

POEM FOR THE MONTH

June



"For stately trees in rich array,
For sunlight all the happy day,
For blossoms radiant and rare,
For skies when daylight closes,
For joyous, clear, outpouring song
From birds that all the green wood throng,
For all things young, and bright, and fair,
We praise thee, Month of Roses!
For blue, blue skies of summer calm,
For fragrant odours breathing balm,
For quiet, cooling shades where oft
The weary head reposes,
For brooklets babbling thro' the fields
Where Earth her choicest treasures yields,
For all things tender, sweet and soft,
We love thee, Month of Roses!"

Elaine Goodale

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

ASHBOCKING

How time flies! Here we are nearly half way through the year and lots going on with holidays and events. Our own event is coming up fast and this is the **Ashbocking Flower Festival**.

We hope you have the dates in your diaries and we are now selling tickets for the preview event on Friday 29th June at 7:30. This will be a **Cheese and Wine evening** with the first glass of wine and a plate of food included in the price of the ticket. Soft drinks for children. Extra glasses of wine will be available at the bar. Tickets are £10 for adults and £6 for children. Please contact John or Linda Pollard on 01473 890836 if you would like tickets.

The Flower Festival is on Saturday 30th June and Sunday 1st July from 10:00am until approx. 4pm, free entry. There will be refreshments of tea, coffee, soft drinks and cake available too as well as a book stall and bric-a-brac. Do join us for a wander around the church, a cuppa and a natter.

There are still a few spaces if anyone would like to do a flower arrangement. The theme is celebrations, although there are un-themed areas to decorate too.

We would like to invite children to enter our '**Create a Garden in a tray competition**'. Small prizes will be given in each age category. Ages 4 -15yrs. Please register your interest at the number above.

The next **coffee morning**, hosted by Brenda Forster, is on June 1st at 10:30, and will be in the church, hopefully it will be a lovely warm day for sitting outside. Tickets for the flower festival will be available then also.

Our June **Family Service is on the 10th June at 11:00am.** Everyone welcome.

We do need a volunteer for **Church cleaning** in June please. It is important to have everything looking dust free and clean as we do have a bat problem in the church which isn't very pleasant when you need to use the pews. Any help would be appreciated, so please let me know if you are willing to help.

The Bible study group that meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday evening of the month will be meeting on June 13th and 27th at 7:30pm. This is at the home of Sarah and Steve Wilson, Eastbrook House, The Green Ashbocking. New members always welcome.

Linda Pollard

CLOPTON

Jenny Schurr was elected Churchwarden at our Annual Meeting. She will be admitted to the office of Churchwarden on Thursday 17th May in Grundisburgh church. We are all delighted that she has decided to take up the role.



Have you got your tickets for the East of England Co-op Brass Band concert on Saturday 16th June? The concert starts at 7pm and tickets are £8 for adults and £4 for children. Light refreshments will be served. Tickets can be bought from Jenny Schurr Tel 01473 738357 or Doris Main Tel 01473 737602. It should be a very enjoyable evening. There will be parking in the churchyard.

The Hobbies Group will meet between 10am and noon on Wednesday 6th June in the Village Hall. If you do not have any projects at the moment come and help us make some poppies for our Poppy Weekend in November. We are knitting, crocheting and making them out of tissue paper and would love some help!

The June Coffee Morning will be on Wednesday 20th June from 10am until noon in the Village Hall.

If anyone has problems with getting there, please phone 01473 737602 and we will make sure that someone will collect you. We love to welcome new people.

The Strawberry Tea will be held at Thamaniya, Shop Road, Clopton on Saturday 7th July from 2.30pm until 5pm. Everyone is very

welcome, come and enjoy strawberries and cream and some delicious cakes. There will be a raffle and we would be grateful for any donations of prizes. If it rains, there will be plenty of cover!

