

Trade Directory

Architectural Services - for advice and free quotation, contact	Mark Woods	01508 498805
Oil boiler services: servicing/commissioning & breakdown repairs	Chris Clarke 1-service/2 - emergency	07377 516660/07912 146619
Central heating/boiler engineer (gas/LPG) - Gas Safe registered	Kennerson (Boiler Champ Ltd)	07874 007263/01508 473080
DKC Oil Boiler Servicing and breakdowns	David	07375 995198
Oil Boiler Services - for enquiries: em Enquiries@JAboilers.co.uk	James Allen	07526 052222
Car servicing/repairs/MOT prep etc	Mike Curtis	01508 550293/07753 182065
Airport transfer specialists/Chauffeur hire. www.peterrudlingtravel.co.uk	Ben Rudling info@peterrudlingtravel.co.uk	07545 560565
The Village Chimney Sweep of Saxlingham - City and Guilds	Ben Hampton	07920 585518
Computer repairs, virus removal & more - www.pcassistonline.co.uk	Darren Rose	01508 471459
Coco's Dog Grooming - holistic grooming, washes/full grooms, etc.	Rachael Hill	07812 753750
Electrician - ICD Domestic Electrics	Ian and Caroline Duerden	01508 813802/07790 273689
Foot Care Practitioner - all treatments (diabetics welcome)	Mandy Baker	07398 402620
Funeral Services (Poringland based offices)	R B Copping	01508 494434
Professional Gardener with horticultural qualifications - tbgardenmaintenance@gmail.com	Tom Beevor	07557 670733
Floorlayer and Handyman	Bradley Patrick	01508 499133/07982 740833
HR Consultant- advice and support on employment matters	Lucy - Lucy@mustardhr.co.uk	07809 227222
Garden Design and Maintenance garreecedesign@gmail.com	James Garret	07551 660485
Gutter Tech, Clearing, Cleaning, Repairs. guttertechforfolk@gmail.com	Charlie (Nick Charles)	07982 452351
Local Handyman, property maintenance/painting & decorating service	Ian Pilkington	07789 541421
Landscaping and gardening, patios, fencing, brickweave drives etc	Rachel Cooke (Arkscape)	01508 470482
Interior/exterior painting and decorating	Michael Wiseman	07941 699232
Live honey bee removal from chimneys and wall cavities	Louise - louise@buzz-off.co.uk	07876 141153/01603 259945
Lady Mole Catcher for all pest and wildlife management problems	Louise - louise@ladymolecatcher.co.uk	01603 259945/07876 141153
Pet sitting service - cats, dog walking and other animals	Jo Sanders - jsanjcook@yahoo.co.uk	07902 393078
Plumbing and bathroom installation	Neil Prior	01508 489359/07713 352494
Recycled car spares, MOT failures - www.dysalvage.com	David Yarham	01508 482612/07860 626595
Tutor - 3Rs, maths and sciences to GCSE, revision support	Storm Roberts - fayre@me.com	07939 242262
Wills and estate planning accredited by Trading Standards -	Richard Jay	01603 765337/07789 194430
Washing machines, etc. - all repaired	Michael Jay	01603 499578/07884 255292
Washing machines, cookers, dishwashers, fridge freezer etc repairs	Ashley Yallop	01603 433083/07525 150999
Saxlingham Nethergate Village Hall Bookings	Claire Smith - e-mail saxlinghambookings@gmail.com	
Community Emergency Co-ordinator	Bryn Austin	01508 499757/07788 795666
Police Telephone Number	Non Emergencies	101
Power cuts	Local information	105

If you would like to advertise in the Trade Directory, please do get in touch with the Editor.

Saxlingham Contact December 2025



Guided by His Light

The almost 100 mile journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem would have taken Mary and Joseph around eight to ten days of fairly difficult travel. The road included some steep inclines, large rocks and the danger of thieves. Not ideal for a heavily pregnant woman.

Once at their destination, there was the issue of accommodation. No cosy airbnb, clean sheets or even a proper room. They took what was offered - a stable. After the birth, the feeding trough made a handy crib for the newborn.

At times, life is hard. The way ahead is not always clear. We must negotiate significant obstacles, assess risks, make the best of each situation.

But just as the star shone down over Bethlehem that night, so the light of hope shines over our own lives. Jesus is the light of the world, born to show quite literally that God is with us. This is the promise of Christmas, a promise that reaches across the centuries to you and to me.

Guided by his light, and reassured by his presence, we travel with the best companion on our own journey into the future he has planned for us.

