

Winter 2014-15

*Tasburgh and Tharston
Church Newsletter*



The Reverend Dawn Davidson writes

For those who haven't yet met me, I started as Team Vicar in the Tas Valley in mid-July this year. I'd travelled many miles to get here! If you count my journeying through my earlier days, my route took me through Aden, Germany, Malaysia, Bulgaria, Uganda, India and Italy – eventually to Mulbarton where I stayed for many years before moving to Saxlingham Nethergate with my husband, Tim and our son, Joel.

I have particular responsibility for the churches in Saxlingham and Shotesham and as I travel around the parishes on this side of the great divide (aka the A140!) and look at the beauty of the countryside I can't help feeling as though I've been written into a chapter of the Hobbit.

Always a believer, I had a powerful encounter with God in 1993 and haven't looked back. I grew up spiritually in a charismatic church but within a group of other churches with a more traditional feel. During training for ordination we were exposed to the whole range of 'churchmanship' so I'm able to minister within a range of styles. As my mini-bio on the Tas valley website states, my passions in ministry are prayer, preaching and pastoral care – all of which come under the umbrella of 'discipleship' which is about growing as Christians and developing our relationship with God. It's an ongoing and transformative task that enriches our lives beyond the telling! Everything else we do comes out of our relationship with God so it makes sense to give priority to getting to know him better, living out our faith in daily life and enjoying the friendship he offers!

Four months into my time with you and at last I'm beginning to match up names to faces and getting a grasp on the routines of the churches in Tas Valley. Everyone has been so welcoming and made us feel so much at home that it's hard to think we haven't really been here all that long. I'm very much looking forward to the other times and seasons I haven't yet shared with you – Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter. My prayer is that God will use my ministry among you – and that I will be open to all he wants to teach me through you as well. I'd also like to think that along the way we'll grow friendships and discover more of what it means to be God's people serving him together in love.

Every blessing to you all

Dawn Davidson

Dates for your diary

December

Saturday 6th 10.30am-12.00 Guild Christmas Fayre
Tasburgh Church. Lots of good things.

Friday 19th 7.00pm Carols by Candlelight at Tharston

Sunday 21st 6.30pm Carol Service at Tasburgh

Wednesday 24th Christmas Eve at Tasburgh

3.00pm Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Communion

Thursday 25th Christmas Day at Tharston

9.30am Holy Communion

Christmas Day at Tasburgh

10.30am Holy Communion

December 28th The First Sunday of Christmas

Cafe Church at Swainsthorpe at 9.30am for all
The Benefice

February

Wednesday 18th Ash Wednesday Lent begins

Tharston Church News

Tharston Church Wardens:

Mrs Pat Read 530 325, Mrs Sue Hubbard 530 072

THARSTON CHURCH and congregation would be delighted if
you could join us for our

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT, with TASBURGH CHOIR,

FRIDAY DECEMBER 19th at 7.00pm

Followed by Mince Pies And Mulled Wine.

Tharston Church Services

December 7th	8.00am BCP Holy Communion
December 19 th	7.00pm Carol Service
December 21st	8.00am BCP Holy Communion
December 25th	9.30am BCP Holy Communion
December 28th	Cafe Church at Swainsthorpe at 9.30am
January 11 th	11.00am BCP Morning Prayer [Matins]
January 18 th	8.00am BCP Holy Communion
February 8 th	11.00am BCP Morning Prayer [Matins]
February 15th	8.00am BCP Holy Communion

In the New Year, at the request of the PCC, there are some changes to the pattern of services at Tharston. On the second Sunday of the month there will now be an 11.00am Morning Prayer [Matins] according to the 1662 Book of Common Prayer which they hope will enable more people to enjoy the traditional style of worship that St Mary's offers. On the third Sunday of the month there will continue to be a BCP Holy Communion at 8.00am, a reflective 'said' service. Please feel very welcome to come to these services.

Tasburgh News

In the new year, (after consultation), we have agreed a new plan for worship at St Mary's. The big change is to the main service on the first Sunday of the month which will be cafe style at the school at 10.30am. There will also be a service of Matins [BCP Morning Prayer] at Tasburgh at 9.30am on the first Sunday. We hope this plan will suit all tastes and be complemented by the services at St Mary's Tharston on 2nd and 3rd Sundays of the month.

