

Shottisham Village Newsletter



December services in Sutton and Shottisham



Date	Time	Place	Service	Officiant
Sunday 6 th 2 nd Sunday of Advent	9.00am	Sutton Heath	Family Worship	Rev Mandy
Sunday 13 th 3 rd Sunday of Advent	11.00am 6pm	Sutton Shottisham	Morning Praise Carols & Lessons	Helen Shand Rev Mandy
Sunday 20 th December 4 th Sunday of Advent	11.00am 11.00am	Sutton Shottisham	Morning Praise Carols & Lessons	Rev Mandy Helene Berry
Thursday 24 th December Christmas Eve	4pm 9.30pm	Sutton Shottisham	Carol Service Crib Service Midnight in Bethlehem	Helen Shand Rev Mandy
Friday 25 th December Christmas Day	11am	Sutton	Christmas Communion	Rev Mandy

It's December and the Countdown to Christmas has begun (along with the opening of advent calendars and daily dose of chocolate!!) The last Sunday in November was Advent Sunday, the first Sunday of the new church year, when we light the first of our Advent Candles, sing our advent hymns and use this time of Advent to reflect on the good news which is coming.

Sadly, we have not been able to be in church together to celebrate this special time, and our Christmas festivities hang in the balance of how this second lockdown has helped to suppress the spread of Covid19. We are praying constantly that our church doors will be open once again to celebrate the Birth of Jesus Christ over 2,000 years ago.



Not singing in church has also been something we have had to get used to, and while it's good to listen to CDs of various choirs, it's been very difficult for everyone not to join in (although if you've sat too close and heard me singing, you might see it as a joyful relief!!) Christmas "Carols and Lessons by Candlelight" are always popular, especially as we all like to join in heartily with the well-known seasonal songs.

One of our favourite Christmas carols, "O, Come, All Ye Faithful," (and my personal favourite) goes back hundreds of years, perhaps to a Cistercian monastery. Often known by its Latin title, *Adeste Fideles* ("Come, faithful people"), this hymn is a call for God's faithful, joyous people to contemplate the "King of Angels" in Bethlehem's manger. The first verse puts out the invitation.

"O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O Come ye, Oh come ye to Bethlehem,

Come and behold him, born the King of Angels

The chorus, repeated again and again, calls us to adore Him, to regard Him with loving admiration and devotion, and ultimately, to worship Him and honour Him as divine.

"O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord."

God willing, we will be able to meet in church over Christmas so that we might come together and adore him, this tiny baby who changed and changes the hearts of so many people down the ages.

So, whether we are able to meet in church, (please see the attached rota for planned services) or whether we give joyous chorus along with the carols at home on TV or CD, let us rejoice at the birth of the Babe of Bethlehem, and adore, Christ the Lord. With Christmas Blessings, *Rev Mandy* Xx



Swift boxes going up on St Margaret's Church



Ivan hard at work on the allotment



DAY	ALDERTON	ORFORD	ALDEBURGH	HOLLESLEY
Monday	8.00 to 14.30	8.00 to 18.30	8.00 to 18.30	13.30 to 17.30
Tuesday	8.00 to 18.30	CLOSED	8.00 to 18.30	
Wednesday	8.00 to 18.30	8.00 to 13.00	8.00 to 18.30	
Thursday	8.00 to 18.30	8.00 to 13.00	8.00 to 18.30	
Friday	8.00 to 18.30	8.00 to 13.00	8.00 to 18.30	

BANK HOLIDAY & GP TRAINING CLOSURE DATES

The surgery will be closed on Friday 25th December, Monday 28th December & Friday 1st January

And closed on Wednesday 2nd December at 13.00 for GP training.

Please contact NHS 111 when the surgery is closed.

We would like to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Flu Vaccinations for 50 to 64 year olds

We are awaiting guidance from NHS England regarding flu vaccinations for the 50 -64 cohort. We will update our website and Facebook page as soon as we receive direction.

Practice Updates

We appreciate that not all patients have Internet access, but in the current rapidly changing climate our website & Facebook page are the most direct route to inform patients regarding practice updates.

READY, STEADY, CENSUS

The decennial census is almost upon us.

