

### *Worship Events in March*

#### **St Peter's, Swainsthorpe**

Mar 5th	9:30	Holy Communion - Austin Uzoigwe
Mar 12th	9.30	Swainsthorpe Special - Coryn Stanforth
Mar 19th	9.30	Mothering Sunday Swainsthorpe Special - Lesley Cox
Mar 26th	9:30	Swainsthorpe Special - Lesley Cox

#### **St Mary's, Newton Flotman**

Mar 5th	11:00	Holy Communion - Austin Uzoigwe
Mar 12th	8:00	Holy Communion - Austin Uzoigwe
	16:00	ECO Church - Lesley Cox
Mar 19th	11:00	Mothering Sunday Morning Worship - Lesley Cox
Mar 26th	11:00	Morning Worship - Lesley Cox

**We meet in the  
churchyard  
of St Mary's  
Church, Newton  
Flotman or  
other local  
venues – see school  
emails, posters or call 01508 471334**



**Every 2nd  
Sunday**  
please see  
calendar for times  
lasting about  
an hour



We enjoy being outside, exploring our natural surroundings and getting creative in simple outdoor projects. We include a short reflection and prayer. We are mindful of keeping our social distance whilst having the opportunity to get involved individually or in household groups. If our amazing world fills you with awe and wonder, come and give us a try!

# *Partnership*

*The Community Magazine for the Parishes of  
Newton Flotman & Swainsthorpe*

*March 2023*

## **EARLY EASTER FAIR**

**Newton Flotman Village Centre**

**CRAFTS • REFRESHMENTS • FOOD**

**25<sup>TH</sup>  
MARCH**

**10am –  
3pm**

**> GUESS THE BUNNY'S NAME <**

## Curate's Corner - Rev. Coryn Stanforth

Recently, I visited a beautiful café in Holt in North Norfolk with a friend and it was amazing. I am not about to write a restaurant review so please continue reading. I was with my friend Lucy, who I had not seen in person since before the start of the pandemic. We have been friends for a long time and it was wonderful to see her. We consumed dainty finger sandwiches, scones with jam and cream and miniature cakes and desserts which were washed down with leaf tea and hot chocolate. We both commented that it felt as if we had lost a chunk of our lives.

Later, back at home, I realised that I would try not to take lovely occasions like this for granted.

As you read this edition of Partnership, we will have entered the season of Lent. It is easy to see Lent as a season which is grey, drab and rather miserable. It is a six-week period of preparation and reflection. Eventually, it leads to the death of Jesus on the cross before culminating in his glorious resurrection on Easter Day.

Rather than thinking of Lent as a depressing time, we can think of it as a season during which we can count our blessings. Buds have started to appear on trees and bushes and spring flowers are blooming. Lent is a time to thank God for the beauty of his creation. It is an opportunity to thank him for many other blessings too. For me, spending time with my friend and enjoying afternoon tea together was a huge blessing.

Many in our world are suffering and it is important to be thankful for our blessings. Lent can be a good time to contribute money to a favourite charity or to donate food to the foodbank. Over the coming weeks, count your blessings and thank God, as you do such simple things as enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and spend time with family and friends.

*Rev'd Coryn*

## Holy Communion at Home

Are you unable to get to church but would like to receive Holy Communion at home? There is a tradition in the Church of England that Holy Communion is taken to those at home who are unable to get to church because of illness or other circumstances. Home Communion normally takes place once every four to six weeks and can be a one off or for a longer period of time. If you would like to receive Holy Communion at home or find out more please contact me on 07436 992347, and I will be happy to have a chat or arrange a visit.

*Rev'd Coryn*



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For lots of local news and events look up  
[www.facebook.com/groups/tasvalleyfamilies/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/tasvalleyfamilies/) and  
"Newton Flotman Village Community" Facebook  
pages.

You'll find lots of local news and events.

## Articles Wanted for Partnership

Please send your contributions to the editor by email at: [caroline@uv6.com](mailto:caroline@uv6.com)

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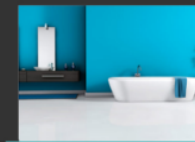
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### Church Contact Details

For home visits, Communion at home, or to enquire about Christian faith, please contact:

**Rev'd Dawn Davidson** (Team Rector),

[dawndavidson@btinternet.com](mailto:dawndavidson@btinternet.com) tel: 498924 The Rectory, The Street, Saxlingham Nethergate, NR15 1AJ

