



Worship Events in December and January

St Peter's, Swainsthorpe

| | | | |
|-----|------|-------|---|
| Dec | 3rd | 9:30 | Swainsthorpe Special - Dawn Davidson |
| Dec | 10th | 9:30 | Holy Communion - Austin Uzoigwe |
| Dec | 17th | 9:30 | Swainsthorpe Special - Lesley Cox |
| Dec | 24th | 9:30 | Swainsthorpe Special - Austin Uzoigwe |
| Dec | 31st | 10:30 | Benefice Service at the Upper Tas - Dawn Davidson |
| Jan | 7th | 9:30 | Details TBC |
| Jan | 14th | 9:30 | Details TBC |
| Jan | 21st | 9:30 | Details TBC |
| Jan | 28th | 9:30 | Details TBC |

St Mary's, Newton Flotman

| | | | |
|-----|------|-------|---|
| Dec | 3rd | 11:00 | Morning Worship - Lesley Cox |
| Dec | 10th | 11:00 | Holy Communion - Dawn Davidson |
| Dec | 17th | 11:00 | Morning Worship - Lesley Cox |
| Dec | 24th | 16:00 | Village Crib & Carol Service - Kirsten & Lesley |
| Dec | 26th | 11:00 | Holy Communion - Austin Uzoigwe |
| Dec | 31st | 10:30 | Benefice Service at the Upper Tas - Dawn Davidson |
| Jan | 7th | 11:00 | Details TBC |
| Jan | 14th | 11:00 | Details TBC |
| Jan | 21st | 11:00 | Details TBC |
| Jan | 28th | 11:00 | Details TBC |

 **ST. PETERS CHURCH,**
SWAINSTHORPE

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CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER 10.30AM – 12.30 PM

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*The Community Magazine
for the Parishes of
Newton Flotman & Swainsthorpe
Joint Edition for
December 2023 & January 2024*



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

Christmas Party

Tickets £2

6pm - 10.30pm

Disco by Vocalyze

Food from Brunch Bar On Tour

Saturday 9th December

Newton Flotman Social Club & Bar

Tickets available from the bar or contact us on our Facebook page

END OF YEAR party

join us!

Friday December 29th 2023 from 7.00 pm - 11.00pm

Tickets £2

Disco and Karaoke From Vocalyze

Food from The Brunch Bar On Tour

Newton Flotman Village Centre

Newton Flotman Social Club

QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 19th January

Bar open from 6pm

Quiz starts at 7.30pm

£2 per person max 6 per team

Food from The Brunch Bar On Tour

Contact Pam to book 07910873984

27 January TABLE TOP Sale

TABLES £5

Newton Flotman Village Hall Saturday 27th January 10-12pm


Breakfast available from The Brunch Bar On Tour

Contact Pam to Book a Table 07910873984

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Parson's Page

I inadvertently upset someone recently by mentioning that although we celebrate the birth of Jesus on 25th December, we don't actually know on what day he was born – and it's highly unlikely to have been in December at all.

Some of the beliefs we have about Christmas have been 'handed down' to us, or gleaned from various other sources...Christmas carols for example. *We three kings*...the Bible doesn't say how many there were and doesn't describe them as kings. *Little donkey*...it's possible that Mary rode a donkey to Bethlehem but the Bible doesn't give us that information.

Here's another one:

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright...A holy night, without doubt. But hardly silent. Bethlehem was filled to bursting with visitors obliged to come and register for the census. There was no "calm" in all of Israel – only tension and conflict between the Jewish people and the Roman occupiers. Hardly a place of 'heavenly peace'; it was a land torn apart by oppression, persecution, and terror. *All is bright*? The darkness of fear gripped the people...

Yet on such a night, the light of the world – Jesus – was born, bringing real hope and the power to transform lives of pain and brokenness with lasting joy. In the middle of our own dark nights of pain and anguish, God comes and transforms them into 'holy' nights of his peace.

May you carry his gift of peace with you throughout the coming year.

