

## Regular Events

**Baby Mice** – Every Wednesday 10-12 in Newton Flotman Church Room. A group for parents and babies led by Geraldine from Children's Services. Chat and get to know other parents. Young parents especially welcome. Contact Geraldine Preston on 07827 896281

**Bible Study Groups** New members are always welcome. Please contact Philip Simmons 499041, David Lancaster 493159 or June Gibson 499004

**Church Mice** – A parent and toddler group, meeting fortnightly on Thursdays from 9.30am in Newton Flotman Church room. We do not meet during August but will recommence on September 13<sup>th</sup>. Contact Dawn (470956) or Vicky (471506) for more details.

**Coffee Stop** – for coffee, tea and cakes Saturday Mornings 10-12 at Newton Flotman's Church Room. Contact Amy Ferguson on 470925

**Communion at home** - Contact Rev. David Sochon on 558495

**Emmanuel Group** – Meeting weekly in Tasburgh. Ask Renee Hollinger for more details or phone Shirley Brookes on 470369

**Monday Mardle** – get together in Saxlingham Church Room every Monday – see August dates for more information. Tel Corinne 01508 499064

**Prayer** for the parishes takes place every day. Please give any special prayer requests to a churchwarden, member of the clergy or prayer box or board in church.

**Sat Nav/FROG** – Groups for 11s to teenage meeting during part of some Sunday Services at Tasburgh and Newton Flotman. Contact the clergy for details.

**Special Agents** – are children aged up to 11 with a special assignment to find out all about the Christian life. We meet on Sundays in Newton Flotman at 10.45-12 to investigate bible stories, play games, sing, pray and do all sorts of crafts. New members are always welcome. If you want to know more, tel: Kirsten 471580

**Tasburgh Coffee Pot** – meets every Wednesday afternoon 2pm – 3.45pm in Tasburgh Church Room for coffee and a chat – all are welcome.

**Tasburgh Children's Church** meets on Sundays at 9.30 in Tasburgh's Church Room. Contact Jane Rae for more details 470692

### How to Contact the Staff Team

**Rev'd Sally Gaze:** [sally@tasvalley.org](mailto:sally@tasvalley.org) Tel: 470762, The Rectory, Church Road, Newton Flotman, NR15 1QB.

**Rev'd Adrian Miller:** [adrian@tasvalley.org](mailto:adrian@tasvalley.org) Tel: 498317, The New Rectory, The Street, Saxlingham Nethergate,

**Rev'd Chris Martin:** [chrism@tasvalley.org](mailto:chrism@tasvalley.org) Tel: 470768, The New Rectory, Church Hill, Tasburgh

**Rev'd David Sochon:** [davids@tasvalley.org](mailto:davids@tasvalley.org) Tel: 558495, The Bungalow, Chapel Lane, Shotesham

**Mr David Lancaster** (Reader) Tel. 493159

This news sheet is circulated every month to all the Tas Valley churches and can also be found on our website [www.tasvalley.org](http://www.tasvalley.org).

Please send copy for the September Newsletter by August 15th to [vicky@tasvalley.org](mailto:vicky@tasvalley.org)

## Notices and News – August 2012 Tas Valley Team

*St Mary, Newton Flotman; St Peter, Swainsthorpe; St Mary, Tasburgh;  
St Mary, Tharston; St Mary Saxlingham; All Saints Shotesham,  
St Mary Shotesham, Tas Valley Cell Church*



### 'Famous last words'

'Leave the shower curtain on the inside of the tub.' These were supposedly the last words of wisdom that Conrad Hilton, the founder of the global hotel empire, shared with the world. Oscar Wilde's last words were reported to have been, 'My wallpaper and I are fighting a duel to the death. One or the other of us has to go.' And James W Rodgers, when asked if he had any last requests before facing a firing squad, said, 'Yes....a bullet proof vest!'

As I prepare to move on at the beginning of August and reflect on my time serving as Curate here in the Tas Valley Benefice, I have thought a lot about what my 'last words' should be to those amongst whom my family and I have been sharing life these last three years.

I could tell you of all the skills I have learned and honed whilst I have been here but it would do *me* more good than it does you. I could tell you about the privilege it is to have been given the opportunity to be alongside people at moments of great joy, such as weddings and baptisms, and occasions of great shock and sadness, such as when a loved one dies. To be given the chance to speak words of comfort, hope and healing in such situations has been so rewarding.

I could also tell you about the joy it has been to work, laugh and cry alongside colleagues in the Tas Valley Team Ministry who have given me the space to be myself and who have been so forgiving and gentle with me when I have messed up. Perhaps my 'last words' should be 'Thank you' to all those who live in this lovely patch of rural Norfolk and who have opened their hearts and lives to us, giving so generously of themselves.

All this is true and is worth saying. But the single most important thing that I have been most grateful for here is that 'I have been growing in God's love!' As I get older, and as my time in ministry lengthens, I become more and more convinced that the only thing that really matters is that we go on learning to take hold of God's love for us, to embrace Him in the love affair that He longs to have with us and to learn to live as His beloved.

So, my last words to you? 'God loves you. May God give you the grace to grow in His love.'