**Rev'd Austin Uzoigwe** (Team Vicar)

[revaustinuzoigwe@aol.com](mailto:revaustinuzoigwe@aol.com) Tel: 01508 470901 The New Rectory, Church Hill, Tasburgh, Norwich, NR15 1NB

**Rev'd Coryn Stanforth** (Team Curate)

[cstanforth@btinternet.com](mailto:cstanforth@btinternet.com) The Rectory, Church Road, Newton Flotman, NR15 1QB

tel: 07436 992347

**Lesley Cox** (Reader) tel: 471334

### Church Buildings and Church yards

On matters to do with the church buildings or churchyards, please contact one of the church wardens:

**Kirsten Remer** 01508 471580 St Mary's Newton Flotman

**Susan Peters Corbett** 01508 470539 - St Peter's Swainsthorpe

To donate to St Peter's Church, Swainsthorpe, contact the treasurer **Andy Haggith** - 01508 470921

How to donate: Newton Flotman Parish Church Council sort code 20-62-53 a/c 70651028 it is classed as a business account. Please reference it 'Fabric'. To give regularly, why not become a 'Friend of St Mary's'?- contact Kirsten Remer - 01508 471580 [kirstenrem@gmail.com](mailto:kirstenrem@gmail.com) To contribute to the running costs of the church and provision of clergy please go to **DofN.org/donate** to donate to our Parish Share. If you wish to leave a legacy please visit for further details [www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/church-legacy](http://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/church-legacy) Thank you!

### St Peter's Church Community Centre

Swainsthorpe Community Centre is situated within St. Peter's Church on Church Road in Swainsthorpe. The centre is available for hire on a one off or regular basis at £7 per hour. There is a well-equipped kitchen area with cutlery, crockery and glasses to serve 40 people. The entrance and toilet have wheelchair access.

For enquiries please contact: Jackie Baker 01508 470415

### Church Room for Hire Newton Flotman

The Church room at St Mary's in Newton Flotman is available for hire at £7 per hour. It is suitable for meetings and small birthday parties. It has kitchen facilities and disabled access. Please call Caroline Wolfe on 01508 471238 for availability. You can also check availability by looking at the public calendar on Google Mail. :

[uv6.com\\_cl4d7i04arlc1dtsc4ctl3rh74@group.calendar.google.com](http://uv6.com_cl4d7i04arlc1dtsc4ctl3rh74@group.calendar.google.com)

### Partnership Deadline

The next edition of Partnership will for April 2023. Deadline will be 14th March 2023. Contributions by email to [caroline@uv6.com](mailto:caroline@uv6.com) or call **07855 838553**. The editor reserves the right to edit copy and print as space permits.



### 'Use It Or Lose It...'

You may have heard by now that reorganisation is planned for the churches in this area. Details were made public on 30<sup>th</sup> January and this is the first opportunity I've had to share them with those who do not attend their local church.

I head up a small team which looks after a group of churches comprising: Saxlingham, Shotesham, Swainsthorpe, Newton, Tasburgh and Tharston. For financial reasons, the Church of England is looking to rationalise – particularly in rural areas. I will therefore be given the care of an additional group comprising: Forncett St Peter, Forncett St Mary, Forncett End, Hapton, Wreningham, Tacolneston, Ashwellthorpe and Fundenhall when the current vicar of those parishes retires at the end of April. Early this summer, we expect legalities to be completed enabling the two groups of churches to be identified as one larger group. Sadly, we will lose the parish of Tharston, which is being grouped with Long Stratton.

Aside from our work in the churches, we also go into our nursing homes and church schools on a regular basis. We have three church schools in our current group – the new group comes with an additional four church schools.

Inevitably this will involve change – possibly a reduction in the number of Sunday services that are available. Our 'staff team' will gain volunteers from the additional parishes – but they are already nearing or beyond retirement age. Our Team Vicar, Revd Austin Uzoigwe is a full-time paid minister, as am I. Revd Coryn Stanforth is full-time but will be obliged to leave here at the end of her curacy (essentially a training post) in approximately 18 months. The majority of people who keep our local churches running are volunteers – not only lay ministers but a larger number of people who deal with the upkeep and maintenance of our buildings and churchyards, cleaning, locking and unlocking and a host of other unseen but vital tasks.

I am beyond grateful to each person I work with, lay and ordained, paid and voluntary and it is my heartfelt prayer that I may be able to continue to serve this larger group of parishes with some kind of effectiveness for some while to come. If you have any concerns or questions regarding any of this, please do contact me.