With my prayers for a blessed and peaceful Christmas

Dawn



ST MARY'S SERVICES

7 December: 9.30 am - Holy Communion

14 December: 11.00 am - Matins

21 December: 3.00 pm - Carol Service

24 December: 3.00 pm - Interactive Nativity;

24 December: 11.30 pm - Holy Communion

25 December: 10.30 am - Holy Communion

28 Decmebr: 8.00 am - Holy Communion

28 December: 11.00 am Contemplative Worship

CHAPEL SERVICES

Every Sunday at 10.30 am and 4.00 pm

All are warmly invited

How to contact the teams:

Contact Rev'd Dawn Davidson at The New Rectory, The Street, Saxlingham Nethergate, Norwich, NR15 1AJ;
Tel 498924; e-m: dawndavidson@btinternet.com

Contact Pastor Ian Masson at 73 Blithemeadow Drive, Norwich, NR7 8PY;
Tel 07778 347461; e-m: ianmasson1@btinternet.com

Contact Rev'd Austin Uzoigwe at The Rectory, Church Hill, Tasburgh, NR15 1NB;
Tel 470901; e-m: revaustinuzoigwe@aol.com

Contact Rev'd Rachel Hayden at The Rectory, Church Lane, Newton Flotman, NR15 1QB;
Tel 01508 826971; e-m: racheljhayden@outlook.com

Are You Good with figures?

Still desperately seeking a volunteer to become the treasurer. Surely there is someone in the village willing to help? If interested, please get in touch with Rev'd Dawn Davidson or our churchwarden, Cindy Brookes, whose details appear elsewhere in Contact. They would love to hear from you.

News from the Pews

Display of Stars in the church - We are looking forward to the display of Stars to see the talents of everyone who has contributed. The stars, which will be all different sizes and made from a wide variety of materials, will be decorating the church for the entire month of December.

Special December events - On Wednesday 17 December, the annual Carols around the War Memorial will begin at 6.00 pm. As usual, please wear a warm coat and gloves and bring a torch to be able to read the words of the carols. Following the singing, refreshments will be offered at the home of Michael and Helen Pye, opposite the War Memorial.

The annual Carol Service will be held in the church on Sunday 21 December, beginning at 3.00 pm, as Christmas gets ever closer. It is a great way to enjoy singing the well-known carols and be reminded of the significance of the event we celebrate on the 25th.

For both of these events, a charity is chosen to support financially instead of the money going towards the church. With the theme of stars in the church, it has been decided to support Star Throwers, a local charity based in Wymondham. They offer all kinds of therapies and advice for patients and families who are affected by cancer. There are 200 types of cancer and the charity provides information about the diagnosis and treatment options. So many people are affected by cancer and it is hoped that we will be able to donate a reasonable amount to the charity.

Foodbank - Thank you for the continuing massive support for the Foodbank. Taking the items to Norwich tends to be during the week after the second Sunday of a month. The current list of items needed is below.

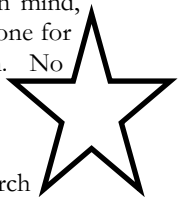
Long life milk and juice, tinned fruit, microwave rice, spaghetti, tinned tomatoes, shower gel, male and female deodorant, and shampoo.

Cindy Brookes, tel 398521, email cindylbrookes@icloud.com

Stars in Church



As Cindy has mentioned above, do come and see the lovely display of stars made by villagers. It is also appreciated that this can be a difficult time for some. Perhaps you know of someone who needs the community's prayers or you wish to remember a loved one. With this in mind, there will be a prayer tree in church to which you can add a name of someone for whom you would like to be remembered in prayer for whatever reason. No need to include any details, just write a name of the person on a star and hang it on the tree.



If you would like a keepsake, please take one of the bookmarks left in church especially for you.

SAXLINGHAM SCHOOL BULLETIN

November was a busy month at Saxlingham Primary. The children have been marking Anti-Bullying Week by wearing odd socks to school. Wearing mismatched socks is a fun and visual way to celebrate difference. It sparks conversations about bullying and encourages children to think about how they treat others. It also reinforces the message that everyone should be accepted for who they are, regardless of differences.

We have also been marking remembrance with special activities and collective worship time. The children have been learning why it is so very important to mark this occasion and to wear their poppies with pride.

The children have also been learning about road safety. Have you noticed our Year 5 children completing their on-road Bikeability cycling course, including how important it is to be clearly visible when riding on the roads? Our Year 2 children have also been out and about, learning about pedestrian safety, including how to cross the road. Our youngest Reception children have been learning about seatbelt safety within the classroom.

As always, visits from prospective parents are always welcome. Full details of our Open Days and Stay and Play Pre-School sessions are available on the website <https://tasvalley.org.uk/saxlinghamprimary>.

Contact deadline

I wish all the volunteers involved with producing Contact a Merry Christmas and a happy, peaceful and healthy new year. I also thank all the volunteers for all they have done throughout the year to get Contact to you, the reader.

Please note that the deadline for **January's** edition is **Thursday 18 December**. Don't forget there is a parish photocopier available for use at very reasonable rates. Please contact me with contributions/sponsorship by telephone on 498277 or e-m: stevens.t@btinternet.com or at home, 6 Pitts Hill Close, Saxlingham Nethergate, Norwich, NR15 1AZ.

