

Spring 2015

*Tasburgh and Tharston
Church Newsletter*



Some say seeing is believing!

On 26 January this year I was sitting on an aeroplane where my thoughts were flitting from, 'are we going to crash?', (I'm not a good flyer) to wondering 'whether this trip was going to deepen my faith in some way?' I was part of a group of 52 people from the Norwich Diocese who were going on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

I'd always wanted to go and visit the place where the earthly ministry of Jesus started and finished. Some people call this, 'walking in the footsteps of Jesus'. Have you ever been walking on a beach and have seen somebody else's footprints, and tried to walk in them? I have on occasion, and never really managed it well. Either the distance between the footprints was too short or too long, but for whatever the reason when I have tried to it never really felt natural trying to walk in them.

There has of course been over 2000 years since Jesus walked on that land and many of the places he stayed in or visited have changed. In the old city of Jerusalem, there are some remnants of the old city of Jesus time, but in large structurally it's a different place.

In some ways I needed to look beyond the structures around me and remember that there would have been a time when Jesus would have been here. Sometimes it can be so much easier to believe in something if you can see and touch it, but having faith is also about trusting in something you cannot see or touch.

We can never walk in anyone else's footsteps because we have our own and they are just right for us. We may not always walk in a straight line, sometimes life takes us in different directions. But for the 7 days I was in Palestine and Israel, I was able to walk with 52 other people as we followed the story of the beginning of the Christian faith.

Well, thankfully the plane didn't crash and as for the second question I had on the plane, we'll have to wait and see.

Martin Hartley

Dates for your diary

Saturday March 28 10.00am-3.00pm Table Top Sale at Tasburgh Village Hall for Christian Aid **Contact** Brenda Davison 471567

Holy Week

Monday 30 March 7.30pm Houses of Prayer at Newton Church

Tuesday 31 7.30pm Compline at St Mary's Church, Tharston

Wednesday 1 April 7.30pm Compline at Tasburgh Church

Thursday 2 April 7.30pm Maundy Thursday Service Swainsthorpe

Good Friday 3 April 10.00am Family Service at Tasburgh

3.00pm 7 Words from the Cross Saxlingham

8.00pm Tenebrae at St Mary's Shotesham

Sunday 19 April 6.30pm Farewell Service for Revd David Sochon at St Mary's Shotesham [TBC]

Pentecost Sunday May 24-Trinity Sunday May 31

24/7 Prayer Week across the Tas Valley Benefice.

From the beginning of May anyone who would like to be part of this can sign-up for a one hour slot in the prayer room on their own or with friends on the Tas Valley website www.tasvalley.org

Tharston Church News

Tharston Church Wardens:

Mrs Pat Read 530 325, Mrs Sue Hubbard 530 072

Please do check service times with the churchwardens or on the Tas Valley website as unavoidable changes may occur within the 3 months of the quarter covered by the newsletter.

Please contact the churchwardens for further information

Tharston Church Services

March 8	11.00am BCP Morning Prayer [Matins]
March 15	11.00am Mothering Sunday Service
March 22	10.30am Benefice Service at All Saints, Shotesham
March 29	8.00am BCP Holy Communion
March 31	7.30pm Benefice Compline for Holy Week
April 5	11.00am Easter Day Holy Communion
April 12	11.00am BCP Morning Prayer [Matins]
April 19	8.00am BCP Holy Communion
April 26	11.00am Morning Worship with Holy Baptism
May 12	11.00am BCP Morning Prayer [Matins]
May 17	8.00am BCP Holy Communion

Long Stratton Area Women's World Day of Prayer

This year St Mary's Church, Tasburgh are hosting the Women's World Day of Prayer at 2.00pm on Friday March 6. The service will finish in time for people to be able to collect children from school. The service has been prepared by the Christian women of The Bahamas, West Indies . ***A warm welcome to all***

Tasburgh News

St Mary's Freedom Café has now opened its doors 3 times at Preston Primary at 10.30am on the first Sunday of the month. Café church is for people of all ages and an opportunity to meet and get to know each other, share experiences in an very informal way over a mug of coffee and bacon rolls and other goodies, to engage with some questions of life, have some time for an optional fun craft activity, have a time for quiet reflection in response to some faith questions and to worship in an informal setting. We prayerfully hope that this that this may attract new people so that they can share in our faith. Please feel welcome to come to see what it's about.

Thanks to the Tasburgh Players the 5 bells at St Mary's have new bellropes with royal blue sallies. They look very smart indeed. The ropes were installed by some of the ringers in December last year in time for Christmas ringing. Some electrical work has also been undertaken at the church by a contractor for the P.C.C ; outside security lights have been replaced and uplighters installed in the ringing chamber. These have been a great improvement.

Pastoral Care Team

'For a community to be whole and healthy, it must be based on people's love and concern for each other.'-- Millard Fuller

The pastoral care team has formed a confidential telephone 'prayer chain' of 9 people, the purpose of which is to offer prayer for urgent situations or just situations that arise in an individual's life.

If you have such a need you could phone Kate or Jenny with a name and a need and they would pray and pass on the prayer request to the next person in the chain so that you would know that others are with you and bringing the situation to God.

Kate 471356

Jenny 470141

Tasburgh Church News

Tasburgh Church Wardens:

Julia Orpin 470 983

Kate Cakebread 471 356,

If you have been accustomed to supporting St Mary's through the 'weekly envelope scheme' and have concerns about the new arrangements please do speak to Julia Orpin.