**Rev Chris Martin** (Assistant Curate – Tas Valley Team Ministry)

## Worship Events in August

### 5th **Sunday Worship**

Newton Flotman	8.00am	Holy Communion
	9.30am	All Age Morning Worship with Baptism
Swainsthorpe	9.30am	Joint with Newton Flotman
Tasburgh	9.30am	Songs of Praise, Children's Church & Sat Nav
Tharston	11.00am	Holy Communion
Saxlingham	9.30am	Holy Communion
Shotesham St Mary's	11.00am	Holy Communion

### 12th **Sunday Worship**

Newton Flotman	11.00am	All Age Communion
Swainsthorpe	3.30pm	Prayer & Cake on the green
Tasburgh	9.30am	Family Communion & Children's Church
Saxlingham	8.00am	Holy Communion
Shotesham St Mary's	9.30am	Morning Light

### 19th **Sunday Worship**

Newton Flotman	11.00am	All Age Communion
Swainsthorpe	11.00am	Joint with Newton Flotman
Tasburgh	9.30am	All Age Service
Tharston	8.00am	Holy Communion
Saxlingham	9.30am	Holy Communion
Shotesham All Saints	11.00am	Songs of Praise

### 26th **Sunday Worship**

Newton Flotman	11.00am	Morning Worship with Baptism
Swainsthorpe	9.30am	Simple said Holy Communion (in the Porch/on green with awning/tent)
Tasburgh	9.30am	Family Communion
Saxlingham	11.00am	Matins BCP
Shotesham All Saints	9.30am	Holy Communion

## Open Churches Week Events

**Tharston Church** is open each day Sat 4<sup>th</sup> to Sun 12<sup>th</sup> August 10am to 4pm for an ART & CRAFT EXHIBITION

Sat 4<sup>th</sup> – Demonstration: Andy Hibberd a Stone Carver from 10 till 4

Sat 11<sup>th</sup> – Demonstration of Modern & Traditional Patchwork from 10 till 4

Plus these DROP IN WORKSHOPS:

Mon Aug 6<sup>th</sup> 10.30 - 12.30 Puppet making (please bring empty milk bottles)

Wed Aug 8<sup>th</sup> 2.00 - 4.00pm Have a go - come and sew!

Fri Aug 10<sup>th</sup> 10.30 - 12.30 Bug Hotels and Bird Boxes

Plus a Community Art Project!

**Saxlingham Church** is open each day from Sat 4<sup>th</sup> to Sun 12<sup>th</sup> August

This year there will be an Olympic theme to their renowned flower festival. Do come and admire the handiwork of their talented flower arrangers.

Other Churches in the Benefice will be open as normal – please check the **Open Churches Week** booklet or webpages on [www.norfolkopenchurches.com](http://www.norfolkopenchurches.com)

Mon 6<sup>th</sup> – **Saxlingham Mardle**. An opportunity to look at the Flower Festival in the Church and browse in the Book Sale as we are in **Open Churches Week**

Mon 6<sup>th</sup> – **Pastoral Leaders meeting** venue tbc

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> – **Saxlingham Mardle** – Coffee at Highway Nurseries. Leave Saxlingham at 10am – lunch for those interested.

Mon 20<sup>th</sup> – **Saxlingham Mardle** – Normal Mardle meeting

Mon 27<sup>th</sup> – **Saxlingham Mardle** – no meeting (Bank Holiday Mon)

### **UGANDA TRIP 16<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> August**

As the intrepid team of 18 prepares to fly for a 12-day tour of duty, please pray for us and for those we will meet on our travels. We welcome donations of school supplies, toys or anything to help poor families with very little.

To give online: <https://mydonate.bt.com/events/uganda2012>

For more information: <http://www.justgiving.com/wsm2012>

To give by text: Simply text "UGAN87 £10" to 70070.

If you're a taxpayer, we can claim back 100% of the Gift Aid on your donation from text giving and 95% from online giving. Text giving is limited to £10 per donation, though you can donate multiple times. **Thank you, Adrian**

### **A look Forward to September dates**

Sat 8<sup>th</sup> - Sponsored churches cycle ride

Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> – Cell AGM at Trinity Almshouses in Shotesham 7.30pm

### **Tas Valley Cell Church**

**Cells** are vital units of the body - and cells in church life are small groups, which contain the DNA of what it means to be church. We meet to grow in faith, to pray and support each other, to learn from the bible and to join in actively sharing our faith and serving the wider community. If you'd like to join a cell, contact Richard Bond (Wed eves) 578093; Chris Martin (Weds eves) 470768; William Ball (Weds eves) 471506; Andrew & June Gibson (Thurs eves) 499004; Vicky Ball (Thurs eves) 471506; Jane Rae (Fri eves for adults and children) 470692; Wayne Doman (Sat afternoons for young people with all kinds of special needs and their families) 471933

**JAM Youth Group** meets on Mon eves 7-8.30pm and is for young people of high school age. We play games, eat popcorn, watch films, go on outings, read the bible and pray. We also support each other, make friends and have fun.

**SUNDAY NIGHT** – A cell for older teens/early twenties who want to explore their faith more deeply meets on Sunday evenings to discuss some of the big issues of life, pray and support each other. If you'd like to find out more about JAM or Sunday Night contact Chris Gaze tel: 470762; e-mail: [chris@tasvalley.org](mailto:chris@tasvalley.org)