



Shottisham Village Newsletter



Dear Friends

Christmas is, for many, a busy time of year filled with the joys of carol singing, presents and celebrations with family and friends. For others, Christmas can be a lonely time shaped by sadness and memories.

Christmas can also be a time to pause and reflect. In fact, that's one of the ways we can unwrap the true gifts of Christmas – a moment of peace in the busyness, a breakthrough of hope in our sadness or a rediscovery of love in a relationship that has become stressed.

This year, the Church of England have produced a series of reflections under the title *#GodWithUs: Your Christmas Journey*. People can receive the messages as texts, emails and on social media. (Text **GodWithUs** to **88802** to sign up for the texts (they are free!))

#GodWithUs: Your Christmas Journey seeks to help us explore what the Christmas story might mean in our lives. The constant message of Christmas – in carols and readings – is that God is with us. In whatever situation you find yourself this Christmas, God is with you – you need only turn to him and ask to know his presence.

Video adverts are also being produced that tell the story of people's journeys to church at Christmas and what Christmas means to them, which will be released throughout December on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. The theme of 'Journey' is continued in our usual Christmas Eve 5pm service at Hollesley Church, when there will be an interactive presentation similar to last year entitled 'The Greatest Journey'.

I hope that, through these resources, you will be helped to unwrap in your own life God's gifts of peace, hope and love. May your Christmas journey lead to closer not just to the heart of Christmas but to the person of Jesus whose birth we celebrate in this wonderful season.

There will be carol singing around the village again this year on **Wednesday 6th December**. We will meet at Shottisham Mill at 6pm for a 6.30pm start with the aim of finishing up at the Sorrel Horse at about 8pm. All are welcome to join us.

St Margaret's carol service will be on **Sunday 17th December** at 6.30pm when we welcome all children to take part in the nativity tableaux.

Rach Hatfield



During the three weeks leading up to Christmas Eve, our **knitted nativity scene** will again be travelling around our villages looking for a stopping place each night. Each home will keep one of the little sheep until Christmas Eve when the sheep can all be brought to Hollesley or Sutton church for the Christmas Eve service to be reunited with their friends. Could you give Mary & Joseph, donkey & sheep, shepherds & wise men a place to rest for the night during December? Please get in touch with me via telephone, email or Facebook if you would like to host the travelling crib. I will need your name, address & telephone number and any dates which would not be convenient. You will need to make arrangements to pass the crib on to the next person on the list – after school perhaps?

St Margaret's Church are having a village Christmas Festive Fayre at the Trust Hall on Saturday 9th December 12 noon to 3 pm.

Gardening gems from Ivan

What to do first, that is the question. Rake up the fallen leaves, does the grass need another cut, can I combine those two occasions? Yes, I can, as long as it's not too wet. EUREKA! All good. Trim down shrubs and perennials to prevent wind rock and introduce an element of tidiness. Today we have collected some horse manure for the allotments, but I have done nothing of late on my allotment. However, other issues and responsibilities are reducing, so there is a chance of spending time preparing the plot for the winter and more importantly the spring, when the fun begins all over again. Deck the halls and get the Christmas tree bought, 'planted' and decorated, as December and Christmas is just around the corner, and along with that we pass the shortest day and can look forward to spring. In the meantime enjoy the relative rest of the winter months to fortify yourselves for the big push in the spring. Wishing everyone all the very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year,

Ivan Clarke 

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 Thank you very much to everyone for supporting the Book Sale which has raised **£286.00** towards the Trust Hall renovation work. The Christmas lunch is on **December 13th** at 1.00 pm. **Saturday January 13th** Jumble Sale at the village Trust Hall 10.30 to 12.30 – donations of jumble and nearly-new will be very gratefully received.



THE SORREL HORSE in December



May I take the opportunity to introduce Leila and myself as the new tenants at the Sorrel Horse effective 04/11/17.

The Christmas Fayre menu will be available from 1/12/17 until 24/12/17. Monday Curry Night is to continue.