With every blessing  
*Dawn Davidson*



Last month I reported that we were waiting to hear what the plans are for the **reorganisation** of the parishes in our benefice and deanery. We are happy to say that we are joining with the 8 parishes of the Upper Tas Valley. Dawn

and Austin will be the incumbents of 13 parishes along with Coryn for the rest of her curacy. The ball is starting to roll informally but there will be an official service to recognise the formation of the new benefice later in the year.

We are revisiting the project to unthether the **pews** in church, incorporating castors so that they can be moved, while retaining the medieval pew ends. This would be to give more flexibility in using the space in the church. We have had permission to do this for five years and the diocese is keen for us to make a decision before June which has focussed our minds.

There has been some communication between village organisations sounding out plans for the **Coronation** weekend 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> May, do get in touch if you have some ideas! One thing we do know is that there will be no beacon lighting, so as to distinguish the event from last year's Jubilee event. But I am reliably informed that it will be back to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day next year!



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**Don't forget:**

**Village Café – every Saturday at 10-12 in the church room.**

**It's Fairtrade Fortnight 27<sup>th</sup> February - 12<sup>th</sup> March**

It was lovely to see some of you up at Village Café taking an interest in village heritage. There are still copies of the 2023 calendar left if you would like to **purchase one** and if you have any photos of the village that we can borrow to scan and archive that could then feature on future calendars please get in touch!

[kirstenremer@gmail.com](mailto:kirstenremer@gmail.com)

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## What's On In Our Villages:

**Social Club - Newton Flotman Village Centre**  
10th March, 24th March

**Early Easter Fair - Newton Flotman Village Centre**  
25th March - 10am to 3pm

**Youth Club 8-16 year olds - NF Village Centre**  
Wednesdays 6-8 pm

**Film Night - Newton Flotman Village Centre**

Bar open from 7pm; Film starts at 7.30pm

Tuesday 21st March - Mrs Harris Goes to Paris

18th April - Living

**Outreach Post Office - Newton Flotman Church Room**  
Wednesdays 9.30-11.30am

**Village Café - Newton Flotman Church Room**  
Saturdays 10am - midday

**International Women's Day - Swainsthorpe St Peter's**  
4th March 1pm - 4.30pm

**Crafting for a Cause - Newton Flotman Church Room**  
1st Tuesday of the month 2-4pm

### Meetings

Swainsthorpe Parish Council 7.30pm 10th March - St Peter's Church  
Newton Flotman Parish Council - 7.30pm 28th March NF Village Centre

To book Newton Flotman Village Centre contact Vicky Ball 01508 471506

To book the Community Centre St Peter's Swainsthorpe  
contact Jackie Baker 01508 470415

To book the church room Newton Flotman  
contact Caroline Wolfe 01508 471238

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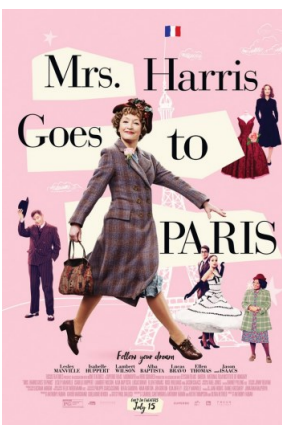
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TUESDAY 21st March - BAR OPENS AT 7:00PM FILM STARTS 7:30PM  
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'It's that day of the year again'  
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**Swainsthorpe's  
International  
Women's Day**

**Saturday 4th March**

1pm - 4.30pm

Swainsthorpe Community Centre St Peters Church, NR11 6QE

'Bring and share cakes'

'Book Swap'

'Clothes Swap'

**Laughter and tears!!  
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## LONG STRATTON MEDICAL PARTNERSHIP

Swan Lane Surgery, Swan Lane, Tharston, Norwich, Norfolk, NR15 2UY Tel: 01508 530781

The members of the Patient Participation Group have been working with the surgery over the past few months to find new ways to meet the health needs of patients. We are keen to provide additional support to patients by providing an informal environment in which they can talk openly, and safely, with other patients who are in a similar situation and a "Health Champion," over a cup of tea/coffee.

Health Champions are patients who have themselves experienced medical conditions that they have either survived or are living with, and they are voluntarily giving up their time to support others. The overall aim is to start a feeling of community, perhaps help build links, contacts and even friendships as a network outside of the clinical and family environment. These coffee get-togethers are intended to be a space where people can – if they wish to - share their own concerns as a result of their diagnosis as well as "lived experiences."

Our first meeting is on 1<sup>st</sup> March and patients who have recently been diagnosed with cancer have been invited. This is our first get together of this kind, our health champions are cancer survivors, and some who are living with the effects of this. We are hopeful to be able to have an invited speaker from a relevant organisation in the charity sector, as least at the first or second meeting.

