"POEM FOR THE MONTH"

My Boy Jack, by Rudyard Kipling

"Have you news of my boy Jack?" Not this tide. "When d'you think that he'll come back?"

Not with this wind blowing, and this tide.

"Has any one else had word of him?" Not this tide.

For what is sunk will hardly swim, Not with this wind blowing, and this tide.

"Oh, dear, what comfort can I find?" None this tide, Nor any tide, Except he did not shame his kind Not even with that wind blowing, and that tide.

Then hold your head up all the more, This tide, And every tide; Because he was the son you bore, And gave to that wind blowing and that tide!



John Kipling was the only son of the author Rudyard Kipling. He was killed in September 1915 at the Battle of Loos whilst serving with the British Army during the First World War, six weeks after his 18th birthday.

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES ASHBOCKING

Although it was a wet and dreary morning on the day of Ashbocking's Harvest Festival the church looked beautiful. We had an array of fruit and vegetables on display along with flowers, pumpkins and lovely pew ends. We thank Otley and other churches in the benefice for passing on their harvest decorations. I believe some of them, especially the harvest bread had done the rounds so it was good to feel the essence of sharing between churches. Thank you to all who contributed produce and dried goods and to the flower arrangers too.

A good quantity of fruit and vegetables were taken to Witnesham Nursing Home and the dried and tinned food stuffs were donated to FIND. Thanks to all who gave so generously, it was greatly appreciated.

The service was enjoyed by all, especially the interviews on the farming year and the pictures drawn by the Taplin children. Thank you to Adine for her sausage rolls which smelled delicious and tasted even better and were enjoyed by the many who stayed for refreshments after the service.

Our next service is on 11th November which is the Remembrance Service, this year celebrating the centenary of the end of WW1. **Please note, the service starts promptly at 10:50 to accommodate the two-minute silence at 11:00.**

The next coffee morning at Ashbocking is on Friday the 2nd November at Stephanie Andrews-Pearce home, The Mead, The Green Ashbocking, starting at 10:30. Everyone is welcome. It was lovely to welcome David and Tess from Otley and Sam Salter from Swilland to our last coffee morning and we enjoyed visiting Otley for their coffee morning. Another example of friendship and sharing between parishes.

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The Bible group has started again this autumn after the summer break and we are studying the Creeds. We had very good discussion at the first meeting and look forward to meetings in November on Wednesday 14th and 28th, starting at 7:30pm at Hawthorns, The Green. This group is open to anyone who wishes to explore Christian belief.

The Knitting and Stitching Club has also started up again after the summer and the next meeting is on Monday 5th November at 10:00am. This is at Hawthorns, The Green and is open to anyone wanting to finish that long forgotten project or is looking to start another. Some of us are making cushions and knee blankets for the church. Most of all we enjoy a chat together and a cup of coffee with friends. Do Join us.

We have a Churchyard clear up organised for Saturday 3rd November between 10:00am and 12:00 noon. Please come and help gather leaves, trim hedges etc. Bring your own tools please, obviously the more help we have the quicker the job is done. Refreshments will be available. *Linda Pollard*

Church Cleaning Nel and Rex Peries

CLOPTON

The Hobbies Morning will be at the church on November 7th so that we can prepare the church ready for our Poppy Festival of Remembrance. We shall meet from 10am onwards and everyone is welcome to come and help prepare the displays.

On Thursday 8th November at 10.55am Lt. Com. R. Becker will be coming to conduct a short Act of Remembrance at the grave of Leading Stoker Noah Smy, His is the only WW1 grave in the churchyard. Across the county there are 1,332 Great War graves in 248 churchyards and all these will be visited at the same time on 8th November by representatives from the Royal British Legion. It is hoped that as many people as possible will come and join in this event. Contact us if you need a lift to the church.



Our Poppy Festival of Remembrance will be open at the church from 10am until 4pm from 8th until 11th November. There will be displays of poppies and items of interest about WW1 and refreshments each day.

On Sunday 11th at 10.50am there will be an Act of Remembrance led by Jane Wood. After a break for refreshments **Peter Day**, keyboard, will be leading a 'Singalong' of well known WW1 songs. We do hope that lots of people will come along and join in this special event. All donations from the four days will be given to the Royal British Legion.

For the past few years the Remembrance Service has been held at the 493rd Bomb. Group American Memorial off Snipe Farm Road. This year, as it is one hundred years since the end of the Great War, we were asked if the service could be in the church. We do hope that for this special year people will join us at the church. The wreaths will be laid at the American Memorial after the service.