Doris Main

OTLEY

The family service in May was based around Christian Aid, and Clare took as her theme the Haiti earthquake in 2010 when many houses were ruined, but one woman with seven children, whose strongly built house remained standing, invited many homeless people in (actually 58) despite the house being very small. The Scouts and Cubs were on parade and, as well as reading extremely well, they joined in enthusiastically with the two games to build a house. It was very good to see them, and we thank them for their contribution in distributing the Christian Aid envelopes. Our thanks also go to Emma Coomber for co-ordinating the collection in the village which is a huge task! The Scouts next event will be their Hog Roast on 21st June.

Visiting bell ringers rang a full peal after Easter, a group from Lincolnshire came to ring for one hour, and some of our own ringers have been touring Dorset. Phil and Tig Sweet joined a total group of eighteen from Debenham and Cretingham, they started at Brownsea Island where they saw red squirrels, and the next day went on to Blandford Forum and surrounding villages. On the Wednesday they had a ten-mile hike on the downs south of Corfe, ringing at the little Norman church of Worth Matravers and at Kingston, and on the Thursday took the steam train to Swanage and rang there. Phil says they had a week of good weather and everybody was very welcoming. The Otley bell ringers are hoping to ring to mark the centenary of the first World War in November, as are many churches across the country, but numbers are declining now, and they would be very glad to have some new recruits. Please consider this - bellringing practice is on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm.



The Progressive Dinner will be taking place on Saturday 30th June so please contact Vanessa Ling tel. 890787 or email to vanessa@papermaze.co.uk if you want to take part. The cost is £10 per head, for church funds, and is a fun and friendly occasion.

The next monthly coffee morning will be held on Thursday 14th June at 10 Spring Park, the home of Nigel and Pauline Crowley, and they will be ready to welcome you.

And I also have to add - many congratulations to Tom and Tassa Rogerson on the birth of their baby Benjamin, and to Tristan and Rebecca Childs on the birth of their son Lachlan in the same week, their third child and a twelfth grandchild for Brian and Christine. It is wonderful news.

Rose Rogerson

Otley Annual Village Fete

Otley's annual Village Fete will take place on the playing field on Saturday 7th July. From 1pm we will have a jazz band playing, with food and drink available. Then we'll be kicking off proceedings properly at 2pm with the colourful Suffolk School of Samba in the grand ring. There will be the Dog Show as usual, with categories such as Dog with The Waggiest Tale, Dog Most Like Its Owner, and a fun obstacle course. Registration is on the day, and all dogs are welcome! There will be the usual selection of stalls and activities with a treasure trail stamp sheet for children to complete, and the raffle. And of course, there will be tea and cakes, a beer tent and a barbeque throughout the afternoon. All we hope for is a sunny day! Come and join us and help raise funds for the Village Hall, and Otley's groups and organisations.

Village Diary:

9th June	Casino Night - Otley School PTA
14th June	Coffee morning at 10 Newlands - Friendship Club
21st June	Yvonne Demo - jewellery - Friendship Club
21st June	Hog Roast - The Scouts
28th June	Community Lunch at The White Hart
7th July	Otley Fete - Community Council

Church Flowers:

Joan Parish/Betty David

Church Cleaning:

Brian and Karin Upson

Sidepersons:

3 rd June	11.00am	Animal Service	TBC
17 th June	9.30am	Holy Communion	TBC

Progressive Dinner Otley Saturday 30th June



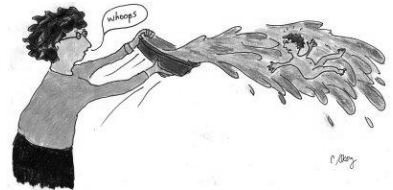
It's not too late, so book your plate! £10 per person

Contact: Vanessa Ling on 890787 or vanessa@papermaze.co.uk

OUR FASCINATING LANGUAGE

The area surrounding York Minster & Abbey was once known as the Liberty of St. Peter & had its own walled boundary. In the 13th. century the Lord Mayor persisted in entering the Liberty of St. Peter to harass the residents. This became such a problem that eventually the Pope intervened to stop him *'taking a liberty'*. Hence the origin of this phrase which is still in common use today 8 centuries later.