Blessings

Dawn

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](https://www.google.com/calendar/u/6?cid=4d7i04arlc1dtsc4ctl3rh74@group.calendar.google.com)

Keeping the villages in touch:  **Visit us on Facebook**

www.facebook.com/newtonflotmanvillage/

Swainsthorpe's private group for residents:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/151438831588930>

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 tel: 498924 The Rectory, The Street, Saxlingham Nethergate, NR15 1AJ

Rev'd Austin Uzoigwe (Team Vicar)

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

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**

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 Thank you!

News From The Upper Tas Valley Benefice

As we prepare to join with the Tas Valley Team Ministry to create a much enlarged Benefice, we need to review the way we communicate to other church members and the rest of the people within the parishes. We plan to trial a monthly news sheet giving details of the church services on one page and on the second page we will try to highlight the major events going on in each of the churches within our benefice.

All social event and fund raising activities are open to anybody regardless of where they live or whether or not they are members of a church, either locally or elsewhere.

The news sheet will be available on the Tas Valley Team Ministry website. It can be requested by email if you provide an email address (for use only to send out the news sheet or any stop press items related to it). We hope it will eventually appear on parish council websites. Printed copies will be placed at the back of each church and if anybody wishes for a copy to be delivered then speak to a local churchwarden or contact me.

Christine Minns - 01508 488123 - **c.j.minns@btinternet.com**

Articles Wanted for Partnership

Please send your contributions to the editor by email at: **caroline@uv6.com**

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ST MARY'S CHURCH
Newton Flotman

COUNTDOWN
TO
Christmas

Village Café 10-12 Saturdays @ Church Room

Alongside our usual refreshments we have some activities to get you into the seasonal swing:

Saturday 2nd December - Wreath Making Workshop

Come and make your own Christmas wreath with seasoned wreath makers on hand to give advice. All materials provided. To avoid disappointment contact caroline@uv6.com to 'book in', to ensure sufficient resources are available to meet the need.



Saturday 9th December - Biscuit Decorating

Come and decorate festive biscuits. All materials provided.

Saturday 16th December - Decorating the Church

Come and help decorate the church!

Saturday 23rd December

~ Music, crafts and stories for the
season for all ages ~



Posada

Host Mary and Joseph on their journey through Advent by joining in the village Posada. Contact Lesley Cox to book an 'overnight stay' - coxlesley16@gmail.com

Carols on
Kings Green



6.30pm
Friday 22nd
December



Join us for the
**Village Crib and
Carol Service**
Christmas Eve
Sunday 24th
December at 4pm

NFaST
Heritage Group

The 2024 calendar is at the printers as Partnership goes to press. There'll be a preview copy at Film Night and Village Café. It can be pre-ordered and will be delivered when it arrives. £8 or 3 for £20. Please email nfasthg@outlook.com. The 'mail box' is not monitored every day but we will get back to you!

Christmas Space



Come and join in with our festive crafts or just chill with drinks and snacks



Come and choose your nativity role and costume for the Christmas Eve service!

Free Festive Fun!

On Saturday 23rd December from 10-12am in the Church Room,
St Mary's Newton Flotman



Get involved in music-making or take part in Christmas story telling with godly play activity



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A Climate Emergency

We can all tell our weather is changing. We remember the blistering heat of summer 2022 and then a heat wave this October! The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is clear that climate change is caused by human activity. The problem is now urgent. They say: *"The choices and actions implemented in this decade will have an impact now and for thousands of years to come."* Scary stuff!!

St Mary's Church has declared a climate emergency. This means we will do our best to take action against climate change and environmental harm. It's all very well saying there is an emergency but what are we supposed to do about it?

Well there are already climate friendly things happening in the village. Steps are being taken to manage the village green and the churchyard for wildlife. We have planted trees. Groups of us head out on local walks to enjoy the natural world each month. The church uses electricity from sustainable sources, low energy led light bulbs and environmentally friendly cleaning products.

