

*Winter 2015-16*

*Tasburgh and Tharston  
Church Newsletter*



*Looking for God*

Some time ago I went to lock up the church one evening and found that somebody had left a note outside. It said, "Went in your church today, very disappointing I did not find God." I took the note home and pinned it up on the notice board in my study. It left me with mixed feelings. I didn't know whether this had been written tongue-in-cheek, or whether somebody had been into church really expecting/needing to meet with God.

My concern of course was that the note had been written for the latter reason, and I wanted desperately to be able to talk this through with whoever it was. There have been times when I have been in church and wondered where God was, and felt frustrated at His apparent absence. As much as it is possible to meet with God in the church building, at St Mary's we want to give people opportunities to meet with Him outside it too, and be more visible in our community. One way in which we are doing this is to pray for the residents of Tasburgh each week. To do this we visit a different road each week, asking if there's anything that you need prayer for at the moment. We have been very encouraged by the response we have had, and hope it's been a blessing to you. Please keep giving us your prayer requests. Finally, a message to whoever left the note, please don't stop looking and asking!

Blessings

*Rev Mart*

## *Waveney Foodbank*

This operates in the Long Stratton Area providing emergency help in all sorts of family crises to people referred by local care agencies. Many of you will put items in the baskets at the Co-op in Long Stratton or leave groceries at Tasburgh or Tharston Churches. In the 2 years that St Mary's in Long Stratton it has been open as a distribution centre 176 adults and 126 children have been supported.

There is now an appeal for Christmas treats - Christmas pudding, Christmas cake, Mince pies, Stuffing, Pickles & Chutneys, Gravy granules, Tinned ham, Tinned turkey, Cranberry sauce, Tinned potatoes, Tinned carrots, Christmas sweets, Savoury biscuits, and Hot chocolate [ Instant ]. The Food bank would be grateful for these extras as well as the usual everyday staples. Thank you

## *Dates for your diary*

- |                  |               |   |
|------------------|---------------|---|
| December 5       | 10.30am-12.00 | St Mary's Guild Christmas Fayre at Tasburgh Church All welcome                                |
| December 6       | 10.30am       | Freedom Cafe Christingle at Preston Primary School  |
| December 17      |               | Live Nativity at Tasburgh Church-Time tbc   |
| December 18      | 7.00pm        | Carol Service at St Mary's, Tharston  |
| December 19      | 4.00pm        | Carol Singing round Upper Tasburgh. Meet outside Preston Primary School Gate. All are welcome |
| December 20      | 6.30pm        | Carol Service at St Mary's, Tasburgh  |
| December 24      | 3.00pm        | Crib Service 11.30pm Holy Communion at St Mary's Tasburgh                                     |
| December 25      | 9.00am        | at Tharston 10.00am at Tasburgh   |
| Jan 10 +Feb 14   | 7.00pm        | Praise Service at Newton Flotman Church   |
| January 31       | 4.00pm        | Candlemas Eucharist at Saxlingham   |
| February 10      | 7.30pm        | Ash Wednesday Service at Swainsthorpe   |
| February 17 & 24 | 7.00pm        | Compline at Tasburgh Church TBC   |

## *Tharston Church*

### **Tharston Church Wardens:**

**Mrs Sue Hubbard 530072   Mrs Pat Read 530325**

Please feel very welcome to come to worship at Tharston Church. The services at Tharston are usually from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer with its traditional language. When there is not a service at Tharston then the service at Tasburgh may be seen as a joint service or people would be welcomed at any of the churches in the Tas Valley Team. Please do check service times with the churchwardens or on the Tas Valley website [www.tasvalley.org](http://www.tasvalley.org) as unavoidable changes may occur within the quarter covered by this newsletter

On **Friday December 18 at 7.00pm** all are welcome for our popular **Christmas Carol Service** with Tasburgh Church Choir. After the service seasonal refreshments will be served - Come and enjoy this traditional start to the Christmas holiday.

## *Tharston Church Services*

December 13	11.00am	B.C.P 1662 Morning Prayer
December 18	7.00pm	Carol Service with Tasburgh Choir
December 20	8.00am	B.C.P 1662 Holy Communion
December 25	9.00am	Christmas Holy Communion
December 27	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's <b>Saxlingham</b>
January 10	11.00am	B.C.P 1662 Morning Prayer
January 17	8.00am	B.C.P 1662 Holy Communion
February 14	11.00am	B.C.P 1662 Morning Prayer
February 21	8.00am	B.C.P 1662 Holy Communion

## *Tasburgh News*

### *St Mary's Freedom Café*

We have been running St Mary's Freedom Café for a year now at 10.30 on the first Sunday of every month at the Preston Primary School. It's an informal friendly atmosphere for all ages, with bacon butties good coffee or tea and newspapers. We have different activities to try if you wish.

Why not come and see, bring the kids to try an activity while you enjoy the papers, coffee and conversation -

Please feel welcome to come to see what it's about or speak to Martin and Rach Hartley 471474

### *Pastoral Care Team*

The Pastoral Care Team's activities have included 'prayer visiting', which was started by Rev Martin Hartley. Each week two people take the opportunity to visit the homes in a particular road in Tasburgh and ask residents if they have any prayer requests. When there is no one at home, a card with contact details is left in case someone wants to be able to make a request. It has been a real privilege to meet people, talk with them, and to pray for their needs when asked.

