

Worship Events in April

St Mary's, Newton Flotman

Sunday 7th 11:00 Morning Worship - Lesley Cox
Sunday 21st 11:00 Morning Worship - Lesley Cox
Sunday 28th 11:00 Holy Communion - Austin Uzoigwe

St Peter's, Swainsthorpe

Sunday 14th 9:30 Swainsthorpe Special - Kirsten Remer
Sunday 21st 9:30 Swainsthorpe Special - Lesley Cox
Sunday 28th 9:30 Holy Communion - Austin Uzoigwe

For other services within our benefice please see tasvalley.org/worship

Partnership

The Community Magazine

for the Parishes of

Newton Flotman & Swainsthorpe

April 2024



Scouts **Spring** **fayre 2024**

13TH APRIL

11AM - 4PM BROOKE VILLAGE HALL

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We are very grateful for the financial support associated with the printing costs of this Parish Magazine provided by: **St Mary's Church, Newton Flotman Parish Council, Newton Flotman Village Centre and our advertisers.** Without this support, this magazine could not be distributed free of charge to every household in our villages.



Join us for our litter pick

Help to keep your local community clean and tidy.

Where: Newton Flotman

Date: Saturday 27th April

Time: 9:30am

Meeting point: St Mary's Church Room

Complete a litter pick and you could win **£200***

If you are interested contact: William Ball

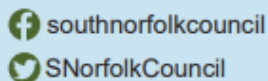
Email: william@tasvalley.org

Phone: 07785 264016

To set up your own litter pick visit:

southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/litter-picks
or call **01603 430609**

*T's and C's apply, see website for details.



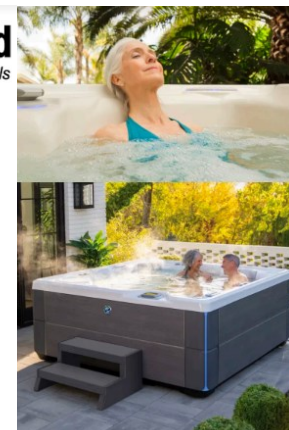
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Village Saturday Café

Church Room 10-12

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Team Vicar's Page

As I write this, it's wonderful to look out of the window and see so many glorious signs of spring. The daffodils nodding in the garden, blossom of blackthorn and early cherry frothing in the hedges, the birds noisily singing and fresh grass coming up in the fields which looked like a thick, muddy soup only a few weeks ago. These things are signs of hope, of new life, a reminder of the joy of living in a place where we can appreciate the passing seasons. We want to see it. We rejoice in the fresh immediacy of spring, the "now".

I love spring after the dullness of winter, when life gets going so abundantly, so beautifully. And that has made me think how God has designed all these just for our delight. Of course He hasn't just designed them for us. The flowers have a life and purpose of their own, to grow and flower and seed or make new bulbs. The birds are not singing for our pleasure; they too have a life of their own to mate and build nests and lay eggs to produce more birds. We can share the moment with them and thank God for them.

We can thank God, as well, that we live in such a lovely part of the world where we are free to enjoy the dawn chorus and the flowers and clean fresh air.

In our thankfulness to God for all the things He has given us, please let us all remember all those people who cannot sit out in the morning to hear the bird songs or enjoy the flowers, where those in 'high positions' do not care for their people. We think, of course, of Ukraine and continue to pray for peace in that war torn country. We think of those who live in refugee camps relying on aid agencies to bring them food and water and medical care. We think of the Holy Land torn apart, conflict and hatred where our Lord Jesus once walked in a land torn apart by invaders.

And we may sometime ask God, 'How long, how long until His peace is over all the world?' and His answer would be 'As long as people love me and love others as themselves'.

So, let us pray, for all in authority throughout the world and pray earnestly for God's peace for everyone and all people.

With every blessing and prayer,
Rev'd Austin Uzoigwe

Free Ads in Partnership

If you have something to sell or pass on for free, or perhaps you have a 'wanted', then please consider placing a free advertisement in Partnership. Send an email to caroline@uv6.com, or call/text **07855 838553**, stating your item(s), contact details and the price you want, and Partnership will do the rest. Reduce, reuse, repurpose, recycle!

