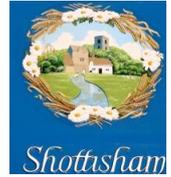


Shottisham Village Newsletter



The Vicar's Voice February 2021

Did you know, that as February begins, we are still in the season of Christmas and Epiphany? We may have put all the decorations back in the loft, or in the cupboard under the stairs, and no doubt put the gifts we received in their rightful place, (I've already read one of the books I was given, and am now half way through the next, but the jigsaw is still waiting to be started!!), and we are now looking to the day when we are called to have our first dose of the Covid vaccine.

Christmas draws to a close with the celebration of Candlemas. This is the time when, 40 days after Jesus' birth, his parents, Mary and Joseph, took him to the Temple as part of the Jewish custom of giving thanks for the safe delivery of the child, and the wellbeing of the mother. Mary and Joseph would have said thank you to God for this precious infant by giving a gift of two doves or pigeons to the Temple. And it is here that they met the elders of the Temple, Simeon and Anna, who proclaimed that this was the one who would bring about salvation for the world. It is from this meeting that one of the most well-loved canticles, the Nunc Dimittis, is taken, the song that an aged Simeon gives upon seeing the Christ Child, that he had seen the light of the world, and can now rest in peace.

"Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, according to your word.

*For my eyes have seen your salvation,
Which you have prepared before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of thy
people Israel". The Song of Simeon*

February is a busy month as it also sees another Christian tradition, that of Ash Wednesday, which is the beginning of Lent, a time of reflection and fasting, when we usually give up something which we enjoy as a sense of self discipline. In these modern times however, it is becoming more favourable to take something up, such as additional reading a Lent book, or doing something for charity.

Both Candlemas and Lent are seasons of hope and looking forward. The hope we have today of course is, especially in the times we are living through, that things will get better, that we will once again be able to hug our grandchildren, to enjoy the delights of cake and conversation at the local coffee morning, and go to the cinema or theatre or church and not have to sit 2 metres away from friends. Where there is hope, there is also love. Love came down at Christmas, and continues on, and on, and on.

With love and blessings to you all,

Rev Mandy Xx

BILLY THE FISH is at the knoll at 10 am on **Wednesdays**.

Thank you

Bethany and I raised £284 for St Elizabeth's hospices doing the Stride n Ride in December. Thank you everyone for their support. We haven't got the medals yet because of the 3.0 lockdown but hope to get them when they can go in the office and send them in the post, *Terrie Cornwell- Dunnett*

SHOTTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Could those residents with dogs please keep them on a lead if they are difficult to control, there have been some instances of dogs off the lead bothering other dogs. Please note that there is a lot of information regarding the Parish Council including the copies of minutes, report on finances and upcoming events. The link is <http://shottisham.suffolk.cloud> Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday 9th March** very likely to be by ZOOM. If you would like to attend please contact Lesley at shottishampcclerk@gmail.com, *Ray Kay*



| 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 | |

STAFF TRAINING CLOSURE AFTERNOON

The surgery will be **closed** for staff training on **Wednesday 2nd February** from 1300- calls will be diverted to NHS 111

We appreciate that not all of our patients have internet access, but in the current rapidly changing climate our website & Facebook page are the most direct route for you to find up to date patient information.

If you are unable to access the internet please call the surgery if you have any queries on 01394 411641.

eConsult is available via our website. It enables patients to seek online advice from a clinician at your surgery. It also gives patients the option of requesting general or administrative advice. eConsult also offers self-help information from the NHS and advice or help from appropriate local services. To access eConsult please visit our appointment page: www.thepeninsulapractice.co.uk/appointments

Help with lifts to vaccinations

If anyone is offered the vaccination and is struggling to get to their appointment, please contact Pat Southgate on 01394 410110, 07787865073 or at pat.southgate@hotmail.com and I shall arrange transport. They would be required to wear a face mask and to sit in the back of the car. Sarah Fiddes from the Peninsula Practice can also be contacted at sarahfiddes@nhs.net but she will then get in touch with me anyway. Could I also ask that, if possible, those people who volunteered their help during the first lockdown would be ready to help again if it is needed. Thank you, *Pat Southgate*

Great news

It is positive that some Shottisham folk have now had their first covid vaccination, at least one villager is volunteering at the vaccination hub in Ipswich and some others are taking part in the Covid-19 infection survey for the office for national statistics.