The November Coffee Morning will be on Wednesday 21st November from 10am until noon and will be hosted in the Village Hall by Penny Moon. Doris Main

OTLEY

It was very good to see the Cubs and Beavers on parade with their banners at Harvest Festival, but the Scouts were away at camp. During the service James interviewed Russell about his life in farming, the changes he has seen, and the effects global warming is having on the crops. FFY's doorstep collection of tins and packets, huge pile of goodies, was on display. The fresh produce has been taken to FIND in Ipswich for distribution to families there. The church was beautifully decorated with autumn flowers and berries, and the collection of £190-26 has been sent to Farm Africa.

The next big service will be on Remembrance Sunday, at the War Memorial starting at 10.50am, on 11th November, the exact date of the signing of the Armistice 100 years ago marking the end of World War I. Church bells will be rung throughout the country as they were that day, and Otley will be no exception.

The previous evening, 10th November, The Otley Players are producing "Suffragettes and Soldiers", a show of songs and sketches and also a quiz, commemorating the end of the First World War and Votes for Women, with a WWI inspired meal. This is sure to be of their usual high standard and tickets costing £12-50, in aid of the Lighthouse Appeal, are available from Joan Parish tel. 01473 890715.

Thank you to everybody who supported our Macmillan Coffee Morning at the end of September. We raised £610, an amazing result and a record for us, all from Otley. This included generous donations from people who couldn't attend and I do thank everybody - again most sincerely. The money will be spent on cancer care in Suffolk.

The next monthly coffee morning will be held on Thursday 8th November at Windmill, 36 Church Road, the home of Fred and Jane Woods, where you will receive a warm welcome.

The Church Christmas Draw will take place on Saturday 8th December. Tickets are now available and can be bought from magazine distributers, Ruth Farnhill and Otley Village Stores. All prizes to Ruth Farnhill 9, Spring Park by December 7th. If any local businesses would like to donate a prize we would be most grateful. On the day, doors will be open from 10am and the actual tickets will be drawn at 11am.

We send our condolences to the families of Stephen Carter and Gordon Runnacles who both died in September - to Millie Carter and her daughters and grandchildren, and to Jean Runnacles and her family. Gordon had lived and farmed in Otley all his life. We also send our sympathy to the family of Janet Farrow who was the caretaker of the church for many years and continued to be a great supporter.

Rose Rogerson

Village Diary for October:

1st Nov.	Friendship Club - card making
3rd Nov.	Fireworks Evening, with hot dogs and soup @ 6.30pm
5th Nov.	Gardening Club "Plants for Winter Interest"
10th Nov.	TOPS-Suffragettes and Soldiers entertainment and
	dinner
15th Nov.	Friendship Club - quiz
22nd Nov.	Community Lunch at The White Hart
8th Dec.	Christmas Draw and coffee morning 10.00am
Church flow	vers: Ruth Farnhill/Advent

Otley & District Gardening Club

The trees were still hanging on to most of their leaves as we gardeners assembled for our 1st October club meeting, with daytime temperatures still very pleasant while the evening chill gave us a timely reminder that autumn is here at last. This is the season to buy your snowdrop, tulip and narcissus bulbs, and example of these and a myriad more types of bulb for every situation and season were pictured and described by Matthew Long of Riverside Bulbs, a specialist mainly tulip bulb supplier based in Monks Eleigh.

Matthew crammed enough varieties, colours and forms into his hourlong talk to send this reluctant gardener's head spinning, and brought along a large array of examples for bulb-aholics to purchase at favourable prices. November's meeting is sure to go with a bang - it's on the 5th - as perennial favourite speaker and regular BBC Radio Suffolk gardening advisor Matthew Tanton Brown returns to brighten up our gardens with "Plants for Winter Interest".

The Reluctant Gardener

Roger Osborne open the School's new hall

We have had a very exciting few weeks! Did you see the Ipswich Star or EADT coverage of the Grand Opening of the new hall in Otley? The event was very well attended and it was wonderful to meet with and chat to pupils and staff from the past. I was very pleased to welcome members of the local community and villagers to help us celebrate this exciting venture. The PTA worked extremely hard to raise money with a wonderful array of

refreshments.

The Head is in the middle, Ian Liddell on the left and Roger Osborne on the right.