Partnership Deadline

The next edition of Partnership will be for May 2024. Deadline will be 14th April 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.

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!

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_cl4d7i04arlc1dtsc4ct13rh74@group.calendar.google.com



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ST MARY'S CHURCH
Newton Flotman

As few of us will be taking up our hawks and trowels again in mid-April to tackle some more repointing of areas of the church walls.

Thank you to William for organising the Spring Litter pick; enjoy your post-pick, pick-me-up at Village Café on 27th April!



We are holding our Annual Parish Church Meeting on 29th April at 7.30pm, come and hear about your church's year and plans for the year ahead, with all those on the electoral register able to vote.

May is the month of Christian Aid so you will find envelopes for donations next month.

Kirsten Remer

Newton Flotman Climate Care

Newton Flotman Climate Care has been considering lifestyle changes we could (or should!!) be making to reduce our carbon footprint and do our bit for the environment. In particular we have been thinking about food - what we eat. Generally eating meat results in much higher greenhouse gas emissions than vegetable diets. We have looked at veggie recipes, vege-mince, vegetable ready meals and even veggie burgers. Why not give it a try? To start with go for two meat free days each week. Let us know how you get on.



We have also considered how our food is packaged and ways of reducing plastic use.

We aim to encourage our leaders to make bold choices to head for net zero. We have submitted a response to a government consultation about putting solar panels on new homes and written to Keir Starmer urging him not to go back on his promised green transition plans and spending.

If you are concerned about the climate it would be great if you were to join us. Just drop me an email and I will tell you how to join in.

*Richard Beach 07963 006 091
Richard.beach1508@gmail.com*

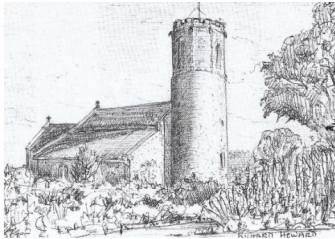
**Swainsthorpe FIGS
Summer Event**
Saturday June 22nd 2 – 4 P.M.
Can you help us?
Please contact:
Bonnie 07905 732235 Or Annette 07876 202565

ARE YOU ABLE TO HELP?

LIME MORTAR REPOINTING OF NEWTON FLOTMAN CHURCH (UP TO HEAD HEIGHT!)

Following the success of last year's repointing, we are doing some more on Thursday 11th & Friday 12th April (9am-1pm each day) If you are able to help and interested in learning this skill, please contact David Wharton on 07497622799 or email david.wharton1@btinternet.com Gloves will be provided, but please bring your own safety glasses and masks if possible. If not, the church can also provide these.

Swainsthorpe Meetings Invitation



Residents of Swainsthorpe are invited to the

Annual Parish Meeting
followed by the
Annual Parish Council Meeting
At 7 p.m. on Wednesday May 8th
in the Swainsthorpe Community Centre

- There will be presentations to update you on
 - developments affecting the Village.
- We will introduce the Swainsthorpe Neighbourhood Plan project.
- Come along and find out about these and other local issues.
- Meet your Parish Councillors and join us in a glass of wine at the close of business.

<https://swainsthorpepc.wixsite.com/swainsthorpepc>

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 meeting will be 3rd April.



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

Articles Wanted for Partnership

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

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Mobile Library for April

The mobile library will be visiting Newton Flotman and Swainsthorpe on Wednesday 24th April 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

Saturday Village Café
Church Room 10-12

Come and join us in Newton Flotman for home made bakes & a cup of something hot. Everybody welcome!