All well and good, but we reckon that's just a start. We will be encouraging each other to make lifestyle changes which reduce our carbon footprint. This might include eating less red meat, driving more slowly or less often, taking fewer flights or insulating our homes.

While our choices are important, we also want our leaders to make good decisions for our environment and our world, so we aim to talk to our leaders - local and national - and tell them how much we care about the climate crisis.

We know many people in our villages are worried about climate change. It will be great if we are able to work together and encourage each other.

Richard Beach

Mobile Library for December and January

The mobile library will be visiting Newton Flotman and Swainsthorpe on 6th December, and 3rd & 31st January. Please note times below. The library is a vital resource for those who do not have transport - please use it to ensure the is maintained!

| Village | Stop Name | Arrival Time | Departure Time | Postcode |
|----------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|----------|
| SWAINSTHORPE | THE CHURCH | 09:50 | 10:05 | NR14 8PN |
| NEWTON FLOTMAN | GROVE DALE | 12:00 | 12:20 | NR15 1QG |
| NEWTON FLOTMAN | JOY AVE | 12:45 | 13:05 | NR15 1RD |
| NEWTON FLOTMAN | SCHOOL ROAD | 14:20 | 15:30 | NR15 1PR |

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As we come to the close of 2023 and look forward to the festive and new year period, it is time to reflect on this year, and look forward to 2024!

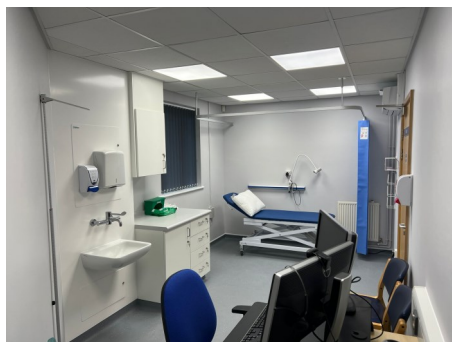
We would like to thank you all for your kindness, consideration, and understanding throughout 2023, it really has been appreciated, especially the very positive comments that came through from both our Healthwatch Surveys.

To get us into the festive spirit on Wednesday 20th December, which has become a bit of a tradition, we have invited the Salvation Army band down for a couple of hours in the afternoon to play some festive tunes for us, **please come and join us**. They are going to play at Harker House first but will be with us from about 3:30pm.

We would like to recognise that this year has been challenging for us in many ways. From negotiating with our building owners, the planning department and NHS England at the start of the year, and then, from May it has been all systems go! It is hard to believe that just 6 months ago the ground at the back of the surgery was just a grassy area, and now we have a purpose-built extension which will give us 7 brand new clinical rooms. By the time that you read this the new rooms will be in operation, and the builders would have moved inside our existing building, to start on refurbishing the rooms in what we know as "the Doctors Corridor."



From early December through until the second week in January, the doctors will be out of their original consulting rooms and be in the new extension. We will all be getting used to navigating our way around – and would ask that you bear with the reception team as there are bound to be times of confusion as we get used to our new layout. Once the doctors corridor is refurbished, we will then bring the GP's back into their usual rooms and swap the nurses out to allow their rooms to be completed.



Probably the biggest impact will be after the nurses rooms are finished, because then we will be moving into the waiting room, and front lobby - changing flooring and the configuration of the main reception desk. It is during this time that we will really need your support and understanding as it's the bit that will cause the most disruption for you, our patients, and perhaps create the biggest challenge for our dispensary and reception teams.



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By the end of March 2024, we will have an expanded and refitted surgery, with an extended car park as well.

So 2023 has been a year of transformation – we then need 2024 to be a year of consolidation and stability – preparing ourselves for the start of the bypass and housing developments that are going to go with it. These are exciting times for Long Stratton and we are very pleased to have been ahead of the curve and be in a position to model our healthcare provision in advance of the housing expansion. It's not often that healthcare is prioritised in this way.