Teresa Stevens

Wassail at the Saxon Club and Meadows A village tradition!



Come and join us at the annual Wassail on Friday 2 January 2026 at 6.00 pm meeting first at the Saxon Club before walking to the orchard and apple trees, with our 'noise makers' e.g. a pan lid, whistle or musical instrument. Don't forget a torch and sturdy footwear as the ground may be uneven. After the Wassailing ceremony to encourage the health of our apple trees, we'll return to the Saxon Club for mulled fruit punch. All are very welcome. If there are any queries,

please contact Anne Fry on 07939 504896 or you can e:mail her at annemfry@gmail.com



IT'S BACK AND ITS BIGGER THAN EVER! THE SAXLINGHAM VILLAGE HALL QUIZ and CHIPS

Saturday 7 February

Back by popular demand - it's your chance once again to show just how little the residents of our fine village really know. Gary Reeve (sorry, nobody else is available) will be asking one hundred questions and setting a table top quiz to keep your brain engaged while you're munching your chips. Teams can have up to six members and no mobile phones and the winners have a chance of becoming millionaires!

The ridiculously cheap tickets are just £15 which includes either cod and chips or sausage and chips. There will be a bar featuring soft drinks, wine, gin and beer from the award winning Redwell Brewery in Trowse.

Best of all, profits are going to the Village Hall to help put our beautiful historic building back to the centre of village life. Tickets will go on sale in January 2026 so be sure to get in quick because it's likely to sell out quicker than Oasis.

Come to the Cinema



Poringland Community Cinema - 12 December - The Penguin Lessons— During the 1976 coup in Argentina, an English teacher rescues a penguin and brings it to school after which his life begins to change when the bird's presence starts to have a positive effect on the school. Tickets £5 each on the door with film showing at 7.30 pm.

Newton Flotman Village Centre - 16 December—Wallis Island— Old tensions resurface when former bandmates who were former lovers reunite for a private show at an eccentric millionaire's island home. Doors opening at 7.00 pm with film starting at 7.30 pm. Tickets £5.00 each available from William Ball on 471506 or e-mail him at william.ball@outlook.com.

Business Awards return to celebrate success

Nominations are open for Broadland District and South Norfolk Councils' 2026 Business Awards, sponsored by local law firm Birketts LLP. Businesses based in the two districts are invited to nominate themselves in any of the ten categories for the chance to win a prestigious award.

- Business Growth
- Business Innovation
- Employer of the Year
- Environmental Impact
- Food and Drink Producer of the Year
- Insurance, Financial or Professional Services
- Manufacturing and Engineering Business of the Year
- New Business
- Small Business of the Year
- Tourism Business of the Year

Residents can also vote for their favourite Retailer of the Year and Pub of the Year. By voting, they'll be in with a chance of winning £100 of shopping and pub vouchers – with four lucky winners, two from each district. Nominations close on Friday 12 December and winners will be announced on 18 March 2026 at a special awards ceremony at Norwich City Football Club. To nominate your business or vote for your favourite retailer and pub, visit www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/businessawards

Saxlingham Village Voice

If you wish to sign up to Village Voice e-mail Cathy Harvey at saxlinghamvillagevoice@gmail.com.

Useful Information Sharing

Don't forget to look at the PC's website for useful information – saxlinghampc.wixsite.com/saxlinghampc (or just Google Saxlingham PC). Anyone wishing to add useful items, please send them to our Parish Clerk, Julie King at saxlinghamnethergatepc@gmail.com



Notes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 10 November 2025

Public Forum - Chris Lacey, from the Saxlingham Bowls Club attended the public forum to advise that due to increasing costs surrounding repairing rabbit damage, hedge trimming, irrigation, utility bills etc. the Saxlingham Bowls Club are leaving Saxlingham and joining forces to share a green (and costs) with Wymondham Dell Bowls Club.

East Pye Solar - The PC continues to work closely with BEPS (Block East Pye Solar) to respond to the latest consultation. Updated information on this subject can be found on the PC website.

Highways - The new Footpath Officer, Councillor Paul Bowen, is continuing to investigate replacement posts.

Speeding - Councillor Chris Clements has undertaken a thorough analysis of the data from the SAM2 device, which has been passed on to our local community Police Officer, who has agreed to undertake more speeding checks over the coming weeks in the village.

Community Speed Watch - The PC has received four responses to an advert for volunteers, but need six to progress. If interested, and you are keen to help to reduce the speeding in the village, please contact Jackie Lee-Smith. Email: jackieleesmith5@gmail.com or telephone 498568. Training will be provided.

Flood Action - An information leaflet is being finalised and will be distributed on Village Voice, Village Facebook and the PC website.

The PC has purchased a number of spring flowering bulbs to be planted along the verges coming into the village on Norwich Road.

Date of next meeting - Monday 8 December 2025

Village Hall Website

Don't forget to visit the village hall website <https://saxnethergatevillagehall.co.uk/>