Households across Shottisham will soon be asked to take part in the nationwide survey of housing and the population. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

Information from the digital-first census will help decide how services are planned and funded in your local area. This could mean things like doctors' surgeries, housing or new bus routes.

Households will receive a letter with a unique access code in the post, allowing them to complete their questionnaire online. Paper questionnaires will be available on request. Census day is March 21.

For more information, visit www.census.gov.uk

THE MOBILE LIBRARY will be at the knoll on TUESDAY 8th December 3 pm to 3.20 pm.
BILLY THE FISH is at the knoll at 10 am on Wednesdays.

SHOTTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL

ROSPA have recently completed their annual inspection of the Play Area. They identified a number of Medium Risk repairs needed and Cllr Pat Southgate has arranged for the work to be done. Thanks to District Councillor James Mallinder who has kindly covered the cost of the work through the Community Partnership Grant. Please note that our next meeting, likely to be ZOOM, is on **Tuesday 12th January 2021 7:30pm**. Please contact shottishampc.clerk@gmail.com if you would like to join the meeting, *Ray Kay*

A message from Cllr James Mallinder

The ending of 2020 has been as difficult for most of us as the entire strange year.

Lockdowns, unsettling future, food shortage, isolation and a question of when will this all end?

However here on the Peninsula there is an undercurrent of positive energy. Neighbours now know each other, communities have come together and volunteer groups have stepped up to assist those that need a helping hand.

As your ward member again and again I see acts of kindness and thoughtfulness. Contrary to concerns that society is fragmenting, Covid has brought society together.

We do care, and we want to care. A cup of tea with a neighbour in the garden or at a distance, once a rushed event is now treasured.

Nobody should suffer alone in these difficult times and I want to thank all you for checking on your neighbours and communities. A small gesture can make such a big difference.

Living in the middle of the AONB we have been cheered on our walks with our engagement with nature. Nature that carries on regardless. Time now given to the turning of the seasons and the change in landscape as we head into winter.

Once this is over and we look back at these times what will we learn?

Communities are alive and strong and we do care about the weaker members and those that need help.

Nature offers a reassurance nobody realised until we had time to stop and see.

With Christmas nearly upon us it's a perfect time to pause and notice the positive and celebrate what we have.

Wishing you all a merry Christmas and peaceful New Year, *Cllr James Mallinder*



THE SORREL HORSE

Nothing much to say from our side, we battle on and hope to be permitted to open to bring some Xmas cheer and spirit to the village! With best wishes, *Gary and Leila* <https://thesorrelhorse.co.uk/>

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

Peter (Jean and Antony's son of Myrtle Cottage) and Emma Levy married in Gretna Green on 19th November – Emma designed her own dress! Peter and Emma and their two dogs spent all of the first lockdown in the village and it was very useful to have two paramedics on hand.



QUOTES FROM VILLAGE CHILDREN LOOKING FORWARD TO CHRISTMAS

"I'm looking forward to seeing all my family even if it's limited to small numbers", *Bethany*

A conversation between *Mike* and *Albert* –

Mike: What are you looking forward to for Christmas buddy?

Albert: I'd like a hoverboard.

Mike: erm, they are only on Back to The Future. They haven't actually invented them yet mate, it's to do with physics, gravity and the floating bit – it's all a bit tricky.

Albert: But you said Father Christmas's elves can make anything!

"I am looking forward to cuddling up in front of the fire and watching A Muppet's Christmas Carol on Christmas Eve, *Evie*

"I am looking forward to eating Christmas Dinner and going on a nice winter walk", *Lauren*



Midnight walk

Each year we do the Midnight walk in aid of St Elizabeth's Hospices, but as we were unable to do it this year, instead we are doing Christmas 'Stride and Ride' virtual event for St Elizabeth's Hospice from 16 Dec - 28 Dec, walking, running and cycling 10 miles in Christmas dress. Please feel free to donate via the just giving page. Thank you, *Bethany & Terrie*

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Terrie-Bethany-Cornwell-Dunnett2>

For contributions to the Shottisham newsletter please contact **Nicky Beaven 411861** or nicky.rosecott@gmail.com by 20th of previous month. Please contact Rev Giles Tulk as Team Rector revgileswtr@gmail.com and Judith Andrews as local spokesperson for the 7 local villages judith.andrews@btinternet.com