We are also hoping to hold a Men's Brunch in January allowing men to meet and enjoy good food and company please keep an eye out for publicity nearer the time. *Kate Cakebread.*

Remember there a confidential telephone 'prayer chain' to offer prayer for any situations that arise in life for which you would value the prayers of others .

Contact Kate 471356 or Jenny 470141

## *Tasburgh Church News*

### **Tasburgh Church Wardens:**

**Julia Orpin 470 983**

**Kate Cakebread 471 356,**

We look forward to seeing people at our Christmas services , and at our live nativity which will be held around the church this year. The work on the toilet is now complete, With thanks to John Crowley whose generosity made this refurbishment possible.. I would also like thank Steve Carver who undertook the majority of the work on this project, who ensured the upgrade was done as smoothly as possible without any hitches. KC

## *Tasburgh Church Services*

- December 6 9.30am B.C.P Morning Prayer  
10.30am Café Church Christingle at Preston School
- December 13 9.30am Holy Communion & Children's Church
- December 20 6..30pm Christmas Carol Service with the choir.
- December 24 3.00pm Crib Service 11.30pm Midnight Communion
- December 25 10.00am Christmas Morning Family Service
- December 27 9.30am Holy Communion at St Mary's, **Saxlingham**
- January 3 9.30am B.C.P Morning Prayer  
10.30am Café at Preston Primary School
- January 10 9.30am Holy Communion & Children's Church
- January 17 9.30am All Age Family Service
- January 23 9.30am Holy Communion & Children's Church
- January 31 9.30am Holy Communion & Children's Church
- February 7 9.30am B.C.P Morning Prayer  
10.30am Café Church at Preston School
- February 14 9.30am Holy Communion & Children's Church
- February 21 9.30am All Age Family Service
- February 28 9.30am Holy Communion & Children's Church

## *Tharston News*

### *Tharston Church opening.*

For the past several years Tharston Church has been open daily for visitors, prayer and quiet contemplation during the daytime. This relies on a few parishioners being prepared to open and close the church on a daily basis for **one week**, approximately **once every three months**. Recently several of our volunteers have had to 'retire' and there are now some gaps in the rota. If you feel able to volunteer to be a key holder for this valuable community service please get in touch with the churchwardens, or with Barbara Cattermole, PCC secretary, for further information. The more parishioners who are on the rota the less of a task it becomes. The visitors book makes interesting reading with notes left by passing visitors from across the world, none of whom could gain access if the church was closed.

The PCC is very grateful to those who responded to this notice in the Autumn newsletter but would welcome more help. They are grateful to all those who do undertake to open the church for without your help Tharston church would, like so many churches in small country villages, be closed during the week.

Thank you.

*Barbara Cattermole 530739*

## *St Mary's Guild -*

Meets on first Mondays at 2.30pm in The Church Room at Tasburgh

December 7 Christmas Party

No meeting in January

February 1 Annual General Meeting

March 7 Members Own

### **Saturday December 5 Christmas Fayre**

10.30am-12.00 at St Mary's Church Tasburgh

### **Saturday January 16 Coffee Morning**

10.30am-12.00 at 36, Henry Preston Road, Tasburgh

## *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.

### **Cell Contacts:**

Mart Hartley -	15 yrs +, Sun eves, Tasburgh)	0784 910 5554
Sally Gaze -	Monday evenings	470762
Rach Hartley -	Cafe Cell Tuesday evenings	471474
Kate Cakebread	Wednesday evenings in Tasburgh	471356
Sally Gaze -	Wednesday evenings in Newton	470762
Richard Bond -	Wednesday evenings in Saxlingham	578093
Andy Cox	Thursday evenings in Newton c/o	470762
Vicky Ball -	Thursday evenings in Newton	471506
Wayne Doman -	Sat afternoon Special Me Group	471933

**Youth Cells (JAM)** meet on Monday evenings 7-8.30 to explore faith and have fun together. Contact [chris@tasvalley.org](mailto:chris@tasvalley.org); or 470762

## *Local Houses of Prayer -*

These are Christians meeting together to worship, pray God's blessing on their patch and to encourage one another. They are praying for their neighbours, their community and the area in which they live. LHoP provide an opportunity for Christians from different traditions, to come together to pray with others living in the same area. At the moment There are 2 groups meeting in Tasburgh. It would be wonderful to have more and also to be able to have groups in other villages. If you would like to know more please contact: Jenny Cooper 470141 [jenny@tasvalley.org](mailto:jenny@tasvalley.org)

## *Regular Events/Groups*

**Bible Study Group** – Meets on Tuesday afternoons. New members would be very welcome. Please contact Philip Simmons 499 041.

**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 471529.

**Emmanuel Group. Local House of Prayer** – Meeting weekly, at 10am on Fridays For more details phone Shirley Brooks 470369

**Local House of Prayer** - 1st and 3rd Wednesday Mornings at 10.00am 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 – 3. 45pm in the Church Room, Tasburgh For a chat with tea or coffee & cake. All ages welcome. Jenny England

**Team Rector** Rev'd Canon Sally Gaze: sally@tasvalley.org  
01508 470762 The Rectory, Church Road, Newton Flotman NR15 1QB

**Team Vicar and main minister for Tharston**

Rev'd Dawn Davidson dawn@tasvalley.org 01508 498924  
The New Rectory, The Street, Saxlingham Nethergate, NR15 1AJ

**Pioneer Curate and main minister for Tasburgh**

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

Contributions for the next Church Newsletter by Friday Feb 5 2016  
to Jenny Cooper 01508 470 141 or jenny@tasvalley.org