

POEM FOR THE MONTH

The Gardener



O Painter of the fruits and flowers!
We thank Thee for thy wise design
Whereby these human hands of ours
In Nature's garden work with Thine.
Give fools their gold, and knaves their power;
Let fortune's bubbles rise and fall;
Who sows a field, or trains a flower,
Or plants a tree, is more than all.
For he who blesses most is blest;
And God and man shall own his worth
Who toils to leave as his bequest
An added beauty to this earth.

John Greenleaf Whittier 1807-1892

'THANK YOU SO MUCH RUTHIE'

*We would like to say a BIG 'Thank you' to
Ruthie Bullock for acting as the Church Times Treasurer
for the past 8 years and who has done
an outstanding job.*

*We would like to welcome and thank our new Treasurer,
Philip David, for taking on this role.*

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

ASHBOCKING

September already and almost time for the new school year. What a summer we have had but thankfully the rain has saved most things in my garden. When you receive this article there may still be time to decide to go to the Ashbocking Village Produce Show on the 1st of September. Open all afternoon at Manor Farm, The Green, Ashbocking with produce stalls, tea's and cake, tombola, pony rides, BBQ and lots more.

However, in all probability, it may be too late, so I hope it was a fine day and great success.

Please don't forget the annual Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride on the 8th. You can download sponsorship forms online or get them from our local organiser. The plan is to visit as many churches as possible, either on foot or cycling to raise money for Suffolk Historic Churches Fund which helps with the upkeep of our churches. We receive half of what we raise. Information and sponsorship forms can be obtained from John Pollard, Churchwarden on 01473 890836. Refreshments will be available at each church you visit.



Our home group recommences this month and will be back at Hawthorns, The Green, Ashbocking IP6 9JX on Wednesday 12th and 26th September, 7:30pm. These are led by either Canon Clare Sanders or Rev Fred Woods and we study aspects of Christian worship and the Bible, enabling good discussion and debate. We welcome anyone wishing to broaden their knowledge, and evenings are generally light hearted and inspiring. Details available from John or Linda Pollard on 01473 890836. Thank you to Sarah and Steve Wilson who hosted prior to the summer break.

Our next coffee morning is on September 7th at the home of Nel and Rex Peries, Chez Onze, The Green, IP6 9JX, starting at 10.30am. Everyone very welcome to come and enjoy a coffee, some cake and a chat.

Thank you so much to Mike and Gill who cleaned for us prior to the last service. The church wildlife had done their utmost to make it a challenge and Mike and Gill did a sterling job to make it all look fresh and inviting. The summer months are difficult until hibernation of the bats, but the spiders and mice are ever present.

We are short of a cleaner again for September's service, so if anyone would like to offer we would be most appreciative. It is understandable why we have fewer volunteers this year but if no one comes forward it is down to the Churchwardens.

Our next church service is on Sunday 9th September at 11.00am, this will be a family service with communion, led by Canon Clare Sanders. Everyone is welcome.

Linda Pollard

CLOPTON

Starting in September, there will be a change in service times. On the second Sunday at 11.00am the Family Service will be Lay led. The 9.30am Holy Communion will now be on the fourth Sunday of the month.



Our Harvest Festival will be on 23rd September. Come and join us at 9.00am for bacon butties before the service.

Other events in September are:

5th - Hobbies morning 10.00am until noon. Come and see how our poppies are growing!

8th - Church Ride and Stride from 9.00am to 5.00pm. If you can ride for Clopton or can spare an hour to sit in the church to welcome riders, please let me know.

19th - Coffee Morning 10.00am until noon in the Village Hall. You will be given a warm welcome. It will be hosted by Julie Brand.

29th September Clopton Quiz at the Village Hall. 7.30pm start, teams of six. £6 per person includes light supper. Bring own drinks. Book on 01473 737417

We send our good wishes to those starting school, moving to a new school or starting at college, university or beginning an apprenticeship. Work hard!

Doris Main

OTLEY

In August the Sunday Times was asking readers to nominate their 'best places to live' in the countryside and, while staying in Somerset, I saw that Cathy Svendsen had written in about Otley, Suffolk - "I belong to a book club that meets in the pub, and we play poker there. There are bowls and gardening clubs, drama society, Cubs and Scouts, and a school.". Fantastic - we all know it, and it was great to see it in a national newspaper.

The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust 'Ride and Stride' will be taking place on 8th September so we hope to have a number of cyclists, and maybe some walkers, visiting our church. The Village Show usually takes place on the same day and we are sorry there will not be one this year, but hopefully - with the help of some new keen volunteers - it will return next year.

We shall be holding a coffee morning, with a draw, here at Church House on Friday 28th September for Macmillan Cancer Support as part of the World's



Biggest Coffee Morning. This is our fifteenth year and has always attracted wonderful support, so we shall look forward to welcoming you again. Last year over £27.5m was raised from thousands of coffee mornings around the world, an amazing result, but the funds we raise are spent in Suffolk.

The next monthly coffee morning will be held on Thursday 13th September at 9 Spring Park, the home of Ruth and Jonathan Farnhill, and Ruth will be glad to see you there. It is another opportunity to meet up.

