, or even just part of your garden, please let us know. In the past, visitors have said that they really liked to see how gardens are evolving or changing so if yours is still a work in progress (aren't they all) you could still take part in the weekend. We will also need a myriad of volunteers, refreshments, car parking etc, again get in touch with Sue Astbury 550377 or susan.astbury49@btinternet.com When we last held this it was a real community event and lots of villagers and others took part, in whatever way they were able. So fingers crossed for good weather and look forward to seeing Shotesham in bloom.

Shotesham Screen - Jane Austen wrecked my Life

Friday February 13th at the Trinity at 7:30pm. Tickets £5. All are welcome.

Booking via Lindsay on 07702832033 or lindsayheywood3@gmail.com

"A modern, literate and sweet riff on finding the kind of happiness that can't be found in a book, *Jane Austen Wrecked My Life* will make your day. Agathe, hopelessly clumsy yet charming and full of contradictions, is a desperately single bookseller in Paris, lost in a fantasy world. When she's invited to the Jane Austen Writers' Residency in England, she must confront her insecurities to finally fulfill her ambition of becoming a novelist and put an end to wasting her sentimental life"

Shotesham Village Association

We had a very successful calendar of events in December, all of which were really well supported by the village. The carols on the hill were as popular as ever, despite the cold. So many people contributed their time and effort to make it such a success. The collection raised around £170 which was given to St. Martins Housing in Norwich.

The Old Years Day Fun Run was very well attended with 35 runners. The overall winner was Jaspar Copping, closely followed by Stephanie Lawrence. The fastest seniors were Steve Blomfield, and Liz Blakie, the fastest junior boy was Zach Lloyd and fastest junior girl was Emma Muntingh, followed closely by Georgia Lloyd. Well done everyone!

Friday January 30th – Babs Bonkers Bingo Bash - 7.30 at the Trinity.

£5/adult pay on the door, but book a place via Jo on jomccall71@gmail.com Still a few tickets left – but be quick!

Sunday February 22nd – Big Breakfast at the Trinity at 10.00 – 12.00

Suggested donations of £5/adult, under 12s free. Money raised will be shared between SVA funds and Priscilla Bacon Lodge.

Wednesday March 25th – Shotesham Village Association AGM

7.00pm at the Trinity

Please come along to this important meeting to decide the future of the SVA. We need new committee members with energy and ideas to continue the really valuable work of the SVA and continue to make Shotesham the vibrant and special community that we all enjoy. Wine and nibbles will be provided. Of course AGM time is also SVA donation time and the 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.

To celebrate 25 years of the SVA we are planning on making a slideshow of photos over the years. So if you have any that you would like to share please can you let Katie Murphy know (katiemurphy6@icloud.com). Alternatively they can be dropped off at Myrtle Cottage, The Street. Please label them with dates if possible. Katie is happy to scan them to add to the slideshow and we will return them if named. We are hoping we might be able to use the slideshow to make a small booklet for every household in the village.

Poringland WI Our next meeting is on **Thursday 12th of February**, in **Poringland Community Centre, at 2pm**. We will be making something in macramé. If you fancy trying a new craft, you are very welcome to join us, For more information, phone Zelia on 01508 550388 or 07955 834106