SWAINSTHORPE ART GROUP INVITE YOU TO AN EVENING CELEBRATING

SIR ALFRED MUNNINGS

Learn about his time living and painting in Swainsthorpe

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Community Centre St Peters Church Swainsthorpe NR14 8PH

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What's On In Our Villages:

Social Club - Newton Flotman Village Centre

12th April - Social Club evening

26th April - Social Club evening

Newton Flotman Litter Pick

Saturday 27th April - 9:30am at the Church Room

Youth Club - NF Village Centre

For 8 -16 year olds

Wednesdays 6-8 pm

Stay & Play - NF Village Centre

For parents/carers and preschool children

Tuesdays, 9:30am to 11am - Newton Flotman Village Centre

Cherry Tree Café

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

Film Night - Newton Flotman Village Centre

Tuesday 16th April - The Miracle Club

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

1st Weds of the month, 2 - 4pm, Newton Flotman Church Room

Village Walks

For more details contact Richard Beach 07963006091.

Meetings

Newton Flotman Village Centre AGM

Tuesday 9th April 7.30pm

Newton Flotman Parish Council

30th April 7:30pm - NF Village Centre including AGM

May 8th 7pm - 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

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



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Advance Tickets: £5.00

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



Village Centre AGM
Tuesday April 9th 2024
7.30 pm
Newton Flotman Village Centre

NEWTON FLOTMAN VILLAGE CENTRE
ALAN KING PLAYING FIELD

Please come along and find out what's been going on at the hall and playing field over the last year, and help us make plans for the future.

The bar will be open from 6.30pm for a Happy Hour and a chance for informal chat.

We look forward to seeing you.

Village Centre Committee

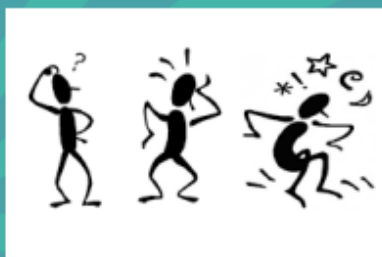
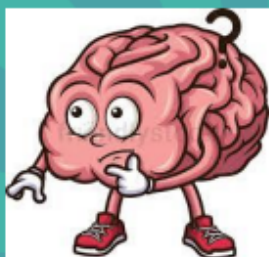
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www.facebook.com/newtonflotmanvillage/
Swainsthorpe's private group for residents:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/151438831588930>

FIGS QUIZ NIGHT

Come as a team or join up with one on the night.

Bring your own snacks/drinks.

RAFFLE.



Saturday 6th April 2024

Doors open 6.30 PM

for a 7PM start

Swainsthorpe Church

Tickets: £5 pp Pay at the door

Swainsthorpe Community Centre Trust

Charity Number 287784

Gardening - Advice for April from the RHS

Spring usually starts to arrive across the country in March, and the longer days provide the opportunity for an increasing range of gardening tasks. It's time to get busy preparing seed beds and sowing seed, and it's your last chance to prune roses.

By the time April arrives, spring is finally in evidence as daffodils and flowering trees start to bloom. Expect the inevitable April showers month but with sunny days too, when you can turn your attention to the lawn. It's an exciting month, with indoor-sown seeds well into growth, and it's also time to start sowing outdoors as the soil warms up. Just watch out for any final frosts!

- 1) Sow hardy annuals, herbs and wild flower seed outdoors
- 2) Protect fruit blossom from late frosts
- 3) Tie in climbing and rambling roses
- 4) Keep weeds under control
- 5) Start to feed citrus plants
- 6) Increase the water given to houseplants
- 7) Feed hungry shrubs and roses
- 8) Sow new lawns or repair bare patches
- 9) Prune fig trees
- 10) Divide bamboos and waterlilies

If you are looking for a gardening project, you might like to sow a wildflower patch. Brighten up a spare area of ground by sowing wildflower seeds in spring or autumn. It's quick and easy, and the resulting summer display will attract lots of pollinating insects.

Quick facts:

- Most wildflowers, particularly cornfield annuals, need a sunny spot – but there are mixes available for light shade
- You can sow a wildflower patch in mid-spring (April) or early autumn
- Minimal soil preparation is required
- Your wildflower patch can be as big or small as you like – you could even sow into containers if garden space is limited

Getting started with your wildflower patch is easy. Annual wildflower seeds can be sown in mid-spring or early autumn. There are many mixes available, with different blends of wildflowers, some of which include grasses for a meadow effect.

Make sure you buy enough seeds for the area you want to sow – check the seed packet for the sowing rate (usually in grams per square metre) and measure up your site.