We are supported by a fantastic Patient Participation Group which is going to be instrumental in shaping our service provision over the coming years with ideas for a wellbeing café, and for a quiet garden space for people to sit and reflect, and an area for remembrance.

We are all here to provide you, our residents, patients, and friends with the very best service that we possibly can.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Partners and Staff at LSMP.

Crafting for a Cause

Crafting for a Cause meets on the first Wednesday of the month, 2pm to 4pm in Newton Flotman church room. Those attending bring and share skills which are put to use to raise money for all sorts of good causes. Our current cause is Priscilla Bacon Hospice in Norwich. The next meetings will be 6th December and 3rd January.

If you would like to be involved, contact Vicky (01508 471506) or Hilary (07806 762296) for more information. All are welcome.



43rd Saxlingham Nethergate Scouts

Christmas Fair

2-4pm Saturday 2nd December

Games, Gift Stalls, Refreshments, Face Painting,
Free Children's Crafts, Tombola, Grand Raffle
Saxlingham Nethergate Scout & Guide HQ
Free Entry - All Welcome!



Celebrate Christmas At The Cherry Tree Café

On Wednesday 20th December we will celebrate Christmas at the Cherry Tree Café with mince pies and mulled wine. There will be some carol singing, and Bryan McNerney will entertain us with various carols that are not well known today but were very popular in an earlier age.

During December and January the Cherry Tree Café is offering you a **warm space** to keep warm in for up to three hours each Wednesday morning from 9am to 12 midday. We will keep the thermostat at a good temperature to ensure that the Village Hall is nice and warm. We will be serving soup and bread rolls, along with our usual selection of drinks, cakes and biscuits. Remember, it's all free (donations are welcomed should you wish to give).



Newton Flotman Village Cinema

TUESDAY 19th December
BAR OPEN 6.45PM, FILMS START 7:15PM



Oppenheimer

The story of American scientist, J. Robert Oppenheimer, and his role in the development of the atomic bomb.
Cert. 15

Advance Tickets: £5.00

TUESDAY 16th January
BAR OPEN 7PM, FILMS START 7:30PM



A Haunting in Venice

In post-World War II Venice, Poirot, now retired and living in his own exile, reluctantly attends a seance. But when one of the guests is murdered, it is up to the former detective to once again uncover the killer.
Cert. 12A

Advance Tickets: £5.00

Call or email William Ball to book your tickets on
01508 471506 or william.ball@outlook.com



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International Women's Day

Saturday 9th March
1pm - 4.30pm

Swainsthorpe Community Centre
St Peters Church, NR14 8PH

**Fabulously
inspiring women
speakers**



as well as
"bring and share"
cake, all washed down with
lashings of tea, coffee and hot
chocolate a large dollop
of laughter and tears!

**SWISH AREA TO BRING
AND SWAP CLOTHES**

Tickets £5.00

Make an ideal Christmas present

For tickets email:
swainsthorpefigs@gmail.com

Swainsthorpe Community Charity Trust – Charity Number 287784

What's On In Our Villages:

Social Club - Newton Flotman Village Centre

Saturday 9th December Christmas Party & Disco 6-10.30pm
Friday 29th Dec. End of Year Party with Disco & Karaoke 7-11pm

Friday 19th January Quiz Night from 6pm
27th January Table Top Sale 10am - 12 midday

Friday 2nd February Social Club from 6pm
Tuesday 13th February Pancake Evening -
Food from Flippin' Marvellous

Youth Club - NF Village Centre

For 8 -16 year olds
September Wednesdays 6-8 pm

Stay & Play - NF Village Centre

For parents/carers and preschool children
Tuesdays, 9:30am to 11:30am - Newton Flotman Village Centre

Cherry Tree Café

Wednesdays, 9am to 12 midday - Newton Flotman Village Centre

Film Night - Newton Flotman Village Centre

Tuesday 19th December - *Oppenheimer*
Bar open from 6.45pm; Film starts at 7.15pm
Tuesday 16th January - *A Haunting in Venice*
Bar open from 7pm; Film starts at 7.30pm

Outreach Post Office - Newton Flotman Church Room

Wednesdays 9.30 - 11.30am

Village Café - Newton Flotman Church Room

Saturdays 10am - midday

Crafting for a Cause

Weds 1st November, 2 - 4pm, Newton Flotman Church Room

Christmas Craft Fair - Saxlingham Scout HQ

Saturday 2nd Dec 2-4pm
Games, crafts, refreshments, grand raffle - all welcome

Village Walks

For more details contact Richard Beach 07963006091.