We are sad to hear that Joan Lane has died suddenly at the age of 96, at the end of a lovely day out at Wimpole Hall with the Friendship Club. She was born here, an Otley girl, and was the oldest resident of the village. We shall miss her - her warm smile and her attendance at most village events - and send our sincere condolences to her family. Her funeral will take place at 1 o'clock on Friday 7th September at the church.

Finally, we send best wishes to everybody starting at new schools and colleges, but particularly at Otley school with its new head teacher Mr Benstock, and new head of school Mrs Baker-Daniels. Good luck to everyone.

Rose Rogerson

Village Diary:

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|--|
| 3rd Sept. | Parish Council | - Public consultation of Suffolk Coastal District Local Plan |
| 5th Sept. | Gardening Club | - Graeme Proctor, Winter Pruning |
| 6th Sept. | Friendship Club | - Sue Montgomery, Flowers |
| 16th Sept. | Messy Church | - Messy Welcome, adults and children |
| 20th Sept. | Friendship Club | - Barbecue at Suncroft |
| 27th Sept. | Community Lunch | at The White Hart |

Church Flowers: Rose Rogerson/Sue Montgomery

Church Cleaning: Pauline Crowley/Ruth Farnhill

Otley & District Gardening Club

My last report for the Gardening Club was in July, when I declared that our Fete ("Manic Marbles!") appearance would conclude the Gardening Club 'action' for the 2017-18 season - well, not quite!

After the successful and very simple but cleverly-devised game of family skill run by Issy and her Fete stall team (Chairman again absent!), we decided to celebrate the hot summer weather in August with a Gardening Club Barbecue (courtesy of Sue and David Montgomery, who very kindly "loaned" us their lovely garden for the afternoon of Saturday the 11th).

Sophisticated salads and delicious desserts were brought, burgers, sausages and chicken were barbecued, and a generally fine time was enjoyed by nearly 40 of us. The sunny and pleasantly warm weather certainly helped things go with a swing, and our hungry horticulturalists cheerfully demolished everything edible bar the plants!

That really is it now for the Gardening Club until - whoops! we're starting again on Wednesday 5th September (note: special concession of Monday 3rd to the Parish Council Open Meeting) when we've got Crown Nursery's Graeme Proctor kicking the 2018-19 season off with a timely session on "Winter Pruning".

With a half-dozen more monthly speakers lined up, on topics ranging from "Bulbs Galore" through "Practical Floral Craft" to "Gardening for Wildlife", we think we've got a very interesting 2018-19 meetings season in store.

New members and occasional visitors are always welcome.

The Reluctant Gardener

OUR FASCINATING LANGUAGE

The first beds mass-produced in England were made with straw mattresses held by criss-crossed ropes attached to the bed frames. Eventually the ropes would slacken off and the mattresses would become uncomfortable. To overcome this all beds were sold with an iron tool, similar to a large clothes peg, which was used to wind the ropes tighter whenever they became loose. Therefore, to ensure that a person 'sleeps tight' they would have to remember to tighten their mattress ropes to have a more comfortable bed to sleep in.



"Perhaps you would like to try something a little firmer Madam?"

SWILLAND

I was away for the August coffee morning, but I gather it was well attended, hosted in the church by Andy and Shirley. The next one is on 1st September at my house, Red Court, Swilland, from 10.00 a.m.

The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride will take place in 8th September from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00p.m. Sponsor forms are available in the church or from me if you would like to take part. The church will be manned with refreshments available.

Our Harvest Festival will be on 16th September at 11.00a.m. The church will be decorated on the Saturday. Any help will be most welcome. Do come and join us for the service.

Ann Kent

Flower rota:

2nd September

Ann Kent

9th - 16th September

Gill Reidy

23rd – 30th September

Jackie Williams

RUSSELL LING REPORTS

This month has been one long heatwave with temperatures mainly in the high 20 c and on one occasion at least it reached 35 c. The end of July culminated in severe thunderstorms with a rainfall of one inch which reduced the heat for a few days. Total rainfall for the month was 1.60 inches.

The binder and combine are all inventions of the 20th century, previously to that the corn was cut with a sickle and then later with a scythe. The harvest at that time was "Taken" as it was known by the farmworkers. The head man would negotiate a price with the farmer to cut, cart and stack all the grain to be harvested on the farm for a set price to be paid when completed. The men would be paid a flat rate while the harvest took place which would be deducted from the agreed price at the finish. Depending on the weather a quick harvest would favour the farmworkers, a slow one less so.