If this first one works well, we hope to extend it to become a monthly event and extend the medical topics that we cover. If you wish to suggest a medical topic group for us to consider please email the practice at [lsmp.d82037@nhs.net](mailto:lsmp.d82037@nhs.net) and mark the subject PPG Health Support.

*Ian Mortimer*

*Chairman - Patient Participation Group (PPG)*



### Research into Young People's Mental Health

Are you a parent or carer of a young person aged between 11-14 years?

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## News From Newton Flotman Parish Council - Meeting on 31 January 2023

### South Norfolk Village Clusters

Over a number of years South Norfolk Council have developed the South Norfolk Village Clusters Housing Allocations Plan. Within this plan, areas across the district are highlighted where new developments would be most appropriate.

The development of 25 houses on land adjacent to Alan Avenue has been included in this plan. Any developer who wished to build these houses would have to go through the normal planning process. The process is now entering the legal stages and seeking approval at full council before being scrutinised by the planning inspectorate. The process is expected to be completed in Spring 2024

### Neighbourhood Planning

There was further discussion of the merits of undertaking a Neighbourhood Plan. It was agreed to discuss this at a future community event to gauge if there is the interest in the village. As previously mentioned putting together a neighbourhood plan takes considerable time and resources. Therefore any decision to undertake the development of a Neighbourhood Plan must be done with the consideration and support of residents

More details will be advertised later in the year

### Elections

On Thursday 4th May 2023, local elections are taking place across England. To vote in a polling station, residents will need to bring photo ID.

No ID? You can apply for free voter ID Find out more at [www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID) or call 0800 328 0280

### Meetings

The Parish Council meets every month (except August and December) on a Tuesday evening. The next meeting date is 28<sup>th</sup> March, 7:30pm, in the Village Centre

The public are very welcome to attend parish council meetings and there is always an opportunity for you to ask questions and to have your say. Minutes of all meetings are posted on the Parish Council website - <https://www.newtonflotmanpc.co.uk/agendas-and-minutes>

### Contacting the Council

[clerk@newtonflotmanpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@newtonflotmanpc.co.uk) | 01508 447688

*Maria Hutson, Clerk to the Parish Council*

### Norfolk County Council Mobile Library Service

The mobile library will be visiting on Wednesdays 1st and 29th March.

The mobile library is a free service to use, and has a wide range of books available including fiction, non-fiction and children's books. You can also request books for the following month if you are looking for anything in particular. Do come along!

Stop number	Village	Arrival time	Departure time	Stop name	Postcode
2	Swainsthorpe	09:50	10:05	The Church	NR14 8PN
18	Newton Flotman	14:30	15:30	School Road	NR15 1PR
20	Newton Flotman	15:35	16:05	Grove Dale	NR15 1QG
22	Newton Flotman	16:10	16:50	Joy Ave	NR15 1RD



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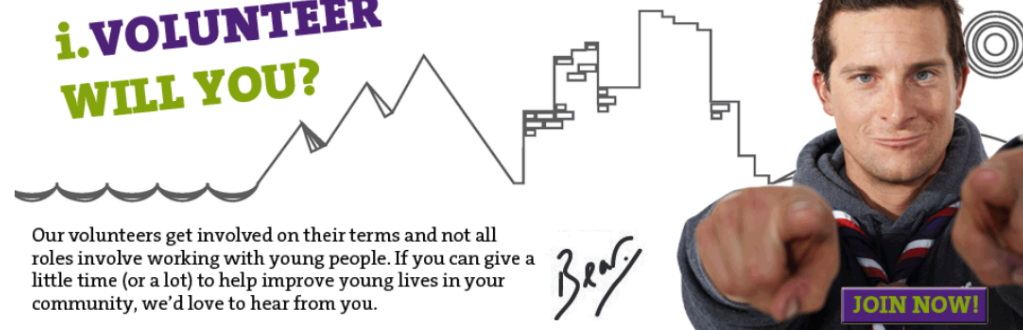
[www.coppingfunerals.co.uk](http://www.coppingfunerals.co.uk)



## Get involved

43rd Saxlingham Nethergate Scout & Guide Group  
For more information call Chris on  
07802 623259

**i.VOLUNTEER  
WILL YOU?**



Our volunteers get involved on their terms and not all roles involve working with young people. If you can give a little time (or a lot) to help improve young lives in your community, we'd love to hear from you.