Baths used to consist of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of going first into the nice clean water, then the other sons & men, then the women & finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose a small child in it. Hereby lies the origin of the saying, *'Don't throw the baby out with the bath water'*.



Otley and District Gardening Club

Since last month's report we've had a mini-heat wave, then a brief return to February temperatures, and now the weather is finally settling into a more normal pattern for late Spring. Despite the difficult early growing season though, our stalwart club members delivered a truly impressive number and variety of strong and healthy-looking plants for our second Open Plant Sale on Saturday 5th May. Not only that, but nearly a dozen mouth-watering cakes were also produced to tempt our sale patrons, along with a cuppa, once their hunger for plant bargains had been satisfied. A veritable throng of eager plant-hunters and cake-samplers fairly demolished all the sale offerings in less than an hour of quite hectic activity.

All-in-all our second sale was thus adjudged a great success just like last year's and repaid all the hard work put in by members as well as raising very useful funds to help the club pay for our speakers and events.

Our May club meeting, just a week-or-so later, saw Nick Dobson dazzle us with great knowledge and many colourful illustrations of his horticultural passions for Dahlias and Fuchsias, and this meeting brought our current club season nearly to a close, with the remaining final event being our 9th June summer coach trip to Pensthorpe Natural Park, Fakenham. This trip is open to non-members, and some seats are still available. Contact 890563 for details.

After the summer outing we hope to be at the Otley Fete in July, and after a summer of enjoying our gardens and the wider world in general we'll be back on Monday 3rd September for our first meeting of the 2018-19 season.

The Reluctant Gardener

SWILLAND

The tea at Gill Reidy's house to recognise Adrian Ward's long service in looking after our churchyard was a very happy affair. We presented Adrian with a framed Long Service Certificate and a watch.

Thank you, Gill, for hosting this. Adrian's work is very much missed by us all. Thank you to Brian and Andy for the grass cutting they have done. If anyone is able to do some grass cutting from time to time, please contact Brian Williams.

The next coffee morning is at my house, Red Court, on 2nd June from 10.00am. I hope we will be able to sit in the garden.

Swim at the Mill – you can now enjoy private hire of the beautiful indoor swimming pool at Swiland Mill for £30 per hour (maximum of six people, £2.50 for additional people). Donna and Pete have just finished renovating the pool to a high standard, with elegant and comfortable soft furnishings. This oasis makes a perfect escape from the day to day hustle and bustle. To enquire or make a booking please contact Donna 07769536450 or email donna.deer78@gmail.com.

Ann Kent

Flower rota:

3rd-10th June	Jackie Williams
17th - 24th June	Margo Barker
1st - 8th July	Ann Kent

RUSSELL LING REPORTS

This month we have had every variety of weather apart from snow and frost, there was some very heavy periods of rain at the end of March and this continued into the beginning of April. This was followed by a period of dull cloudy weather until the 20th of the month when unusually for April it turned very warm, this also coincided with the blackthorn coming into bloom. However, we didn't escape blackthorn winter as we finished up with some cold wet north easterly winds at the end of the month. Rainfall was 2.95 inches giving us a total of 11.0 inches for this year.

My articles have so far been connected with farming with horses and it was shortly after the end of the last war that the demise of the

Suffolk Punch began. Very little change took place during the depression years of the 1920s and 1930s as the only alternative power source on farms was the Standard Fordson tractor. This machine was originally made in the USA by the Ford Motor Company and the first ones were shipped over during WW 1 and this model was the main one used until the end of the WW 2. In the depression years it was regarded as dog and stick farming due to the fact that any costs had to be kept to a minimum. In some instances, Landlords would let the land rent free just to keep it from deteriorate with scrub and weeds.

If a farm was to be sold it would often be advertised as a four or six horse farm depending on the number of horses that would be required to cope with the work, this would be approximately thirty acres per horse. Keeping working horses was not cheap, there was the cost of feeding them which meant that some of the arable acreage was grown for oats. Land would also be sown with clover seed and this was made into hay called Stover, in a dry year a good crop of seed would be harvested as a bonus. Other costs included having their hooves shod which would be twice a year, harness and perhaps veterinary fees. Larger farms had a horseman who was paid extra money to arrive early to bring the horses into the stable to feed and harness them ready for the farm hands to take them out to work when they arrived.