1 st Sunday	9.30 Matins 10.30 Cafe Church at Preston Primary School
2 nd Sunday	9.30 Family Communion With Children's Church 11.00 Matins at St Mary's, Tharston
3 rd Sunday	8.00am BCP Holy Communion at St Mary's Tharston 9.30 All Age Family Service
4 th Sunday	9.30 Holy Communion With Children's Church

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](#)

Over the summer the 'Who Cares?' Project asked people 'What hurts the most,?' as a Church we are often there at the best times and the worst times in our lives and the church sometimes gets it wrong. The responses to that question included loneliness, relationship problems, ill health, bereavement, money worries and more. As a team we wish to look at the issues raised and see if there are any ways in which we can help in the community. So if you are struggling with any of these issues we may be able to help you find the help you need. Kate Cakebread – (471356)

Tasburgh Church News

Tasburgh Church Wardens:

Julia Orpin 470 983 Kate Cakebread 471 356,

We are looking forward to the busy Advent period with the seasonal extra services generating a special seasonal atmosphere in the church which helps us to remember the true meaning of Christmas. Please come and enjoy the services

Kate

Tasburgh Church Services

- December 7th 10.30am Cafe Church Christingle at Preston School
December 14th 9.30 Family Family Communion & Children's Church
December 21st 6.30pm Carol Service
December 24th 3.00pm Crib Service
11.30pm Christmas Eve Communion
December 25th 10.30am Christmas Day Service
December 28th Cafe Church at Swainsthorpe at 9.30am
January 4th 9.30am Matins [BCP Morning Prayer] at St Mary's
10.30am Cafe Church at Preston School
January 11th 9.30am Family Holy Communion & Children's Church
January 18th 9.30am All Age Family Service
January 25th 9.30am Holy Communion Children's Church
February 1st 9.30am BCP Morning Prayer] at St Mary's
10.30am Cafe Church at Preston School
February 8th 9.30am Family Holy Communion & Children's Church
February 15th 9.30am All Age Family Service
February 22rd 9.30am Holy Communion, & Children's Church

Local Houses of Prayer –

These are small groups of people meeting to pray together for God's blessing on the people who live around them and for the area in which they live. Of course our parish churches are 'houses of prayer' in which, for hundreds of years, local people have gathered regularly, to worship God and pray for their parish. But, the Local Houses of Prayer do have a particular focus on prayers of blessing for the community in which they meet.

It is an opportunity for Christians from different traditions, to come together to pray with others in the same area. At the moment There are 2 groups meeting in Tasburgh. It would be wonderful to have more. If you would like to know more please contact:

Jenny Cooper 470141

jenny@tasvalley.org

St Mary's Guild - Tasburgh

We usually meet on the first Monday of each month, in the Church Room at 2.30pm. Please come and join us, everyone is welcome.

December 8th Guild Christmas Party

February 2nd AGM Mrs A Crawshay

March 2nd Wild Life of Asia Mrs Helen Burnett

**Saturday 6th December Christmas Fayre 10.30-12.00 noon
In the Church**

**Saturday January 17th 10.30-12.00 noon Coffee Morning at 36
Henry Preston Road**

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.

Contacts:

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

Youth Cells (JAM) We meet on Monday evenings 7-8.30 to explore our faith and have fun together. Once a month, we have a social event – cinema, bowling, circus skills, lazer quest etc. Other nights, there's a fast moving programme, with bible bits, drama, games, praying about stuff that means a lot to us and crazy stunts all mixed up. Contact Chris Gaze, e-mail: chris@tasvalley.org; or call on 470 762

Community Choir!

The Community Choir has not been meeting during the Autumn term but a meeting of interested persons is scheduled for

November 16th [after the Church News goes to press]

It was an 'all comers ' activity All are welcome

All you need is a willingness to sing and have fun.

Are you interested? Want to know more?

Contact Martin 0784 910 5554

martin@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 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 – 4pm 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: martin@tasvalley.org 0784 910 5554
The Rectory, Church Hill, Tasburgh NR15 1NB

All contributions for the next Church Newsletter
by Friday 6th February 2015 to
Jenny Cooper 01508 470 141 or jenny@tasvalley.org