



Shottisham Village Newsletter

Dear Friends

Many of us will have 14th Feb in our diaries as a special day. To most of us, it's Valentine's Day and millions of cards and gifts will be shared. This year it's also special in the church because it is Ash Wednesday and that marks the beginning of the 6 weeks called Lent. Lent is the time when Christians take extra time to try and live God's way. At the end of Lent comes Good Friday, when we remember the big love of God on the cross where Jesus died. Then comes Easter day - this year on 1st April - when we celebrate that love brings life and joy to the world. Valentine's Day is about love – and so is Lent! There are three things that we can do with the big love that is at the heart of Lent and Valentine's Day:

- **Big love says thank you:** Valentine's Day can help us to tell people we love them. Sometimes that is people who know and sometimes it is a surprise to people who don't know! It can be about romantic love between couples but this Valentine's Day why not say thank you for other kinds of love as well? A special card for a grandparent or a child, a chocolate heart left on the desk of a teacher or colleague. All these remind us to say thank you for love.
- **Big love gives up:** Lent is traditionally a time when Christians try to live carefully, and follow the example of Jesus more closely. This might mean giving up things; things like chocolate or crisps, social media or TV watching. Love often means giving up something for other people – being unselfish and generous, thoughtful and kind.
- **Big love takes up:** Lent is also a time when Christians decide to take up new ways of living, perhaps giving more away, praying more, reading the Bible more. Sometimes it means doing something that takes a bit of extra time or effort. Love goes the extra mile for other people, taking time to listen, to do new things together and to make a difference to the world.

Wishing you every blessing

Churches in the Woodbridge area are again running a series of talks for Lent with the intriguing title 'God and Politics'. The talks will be given by Bishop Tim Stevens, formerly a bishop in Suffolk and will address questions such as:

- 1) What does the Bible say about God's action in politics and history?
- 2) What can we learn from outstanding Christian Leaders?
- 3) How can the Church enter the Public Square and what is our responsibility in this?
- 4) What does the Cross have to teach us about the cost of public discipleship?

7.30pm on Wednesday evenings 21st, 28th Feb and 7th, 14th March at St Mary's Church Centre, Woodbridge. There will be opportunity for discussion and all welcome to any or all sessions. No charge. Lifts available. Contact Rev'd Ruth for further details.

VILLAGE PANCAKE EVENING is on Tuesday 13th February at 7 pm with speaker Jenny Webb – tickets from Pat Bendon on 411470 – very popular!

February 2018	SHOTTISHAM	SUTTON	HOLLESLEY	ALDERTON
Thursday 1st			2.30 pm Glebe House, Evensong Pat S/Mel	
Sunday 4 th Candlemas	11 am Holy Communion Revd Ruth	9.30 am Sutton Heath family communion Canon David Lowe	9.30 am Sung Eucharist (CW) Revd Ruth	8 am Holy Communion (BCP) Revd Ruth
Sunday 11th	6 pm Evensong Revd Michael	9.30 Morning praise Mel Spurling	9.30 Family Communion Revd Michael 6pm Reflection and Song Di Barnard	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) Revd Michael
Ash Wednesday 14th		12.00 noon Holy Communion followed by Lent lunch Revd Michael		
Thursday 15th			10.30 Glebe House Holy Communion Revd Michael/Pat S	
Saturday 17th			12.00 Messy church Di Barnard and team	
Sunday 18th		11 am Holy Communion (CW) Revd Michael	9.30 Café Sundae Judy Foulger 1 pm Baptism of Gracie Fullwood 6.30 pm Evensong Revd Michael	8 am Holy Communion (BCP) Revd Ruth
Sunday 25th	9.30 Family Communion Revd Ruth	6.30 Evensong tbc	9.30 Sung Eucharist Revd Michael	8 am Holy Communion (BCP) Revd Ruth

Our series of **Lent lunches** begins at Sutton Church on Ash Wednesday 14th February at 12noon with Holy Communion followed by a light lunch of homemade soup and bread with donations going this year to FIND – Families in Need, an Ipswich charity helping homeless people and running a foodbank for those who find themselves in financial difficulties.

The series continues with a short service of midday prayer at 12 noon each Saturday :-
17th Feb at Alderton Church, 24th Feb at Hollesley Church, 3rd March at Shottisham Church

CALLING ALL VILLAGERS – St Margaret's Churchyard. Please come to a meeting at the church about helping with the churchyard on **Saturday 3rd February** at 11am -refreshments are provided. Please contact Pat on 411470, St Margaret's PCC.

Shottisham Big Lunch Picnic – due to work and family commitments Cathy and Kim will no longer be making the arrangements for this. If anyone else is interested please contact Cathy 411449 or Kim 411538.



Gardening gems from Ivan

At last I have managed to make a start on my allotment, cutting down the asparagus, and clearing and burning the old runner bean plants. Onion set season is upon us once again, and Penny and I will be skipping off at 07.00 hours for a few days to rendezvous with articulated lorries on farms in Essex and Suffolk to take samples. The increasing day length and the odd sunny day mean that plants in the greenhouse are beginning to show signs of growth. Penny's asparagus seedlings are growing well, but do not appreciate being covered with fleece as this makes them bend over – a new system is needed. In the garden there is always plenty of tree debris to be cleared, and the spring bulbs are now showing so could spring be just around the corner – I doubt it but it's still nice to see the heralds making an appearance. I've sent off my seed order, which just leaves the seed potatoes, and if I can find some suitable raspberry canes to purchase that will do for this year. It will soon be time to start raising a few plants in the greenhouse and fire up the electric heater. Good gardening, *Ivan Clark*



SHOTTISHAM TRUST HALL - For Trust Hall hire please contact Terrie on 410134.