RESIDENTS ASKED TO CONSIDER ENVIRONMENT

As your district councillor and cabinet member for the Environment, I am asking residents across East Suffolk to consider taking up practical ideas in their New Year's resolutions this year to help fight climate change and biodiversity loss.

Small changes in our behaviour will make a big difference over time, so this year, what will your New Year resolution be?

Reduce plastic use

Plastic bags aren't easily recycled and often end up interfering with our water sources, trees, and animal habitats. If you haven't already, buying reusable shopping bags is a low-cost, one-time purchase that could have a big impact on cutting down on your plastic consumption.

Recycle right and waste less

To ensure your recycling isn't rejected, make sure you put the right waste in the right bin. An updated recycling leaflet will be sent to all households at the end of January as a reminder to what can be placed in the blue bin. And we ask all residents to only put bins out for collection the night before and to be returned to your property as soon as possible the following day Rubbish should be placed in the bin and the lid closed – wet recycling material cannot be recycled and will be rejected.

Think local

This has been a difficult year for many of our local shops and by shopping locally you can not only help your local economy but also reduce your carbon footprint. There are other benefits too of course, as shopping at local shops and farmers markets means you get the freshest produce whilst supporting your local economy.

Support nature

Putting food out for birds at this time of year will have an immediate impact on attracting birds into your garden. As you think about spring, think about planting wild flowers and perhaps creating a mini meadow.

We as individuals hold the key in making a difference and in partnership with East Suffolk we will make sure we maintain and protect our environment for future generations. **Cllr James Mallinder | Deben Ward Cabinet Member for the Environment** www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

SHOTTISHAM CAMPSITE AND THE BLUE RABBIT CAFÉ AND CAMPSITE

The campsite has some new piggies. We have three little Gloucester Old Spot crosses who are happily making nests in the straw and whizzing around the pig area. If you are lucky you can see them from the bridgeway. They do tend to go back to bed after breakfast for a little snooze - I had to wake them up to get this photo! Fingers crossed the Blue Rabbit Cafe will be open later this year and there will be tasty ham and cheese toasties, sausage rolls and bacon buns available all from our own pigs. And of course there will be lots of homemade cake and homegrown salads as well. The sheep are staying snug and warm as well. They don't need straw as they have fantastic wool coats. Although they have a shelter they generally prefer to sleep outside. One day last week when we had a very hard frost the backs of the sheep were covered in frost as well, but the little spots on the ground where they had rested were frost free! *Claire Norton*



Home Schooling – challenging but fun! *Vivi says 'I'm making a hot air balloon out of paper because it's fun. I'm going to play with my dolls with it. I miss my friends at school but I like staying home with Logan, Mummy and Daddy really much.'*



Any photos of home schooling or similar for March would be welcome!

News from your Local History Recorder

Just to keep you up to date on my work for the village. I continue to gather all the Whatsapp chats, blogs, emails, parish meetings, etc. to give a flavour of 2020 and now 2021 for the Local History Council. A lot to put into the annual report, but very different from any other year.

I'm sure Helen will tell you of the great work going on with the swift boxes at the Church. The boxes, installation and camera have gone ahead and have been paid for out of the profits of the Shottisham Photographic Book; this should enhance the coming of the swifts in the next few months.

The history book is progressing. Nearly 12 chapters accomplished, although some will need some more work when Suffolk Archives reopens. Just to wet your appetites, chapters over this winter have been *Farming and Agriculture, Trades and Occupations, Births, Deaths and Disease* and now *Strange and Interesting Stories*, which of course includes the Angel of Shottisham. David Beaven has been very helpful in pointing me in the right direction for an important piece of research, which adds to the story.

If anyone would like to talk about their house, or any other piece of information, do please get in touch. I am still hoping that people will come forward with their title deeds (which I promise to return to their owners within a week). The deeds are so useful in placing the residents and tying up loose ends. Contact me on 01394-411841 or 07928-419766 or dianabickerton88@gmail.com

Stay safe and warm, *Diana Bickerton*