Meetings

Newton Flotman Parish Council
30th January, 7:30pm and 27th February, 7:30pm - Village Centre
Swainsthorpe Parish Council
7.30pm Wednesday January 17th - St Peter's Community 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

News from the Parish Council, Newton Flotman

Welcome back Lesley!

The Parish Council have welcomed Lesley Crump back as a Parish Councillor. The Parish Council look forward to Lesley resuming her duties and she has already been busy look into issues regarding overgrown hedges on Grove Way. Lesley can be contacted through the Parish Clerk.

Flooding

Due to the heavy rain that the area has experienced recently there have been a number of occasions where there has been flooding. Road flooding can be reported using the link below. This link can also be used to report other highway issues:

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/road-maintenance>

Residents are also asked that any ditches or drainage channels or their land are kept free from obstructions. The Parish Council is liaising with South Norfolk Council in the management of ditches in the parish.

Re-wilding of the village green – update

Volunteers Andy and Richard have developed a plan for the rewilding of the Village Green for 2024. The Parish Council are working with the company who will be cutting the grass to ensure that a suitable schedule is set up that will keep the area manageable for those that wish to use the area and further develop the wild flowers and wildlife there.

The Parish Council would like to thank the Volunteers for all the amazing work that they do on the area.

Meetings

The Parish Council meets every month (except August and December) on a Tuesday evening. Forthcoming meetings are being held on;

30th January, 7:30pm, Village Centre

27th February, 7:30pm, 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 | 01508 447688

Maria Hutson, Clerk to the Parish Council



Newton Flotman Neighbourhood Plan steering group

First, I would like to thank everybody who expressed their views about Newton Flotman when the Parish Council had their roadshow at the end of August. We received twelve expressions of interest from residents to join a steering group to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for the village.

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has been formed and has held two meetings in October and November. Rachel Leggett & Associates, a planning consultancy which has experience in helping 30 town and parish councils (including Tasburgh) to produce neighbourhood plans, has been asked to provide the steering group with a proposal on how it can assist us to develop our plan. Applications for funding from South Norfolk District Council and Locality have been submitted and we should know the outcome in December.

Assuming we get the funding we need, the steering group will commence work on gathering the evidence needed to create the Neighbourhood Plan in January 2024. We are aiming to complete the work by December next year, at which time we will submit the plan to South Norfolk District Council for approval.

The steering group wants to have the maximum possible input into the plan from you, the residents of Newton Flotman, and we want to do this in an open way. Our meetings, which will be held on the third Monday in the month, will be open for you to attend and observe. All the agendas and minutes will be available on the Newton Flotman Parish Council website.

A household survey will be carried out in the spring when we will be seeking your views about Newton Flotman.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to contact me at paulweeksnfnpsg@gmail.com.

Paul Weeks

Chairman, Newton Flotman Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Swainsthorpe Parish Council

Residents of Swainsthorpe are reminded that they are very welcome to attend the next Parish Council meeting at 7.30p.m. on Wednesday January 17th in St Peter's Community Centre.

The agenda will include discussion of recent planning applications, next year's budget, the Neighbourhood Plan, and village facilities such as the playground and telephone box (where we are planning to install a defibrillator).

Partnership Deadline

The next edition of Partnership will be for February 2024. Deadline will be 14th January 2024. Contributions by email to caroline@uv6.com or call **07855 838553**. The editor reserves the right to edit copy and print as space permits.