Cathy's Craft Group is held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7.00 pm in The Trust Hall, cost £2 which includes tea/coffee and biscuits. Proceeds all go to the maintenance of the hall. Any queries please contact Cathy on 411449.

SHOTTISHAM WI

Shottisham Trust Hall Project Group needs another person from the village to help with renovation, planning and grant applications. If you are interested then please telephone Christine Block on 411460 for a chat. Shottisham WI are working hard to fundraise for the hall renovation work. Thank you to everyone for supporting the Jumble Sale which made £258.00.

On **February 14th** at 12.00 noon there will be a talk by Gordon James about Orchids and the South of France.

THE SORREL HORSE in February

Despite the doom and gloom of mid winter, February promises to be an exciting month at the Sorrel Horse with many interesting events planned in addition to our regular music and quiz nights.

Sunday 4th will be a first for Harry and his new acoustic session. Why not while away the afternoon by the warmth of the fire.

We are delighted to announce the launch of a bi-monthly wine appreciation evening commencing **Thursday 8th** hosted by Everich Wines. Come along and sample eight different wines and learn more about the region and grape from whence they came.

Wednesday 14th - our very own Italian themed menu will be on offer for Valentine's Night for those romantically inclined.

Friday 23rd - we plan to host another indoor cinema night – any favourites? Please feel free to make a proposal.

Saturday 24th - the restaurant will be closed for a private function. However, the bar area will of course still be available.

Best wishes *Gary Miller*

Music – Admission is free and it starts at 8.30 pm – book a table if you want to eat beforehand. What a fantastic evening we had last month with Kelly Pritchard and Kev Walford! So much fun, laughter and excellent music. On **Monday 12th** at 8.30 pm we have as our guests **Tin River** – a popular trio from Bungay/Beccles who play a great selection of songs and tunes. The support act is **Bitter Thorn** (Chris and Caroline).

Chris Harvey

????? **Quizzes** this month are on **14th** and **28th** starting at 8.30 pm

The proceeds from the **Shottisham Parish Photographic Book** are still sitting in the Bank waiting to be used. The consensus among villagers was that we should put this towards a swift survey and the provision of swift boxes. Reverend Ruth has suggested that we could also work towards a box and camera linked to the internet on the church tower, which would be fascinating. The time has come to move this project forward. Helen Kemp will be asking the RSPB to give us a talk on the Suffolk Swift Survey in the very near future. We will let you know by flyer as soon as a date has been agreed. Do come and hear how we can protect these fragile birds and see whether we can get together to record an increase in their numbers after bird boxes are installed. *Diana Bickerton*

Mobile Grocer – **NB NEW TIMES Thursdays** Heath Drive 10.25-10.50 and The Sorrel Horse 11.00 – 11.15- tel Sonya 07810370314 for info.

Mobile Library – **Tuesday 6th** at the Knoll from 3.00 pm – 3.20pm.

LOCAL EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

A range of excellent local talks

Go to an RSPB talk by Edward Jackson on 1st at Woodbridge Community Hall at 7.30 pm and find out how to save our Suffolk swifts for £3. Relish local expertise by attending a Saturday study day at Sutton Hoo about medieval rural lifestyle on 3rd or the Wuffing dynasty on the festival day of King Ethelbert – 24th – phone Cliff on 01394 386498 for details. Enjoy Brian Cornell's talk on 17th about Thames Watermen and Lightermen at Bawdsey Village Hall at 7.30 pm - £2 admission on the door.

10th Holllesley Community Café at Holllesley Village Hall from 9.30 to 12 noon

17th Vintage Afternoon tea at Bawdsey Village Hall from 2.30 pm

FERRY – please use the excellent dial-a-ferry service during the winter and venture across the Deben to Felixstowe Ferry to buy fresh fish and enjoy the beautifully situated cafes. Phone 07709 411511 a day in advance.

SAD NEWS

The village lost one of the good guys on 3rd January when **Charlie Lowe** died after nearly 3 years fighting cancer. He never lost his sense of humour and great humanity right to the end. He will be missed by all who knew him, especially Gilly and Baz, his dog.

A message from Susan, Alice, Nell and Laura Foster about Brian Foster.

We have been overwhelmed by the messages of support and love we have received over the past week since Brian died.

Mr Foster's Final Assembly: a celebration of his life will take place in **St Andrew's Church Alderton** at **2.30 pm on Friday 9th February 2018** and we would love to see you there. Cheerful colours preferred, hats encouraged and bring a large handkerchief to wave! No flowers please, but donations to RNLI and UNICEF will be gratefully received.

For further information about church related items please contact Revd. Ruth Hatchett 412052 or email ruth.hatchett@yahoo.co.uk.

For contributions to the Shottisham newsletter please contact Nicky Beaven 411861 or nicky.rosecott@gmail.com by 20th of previous month.