With the end of WW 2 the production of modern tractors and machinery particularly the combine harvester revolutionised farming methods and the horse became redundant. The numbers of the Suffolk Punch horse have declined to such an extent that they are in danger of becoming extinct. More breeding stock needs to be found to prevent inbreeding and help with taking charge of the last few remaining animals. The Suffolk Punch Trust at Hollesley have eight horses and is open to visitors.



Tales from the Archives

The First World War

The first bomb that fell in Otley was in a small meadow at the bottom of Thompson's Lane. It was at that time known as a fire bomb. It came down at three in the morning from a Zeppelin. It was very misty so if anyone was about, they could not have seen anything. This was in the early part of the week. Only one person heard it fall. The strange part was that this man was blind, and he lived at Ash Leaf Cottage. He said he heard a whistling noise and then a heavy thump. People didn't take much notice of what he said, many disbelieving him asked how many pints he had had before going to bed!

On winter nights we would sit in the old shoe menders shop in Otley and go over every detail of the latest war news. The tales spun by the men were many and varied, often concerning ghosts. I remember one story well which went like this. 'I was coming home past Clopton Church one night at about 12 o'clock and just as I arrived at the gate, out came a man with a coffin on his shoulder'. He said, 'I have lain here a hundred years and it is so damn wet, I thought I would try Burgh'.

Another was of an old lady who used to take the children on Bible reading. She couldn't read herself so when a child came to a big word she would say 'Now let me look, oh yes it's another Jerusalem!'

The Old Timer

Otley News July 1969

SMILE LINES

Evian

'Ever wondered about those people who spend two pounds on those little bottles of Evian water? Try spelling Evian backwards.

Prospecting for the Lord

On a sunny Sunday afternoon, two young church members were going door to door to invite people to visit their church. When they knocked on one door, it was immediately clear the woman who answered was not happy to see them.

She slammed the door in their faces, but to her surprise, it bounced back open.

Convinced these young people were sticking their foot in her door, she reared back to give it a slam that would teach them a lesson. Just then, one of them said quietly: "Madam, before you do that again, you really need to move your cat".

Canine IF



If you can always be cheerful
If you can sleep without drugs
If you can relax without alcohol
If you can start the day without caffeine
If you can take blame without resentment
If you can resist complaining

If you can eat the same food every day and be greater for it
If you can understand if your loved ones are too busy to give you time
AND if you can overlook when those you love take it out on you when
through no fault of yours, something goes wrong,
THEN my friend you are almost as good as your dog.

Children's Corner



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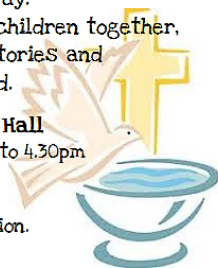
Clopton Village Hall

Sunday 24th June, 3pm to 4.30pm

All welcome,

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suggested donation.



If you'd like to come, please let us know names of adults and children so we can get the catering right and have fun together.

mark@thecrosswells.me.uk



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'Tell me little Woodworm'

Tell me little woodworm
Eating through the wood.
Surely all that sawdust
Can't do you any good.

Heavens little woodworm
You've eaten all the chairs
So that's why poor old
Grandad's
Sitting on the stairs.

Bump

Things that go 'bump' in the
night
Shouldn't really give one a
fright.

It's the hole in each ear
That lets in the fear,
That, and the absence of light!

Today I saw a little Worm

Today I saw a little worm
Wriggling on his belly.
Perhaps he'd like to come inside
And see what's on the telly.



from Silly Verse for Kids by Spike Milligan

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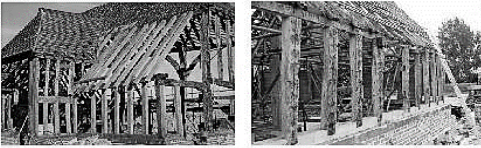
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