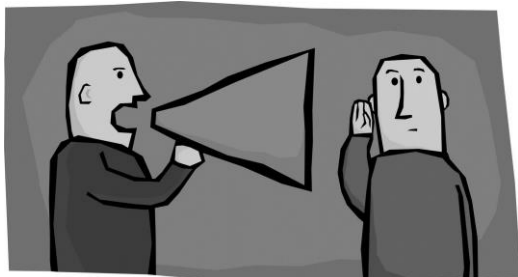
The Anglo-American scythe favoured by farmworkers was the heaviest made, which gave it more impetus when cutting grass and corn. The length of the blade was 35 inches and it was fitted with a cradle in order to deposit the cut corn into rows. The cradle consisted of four to five light wooden fingers above the blade and parallel to it. Work started early and continued up until 9.00pm, the men would follow one another round the field so it was important that a regular rhythm was used by all. The blades of the scythes had to be sharpened on a regular basis and the men carried a whetstone rub in a pouch fixed to their belt for this very purpose. The rows of wheat were then gathered up and bound into sheaves by using about four lengths of wheat straws. The ends of these straws were then twisted round, and the ear end was tucked under to hold it from coming undone. This work was mainly carried out by the wives of the farmworkers. The sheaves then had to be made into shocks this was to allow the wheat ears to fully mature and to dry out if they got wet. Barley was always cut and carted loose as it was easier to manage this way.

Harvest was the time when the farmworkers were able to make extra money to buy some of the essential articles such as cloths which his weekly wage would not cover.

HARD OF HEARING

During the First World War, on our road all of us would congregate on the corner. No matter how serious the situation was, there always seemed to be a funny side to it.

Where we were, there was a chap who was a little deaf. A hundred yards from where we congregated, a man kept a horse and used to feed it whole mangels*. Every time the horse dropped a mangel back in the manger it made a dull thump, and the deaf man would say 'Oh aye there goes another 'ole bomb'. As the horse continued eating his tea, dropping mangels at regular intervals, he would declare 'My hut if they don't wholly bring a load'. As we yokels knew what the 'explosions' really were, we got quite a kick out of them 'ole bombs!



One time, someone kidded the old man, or horsed him up as we used to say, that the object flying over the Church was a submarine. He at once ran down to the policeman's house to tell him. The policeman was out so the old man told the policeman's

wife about the submarine flying over the Church. Later Mr Hovells, the policeman, said he wished he'd been at home as he would probably never have a chance to see one again!

**like a sugar beet*

The Old Timer
Otley News March 1973

“SOME PEOPLE TRY TO BE TALL BY CUTTING OFF THE HEADS OF OTHERS”

The issue of bullying is one we read about everyday - whether it be cyber bullying and abuse of social media or behaviour which is threatening-verbal or physical. It used to be that bullying was something we thought only happened in public schools, but now we know differently, it can happen anywhere and it can really hurt.....

Most of us encounter adult bullies at certain points in our lives. An adult bully may come across as aggressive, demanding and domineering. However, with an astute approach and assertive communication you can turn aggression into respect.

Keep your Distance and Keep your Options Open

Not all adult bullies are worth tangling with. When dealing with a road rage driver or a hostile neighbour, or an aggressive work colleague - keep a healthy distance and avoid engagement unless you absolutely have to.

Keep your Cool and Avoid being Reactive

Bullies win when you're upset. Keep calm, the less reactive you are to provocations the more you can use better judgement to handle the situation.

You have the right to say “no” without feeling guilty.

You have the right to have opinions different than others.

You have the right to create your own happy and healthy life.

For more help and advice go to www.bullying.co.uk

Children's Corner



Messy Welcome

A fun event for adults and children together,
involving, singing, stories and
sharing food based on the story of the lost
Son.



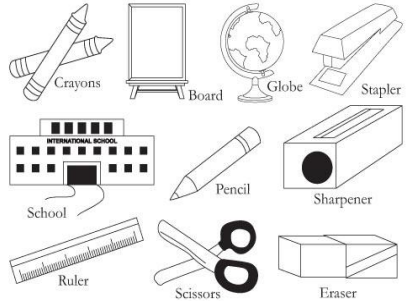
Otley Village Hall

Sunday 16th September, 3pm to 4.30pm
All Welcome.

If you'd like to come, please let us
know names of adults and children so
we can get the catering right.
Email: mark@creSSwell.on
£1 per family, suggested donation.



Word Search Puzzle **School**

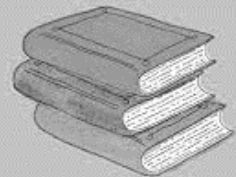


Rain



There are holes in the sky
Where the rain
gets in
But they're ever so small
That's why rain is thin.

Why did the
student eat his
homework?



*Because the teacher told
him it was a piece of cake!*

SMILE LINES

Only in Britain – Complaints to Councils:

Here are extracts from letters written by council tenants:

1. I wish to report that tiles are missing from the outside toilet roof. I thinks it was bad wind the other day that blew them off.
2. My lavatory seat is cracked, where do I stand?
3. The toilet is blocked and we cannot bath the children until it is cleared.
4. Our kitchen floor is damp. We have two children and would like a third so please send someone round to do something about it.
5. I am writing on behalf of my sink, which is coming away from the wall.
6. Will you please send someone to mend the garden path. My wife tripped and fell on it yesterday and now she is pregnant.
7. 50% of the walls are damp, 50% have crumbling plaster and 50% are just plain flithy.
8. Our lavatory seat is broken in half and now is in three pieces.



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