For a natural effect, it's best to scatter (broadcast) the seeds rather than sowing in straight lines. The easiest way to get an even distribution is to mix the seeds with a small quantity of dry sand – you can then see where and how densely you've sown. Remember to water the area well for a super display which will attract bees and butterflies and other pollinating insects!

Wildlife Back Garden

'Protect and promote' - the article in last month's Partnership magazine - discussed developing a biodiversity policy and action plan for Newton Flotman village, to work with local groups, perhaps starting in our own gardens/ private spaces.

I have had a wildlife garden ever since moving to 1, Clabburn Close, several years ago. I left the plants found in the land down the side of my house to grow, and after one month Bee Orchids started appearing!

In 2018 I emailed Saffron Housing (responsible for mowing the verge to the side of my house) and gave all my neighbours a card, informing them that I would be planting wildflower plugs into the area to create a wildflower meadow. This area is clearly shown on Saffron's cutting plan with a red border marker signifying 'Not to cut here'.

It's now eight years since Saffron stopped mowing and strimming. Cherry Plum Trees are now flourishing. Many years ago, before houses were built in this area, there used to be an orchard here. The roots and the fallen stones/ seeds were lying dormant all that time, until the area was left untouched.

Newcomers into the village - please may I inform you that this area is privately managed and maintained as and when it needs to be. It may not be to everyone's liking, but *that's biodiversity!*

Bee Orchids flower every eight years, and all wildflowers are protected by law. 38 different species of wildflowers are now growing in the wild verge area by my house, dropping their seeds after scything. Yes, the sheer joy of being able to do this myself (being paraplegic) is one of immense satisfaction. It's so much quieter than strimmers or mowers, and it gives the wildlife the chance to survive.

By letting the verge grow, it promotes a *green canopy*. Amongst the trees on the verge and in my garden there is a very old and healthy broad-leaved lime tree, together with flowering cherry, cypress (leylandii) and saplings of holly blackthorn, bramble, oak and yew. These all contribute to the biodiversity chain, through their roots and fallen leaves.

We never rake up the leaves, as eventually they break down into the soil. Birds will often flip them over to find insects to eat. they also act as a mulch and they are the preferred nesting material of hedgehogs will use to line the nests (one year I had five hedgehogs in my garden, gaining access through the 'hedgehog gateway' to and from the undisturbed grass area down the side of the house.

By not walking on this area means all wildlife is undisturbed. Four large ant hills are present 2ftx1ft their size. Also present are juvenile frogs, newts, grass snakes, an abundance of insects, and mammals. All the time birds are watching, knowing the area is safe to build nests in. Neighbours on both sides mow their grass...and the wildlife comes into my sheltered, untouched wildlife haven, to seek shelter. What some consider messy is what wildlife prefers!

Heidi Wheeler

SAXLINGHAM PLAYERS' SPRING PRODUCTION



Prepare for an evening of TWO
great one-act plays:



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A mystery drama by Peter Robbie - Three TV executives arrive at a run down hotel to research for a new show. Stories of arson and murder soon arise but all is not what it seems...

LAST TANGO IN LITTLE GRIMLEY

An hilarious comedy by David Tristram - Little Grimley's Amdram association is in trouble and facing closure until Gordon the Chairman has a risky idea!

WEDNESDAY 8TH - SATURDAY 11TH MAY 2024

Box office online at:

www.saxlinghamplayers.org.uk

Or telephone Mark 01508 826516 (10 am to 5pm)

Newton Flotman Youth Club

NF Village Centre - For 8-16 year olds

Wednesdays 6 - 8 pm



Here for young people
Here for communities
Here for you



CHERRY TREE CAFÉ
NEWTON FLOTMAN VILLAGE CENTRE
SUPPORTED BY NEWTON FLOTMAN CHARITIES AND WAVENEY FOODBANK

FANCY A COFFEE OR A CUPPA?

WEDNESDAYS

CHERRY TREE CAFÉ

9-12 NEWTON FLOTMAN VILLAGE CENTRE
COME AND HAVE A DRINK & SNACK ON US

ALL WELCOME!