Saturday 9th at 7 pm– village Christmas dinner – please go to the pub to pay your deposit and give your menu choices in no later than **Monday 4th December**, hope to see you there, **Kevin and Terrie**.

Friday 22nd – Santa to visit The Sorrel Horse at 5.30 pm.

Monday 25th – open for drinks only from 12 noon to 3 pm.

Sunday 31st New Year's Eve event – sumptuous buffet, entertainment, bonfire, fireworks and sparkling wine to welcome in 2018.

Gary and Leila Miller

MUSIC – what a great evening we had last month with Honey and the Bear and Ross and Eliza Burkitt. Sorry to those who could not get in.

This month on **Monday 11th December** @8.30 pm we have our Christmas special with **SYZEWELL GAP** performing their special mix of foot-tapping music, good humour, stories and carols. Our support act is **Keith and Mary Jane Tyrrel**. Book a table early if you would like to eat. Admission is free, but a contribution in the hat is much appreciated.

Chris Harvey

Quizzes Quizzes this month are on **6th** and **20th** starting at 8.30 pm.

Regular Village Services

Community Car Service for Doctor/Hospital appointments Woodbridge and Ipswich. Part funded by Suffolk County Council. Cost Woodbridge £5 / Ipswich £10. Colin Beecroft Tel 411794

Mobile Grocer –Thursdays Heath Drive 10.55 – 11.15 and The Sorrel Horse 11.25 – 11.45- tel Sonya 07810370314 for info. There is **no mobile shop** on Thursday **28th December** and Thursday **4th January**.

Mobile Library – **Tuesday 12th December** at the Knoll from 3.00 pm – 3.20pm.

CATS Link Bus can be contacted on 01728 635938

Fresh fish - Cath from Lowestoft visits the village weekly on Tuesday afternoon. Tel 01502 530965 Mobile 07971 970836

LOCAL EVENTS IN DECEMBER

1st Dec Quiz with Fish & Chip Supper - Sutton Memorial Hall - 7.30pm - to book ring 411530 or 384659

2nd Dec Rainbow Cafe - Bawdsey Village Hall - 9.30am to 12 noon

2-3rd Dec Christmas Craft Fair - Suffolk Punch Trust - 10.30am to 4pm

4-5th Dec Second Hand Book Sale - Suffolk Punch Trust - 10.30am to 4pm

4th Dec OAP Christmas Tea Party for residents of Sutton & Shottisham - Sutton Memorial Hall

7th-10th Dec Hollesley Players Pantomime

8th Dec Girls Night Out Carol Service - All Saints Church, Sutton - 6pm –

9th Dec Bawdsey Craft Group Annual Christmas Coffee Morning - Bawdsey Village Hall - 10am to 12 noon

9th Dec-5th Jan Christmas Wreaths & Trees - All Saints Church, Sutton - 10am to 4pm

10th Dec Santa's Grotto & Coffee Morning - Alderton Village Hall - 10am to 12.30pm

16th Dec Hollesley Community Cafe - Hollesley Village Hall - 9.30am to 12 noon

17th Dec Last Cafe Open day of 2017 - Suffolk Punch Trust - 10.30 to 4pm

17th Dec Winter Solstice - Sutton Hoo - 2.30pm to sundown

16th Dec Bawdsey Christmas Market - Bawdsey Village Hall - 2pm to 4pm

LOCAL SCHOOLS

At Bawdsey school we would like to invite you to our KS2 school panto on the 12th and 13th of December at 6pm and our Christmas Cracker (fair) on 15th December from 2.30 pm . A belated thank you to everyone who came to our Macmillan coffee morning in September. It was very successful and we were proud to raise over £280! You are welcome to join us for the seniors' roast dinner every second Thursday of the month or the baby and toddler group every Friday from 1.30. *Katie Butler*, Head.



TRICK OR TREAT – the children would like to say THANK YOU to everyone in the village who provided treats, they had great fun.