The Church Electoral Roll will be revised [not renewed] before the A.P.C.M on **April 21**. If you are not on it and would like to be please speak to either of the wardens about getting an application form.

Tasburgh Church Services

- March 1 9.30am BCP Morning Prayer
10.30am Café Church at Preston School 'Wonderfully made'
- March 8 9.30 Family Family Communion & Children's Church
- March 15 9.30am Mothering Sunday All Age Family Service
- March 22 10.30am Benefice Service at All Saints Shotesham
- March 29 9.30am Palm Sunday All Age Family Service
- April 5 9.30am Easter Day Holy Communion
10.30am Easter Café at Preston Primary School
- April 12 9.30 am Family Family Communion & Children's Church
- April 19 9.30am All Age Family Service
- April 26 9.30am Holy Communion & Children's Church
- May 3 9.30am BCP Morning Prayer
10.30am Freedom Café Church at Preston School
- May 10 9.30am Family Holy Communion & Children's Church
- May 17 9.30am Service of Holy Baptism 6.30pm Evensong
- May 24 9.30am Holy Communion for Pentecost & Children's Church
- May 31 9.30am Holy Communion for Trinity Sunday

Tharston News

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sarah and Tasburgh Choir for leading our Carol Service we again had a full church and hope this started everybody's Christmas in a true traditional manner.

Our New Year has started with ongoing repairs to cracks in the Chancel. These simple repairs should make the whole area easier to clean and enable us to monitor any further movement in the building

Our future plans this year are focusing on our Open Gardens, this will take place on Saturday 13 of June. We are hoping to have about 15 gardens open for viewing. Please put a note in your diary. Further details as we get nearer the date.

Sue Hubbard.

St Mary's Guild - Tasburgh

The Coffee Morning on January 17 raised £272.60p
. Thank you for your support

We usually meet at 2.30pm on the first Monday of each month,
in the Tasburgh Church Room

March 2	Helen Burnett	'The Wild Life of Asia'
April 13	Trixie Dye	'Poetry'
May 11	Pauline Anderson	'A Drive around Vancouver Island and a Train Ride to Toronto'
June 1st	Caroline Beer	'The Women of the National Trust'

**Fundraising Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy
Saturday April 25 10.30-12 noon at The Grange, Lower Tasburgh**

Please come and join us, everyone is welcome.

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. New members are welcome do get in touch.

Contacts:

Mart Hartley -	15 yrs +, Sun eves, Tasburgh)	0784 910 5554
Sally Gaze -	Monday day daytime	470762
Chris Gaze	11-14yrs, Mon evenings in Newton	470 762
William Ball -	Wednesday evenings in Newton	471 506
Rach Hartley -	Wednesday evenings in Tasburgh	471 474
Richard Bond -	Wednesday evenings in Saxlingham	578 093
Vicky Ball -	Thursday evenings in Newton	471 506
Andy Cox	Thursday evenings in Newton c/o	470762
Wayne Doman -	Sat afternoon Special Me Group	471 933

Youth Cells (JAM) meet on Monday evenings 7-8.30 to explore our faith and have fun together. Contact Chris Gaze, e-mail: chris@tasvalley.org; or call on 470 762

The Gathering 7.30pm March 8 at Newton Flotman Church

Community Choir!

The Community Choir has not met during the winter months. It is an 'all comers' activity where all are welcome and a willingness to sing and have fun is all you need.

Meeting at The New Rectory Sunday March 29 at 3.00pm

Are you interested? Want to know more?

Contact Martin 0784 910 5554 mart@tasvalley.org

Regular Events/Groups

Bible Study Group – Meets on Tuesday evenings. Please contact Philip Simmons 499 041. New members are always welcome.

Children's Church – Tasburgh has a Children's Church for children aged from three years. This runs on the second and fourth Sunday each month. All welcome. Contact Andrea Sluman on 471 529.

Emmanuel Group. Local House of Prayer – Meeting weekly, at 10am on Fridays. For more details phone Shirley Brooks on 470 369.

Local House of Prayer - 1st and 3rd Wednesday Mornings at 10.30am Please phone Andrea 471 529 or Jenny 470141 for further information

Music in Worship – If you'd like to sing in Tasburgh Church Choir or explore learning the organ, phone Sarah Norman on 471 505.

Prayer - for the parishes takes place every day. Please give prayer requests to a churchwarden, clergy person, prayer box or board in church. On Wednesdays we meet to pray at Tasburgh Church at 9:00am.

Tasburgh Crafts Club – Come and try new skills in a relaxed atmosphere. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, 10am – 12noon in the Church Room, Tasburgh.

Tasburgh Coffee Pot – Come and make new friends at the Coffee Pot. We meet every Wednesday from 2 – 3-45pm for a chat with coffee & cake. Church Room, Tasburgh. All ages welcome.

Making Contact:

Rev'd Sally Gaze: sally@tasvalley.org 01508 470 762
The Rectory, Church Road, Newton Flotman NR15 1QB

Rev'd Martin Hartley: mart@tasvalley.org 0784 910 5554
The Rectory, Church Hill, Tasburgh NR15 1NB

All contributions for the next Church Newsletter
by Friday 1 May 2015 to
Jenny Cooper 01508 470 141 or jenny@tasvalley.org