WELL BEHAVED DOGS ON A LEAD ARE WELCOME TOO!

Newton Flotman Parish Council Notes

2024/25 Precept and Parish Council Funding

The Parish Council are pleased that Parish Partnership funding has been confirmed towards the installation of 'Village Gates' on Flordon Road. Norfolk County Council have pledged to pay 50% of the cost, with the remainder coming from the Parish Council Precept. The need for these traffic management measures was highlighted in the Parish Questionnaire. Through significant dialogue with the Highways department this was the scheme that met both the Parish Council's and Highways requirements. It is hoped that the work will be undertaken later this year.

There has been a significant increase in the cost of the grass cutting contract for 2024/25 and the fees for water at the allotment. Quotes were requested from three companies for the grass cutting and most competitive was agreed to. Grant funding towards the grass cutting of the Village Green has also been secured from the South Norfolk Council Clean up and Bloom Scheme. Due to the increase in the water used at the allotment the rates for the allotments have been increased to reflect this. The Parish Council awards grants to local organisations and has allocated funds to the Church for the upkeep of the Churchyard, *Partnership* magazine and the Village Centre. The money awarded to the Church and Partnership has increased by 25% and 50% respectively and allowed these projects to continue.

As a result of these and rises in other costs there will be a 22.79% increase in the Parish Council Precept for 24/25. This amounts to an average contribution of £64.13 per household annually, an increase of £11.85 per year or 23p a week. The Parish Council believes that they offer good value for money and that increases were considered at length and not taken lightly. Minutes from all meetings and the supporting papers including draft budget can be found at <https://www.newtonflotmanpc.co.uk/agendas-and-minutes>

Flooding in the Village

Over the last six months the heavy rain has resulted in a number of areas in the village experiencing flooding. If you live on, own, or lease land next to a watercourse you have rights and responsibility for its maintenance. To help alleviate problems please can residents ensure that any ditches or drains on, or next to, your property are kept free from obstruction. More information can be found here <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/38661>

Pot Holes

The cold and very wet weather has led to an increase, in size and number, of pot holes on village roads. Village roads, and potholes, are the responsibility of Norfolk County Council. Issues can be logged at <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/highwaysproblem> This link can also be used to report other highway issues including flooding, traffic light problems and faded road markings

Allotments

The Parish allotments are off Blunderville Manor at the top of Alan Avenue. For 24/25 the cost to have an allotment will be £20 for a full plot and £10 for a

half plot. If you are interested in being added to the waiting list for a plot please contact the Clerk in the first instance, details below.

Gigaclear Presentation

At the recent Parish Council meeting Andrew Lipski, Community Engagement Officer at Gigaclear, gave a presentation on the Broadband rollout that is underway in Newton Flotman, Tasburgh and Saxlingham Nethergate. Gigaclear is keen to ensure that the work undertaken during this roll out is as least disruptive as possible. However, any problems can be reported to Andrew, please ensure full details and locations are given Andrew.Lipski@gigaclear.com

Meetings

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

Tuesday 30th April including Annual Parish Meeting, 7:30pm, Village Centre
Tuesday 21st May – Annual Parish Council Meeting, 7:30pm, **Church Room**

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>

Follow the Parish Council on Facebook

Newton Flotman Parish Council is on Facebook. Follow the Parish Council at <https://www.facebook.com/NewtonFlotmanPC>

Contacting the Council

clerk@newtonflotmanpc.co.uk | 01508 447688
Maria Hutson, Clerk to the Parish Council

SAXLINGHAM (SAXON) BOWLS CLUB

Club Open Day at 1.30pm on **Saturday 27th April**
at the Saxlingham Playing Field Bowls Green

*If you are thinking of taking up a new sport,
Come along and have a go at Bowls at our friendly Club!*

The Club arranges league and friendly matches, internal competitions, practice sessions and social events

Free coaching for beginners

Experienced Bowlers are welcome too

Contact: Club Captain Rachel Stevenson on 01508 532617
or Club Secretary Chris Lacey on 01508 499700