*Chris*

**JOIN NOW!**

The 43rd Saxlingham Nethergate Scout & Guide Group runs Scouting and Guiding sections for young people up to the age of 18. We have recently been given the go ahead to start a Squirrel Drey. This is the newest and youngest section of the Scouting Association, providing activities for 4-6 year olds.

In order to start up our Squirrel Drey, we are looking for adult volunteers to commit to being leaders and volunteering on a regular basis. You do not need any specialist skills - all training and uniform will be provided - and you don't need to have had any previous connection with Scouting or Guiding. But if enthusiasm and energy is what you do have, and you have a couple of hours a week to offer, we would love to hear from you.

Additionally, we are looking for offers of help with the oldest section at the 43rd, the Explorer Scouts (for those aged 14-18). Again, no previous experience necessary.

To find out more and have an informal chat about volunteering at the 43rd, please call Chris Backhouse on 07802 623259

### Newton Flotman Charities

The recent rises in the cost of living have placed a huge burden on household resources, especially with regard to the needs of growing children such as school uniforms, new shoes etc. Although we are a small charity with limited resources, we may be able to contribute to the expense involved.



If you live in Newton Flotman and would like us to help, please complete the **Grant Application Form** which can be found on the Parish Council website.  
<https://www.newtonflotmanpc.co.uk/charities>

We are highly aware that some people may feel awkward about asking for help, or might not have access to the internet in able to access the form. Do you know of someone in the village who might benefit from a little financial support? Can you signpost them to our grant application, or even help them to fill the form in? A paper copy of the form is available by contacting the charity's administrator, Paul Weeks, telephone 07809 620844 **All requests will be treated in the strictest of confidence.**

You can support the Newton Flotman Charity by making a BACS payment direct using the following business account details: Sort code 20-26-34 Account number 63073858  
No donation is too small.



NEWTON FLOTMAN OUTREACH POST OFFICE  
WEDNESDAY MORNINGS 9.30 – 11.30am  
(Newton Flotman church room)

# VILLAGE



## CAFE



Open 10-12 Saturdays  
Newton Flotman Church Room  
Serving hot & cold drinks and  
Homemade cakes  
All welcome!

### Royal Horticultural Society - Garden Jobs To Do This Month

Spring arrives!

Spring usually arrives by mid-March and the frequent sunny days provide the opportunity for an increasing range of gardening tasks. It's time to get busy preparing seed beds, sowing seed, cutting back winter shrubs and generally tidying up around the garden.

Ten jobs that you should think about doing this month are:

1. Prune bush and climbing roses
2. Plant shallots, onion sets and early potatoes
3. Plant summer-flowering bulbs
4. Lift and divide overgrown clumps of perennials
5. Top dress containers with fresh compost
6. Mow the lawn on dry days (if needed)
7. Cut back Cornus (dogwood) and Salix (willow) grown for colourful winter stems
8. Hoe and mulch weeds to keep them under control early
9. Start feeding fish and using the pond fountain; remove pond heaters
10. Protect new spring shoots from slugs



There is a huge amount of information available on the RHS website for anyone wanting tips on gardening for all levels of interest. Visit [www.rhs.org.uk](http://www.rhs.org.uk)

### Spring Wordsearch

R	B	Z	B	V	S	W	W	H	K	F	C	T	Q	C
R	S	G	U	O	C	A	W	F	M	O	E	S	F	L
Y	H	M	T	N	K	T	V	X	R	O	B	I	N	K
W	O	Y	T	O	Q	G	R	E	E	N	Y	Q	W	Z
O	W	Z	E	C	T	T	O	X	T	L	A	Z	P	A
T	E	Y	R	L	I	K	R	O	E	V	H	M	W	Y
G	R	Z	F	E	P	D	J	Z	A	T	V	O	Y	K
A	S	D	L	A	Q	A	Y	S	P	P	B	A	G	T
R	I	M	Y	N	G	N	W	E	Y	N	L	J	V	B
D	K	W	K	I	S	D	T	S	I	Q	Y	D	L	L
E	P	A	Z	N	M	E	M	A	Y	F	A	I	W	O
N	G	N	V	G	V	L	R	S	B	I	E	S	H	S
U	L	I	O	Y	K	I	K	J	B	I	Y	T	Y	S
Z	Y	N	R	F	L	O	W	E	R	S	C	K	E	O
Y	Q	K	P	I	C	N	I	C	W	O	B	N	U	M

BLOSSOM  
BUTTERFLY  
CLEANING  
DANDELION  
FLOWERS  
GARDEN  
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PICNIC  
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