Ex Ipswich Town Football Club player Roger Osborne paid a visit to his old primary school to officially open the new school hall and pre-school building.



Earlier this month we were proud to raise £145 for the Jeans for Genes charity, supporting families of children with genetic disorders. The school staff would like to extend our thanks to all the parents who contributed towards this cause.

Harvest celebrations happened this month and we are very grateful for all the kind donations. The children produced some fantastic poems, artwork and shared some Harvest songs. It was a very positive experience everyone.

Our schools are able to receive money from Easy Fundraising; a cashback scheme for shopping online. If you would like to support our schools whilst shopping online, please use Easy Fundraising to raise money. With Christmas only 3 months away now... we are sure you will be starting to buy more in preparation. Please visit https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/

The schools will be hosting two open mornings – Witnesham Primary School Open morning is on Thursday 15th November. Otley Primary School Open Morning is on Friday 23rd November. Please come along and visit us to see the fantastic work happening in our schools. If you are a parent considering either of our schools as an option for your children and would like more information, please contact ad.witnesham.p@talk21.com or ad.otley.p@talk21.com

Richard Benstock, Executive Headteacher

SWILLAND

Our Harvest Festival in September was well attended and the church beautifully decorated with flowers, bread, fruit, vegetables, hops and little sheaves of wheat and barley. There was question and answer time about the farming year. The produce was taken to Witnesham Nursing Home. They were very pleased to have it.

Our Remembrance Day service will be at our war memorial at 12.15pm on 11th November. As it is the hundredth anniversary of the end of the Great War it would be good if a lot of people came.

The coffee morning on 3rd November will be at Gina Wilden's house. Ann Kent

Flower rota:

4th – 11th November 18th – 25th November

Ann Kent Margo Barker

Our Church is a focal point in our small village. Which we hope to make it more compatible with not only church worship but with community events and celebrations. To do so we need better facilities to include a kitchen/toilet extension to blend with the existing building.



For that, we need to raise a large sum of money. We are hoping to manage that task with appeals to various charities but we also have to match possible donations with funding we, ourselves, raise. One way to support this aim is through our Church Christmas Draw. Tickets

are now available to sell. This year they are 50p a ticket. £2.50 a book of five. I have distributed books to our regular sellers. If anyone else can sell some, please contact Ann Kent 785262. The draw will held this year in Witnesham Village Hall on 15th December between 12noon and 2 pm, with a soup and filled rolls lunch, book sales, cake

and produce stalls, etc. We are also appealing to you all for any prizes you can offer for the draw. These might consist of goods or services however large or small. There will be acknowledgement of any commercial donor organisations at the time of the draw giving you a small measure of exposure in terms of advertising locally.

If you would be willing to help us in our task please would you just email, text or telephone Brian Williams, Church Warden on 07768285670 or <u>bfwdent@btinternet.com</u> and I will arrange to pick up your prize offering. Brian Williams

Unusual Sightings

Swilland- The white sparrow has been seen some more in a small flock of sparrows that range Church Lane and environs in Swilland so it hasn't fallen foul of a hawk as yet but anyone who sees it in the next few weeks please keep us up to date by telling either Ann Kent or Brian Williams.

Otley- With reference to your unusual sightings in Otley feature, I thought I would share with you my personal favourite 'bird'. Whilst it doesn't quite flap its wings around it does represent a splendid sight in the sky especially just around dusk and into the early night sky. It also has the unique feature that its appearance can be predicted down to almost the nearest second, more reliable that any of our feathery friends. If you haven't guessed what I am talking about it's the International Space Station one of the most impressive endeavours ever attempted by mankind. A product of international collaboration, technology and a lot of money! Twice a month it makes its appearance, a regular visitor speeding across our sky at around 230 miles above Otley and travelling about 17,000 mph.

So how do you spot it? First you need to know when it is due to be visible to us in the northern latitudes, check out the Heavens-Above.com website it gives you precise details of its orbit and details of the visible passes based on your location, it even shows where it is at any given moment. The sky must be clear! At the exact appointed time it will appear from the western horizon a faint dot of light to start with growing into a brighter light at the overhead and then fading away as it tracks east ward eventually disappearing. Unlike aircraft lights which generally flash, the ISS is a constant light in the sky, lit up by virtue of the setting sun reflecting off its metal surfaces and many solar panels. On a good pass it can be very bright and sometimes you can see it in broad daylight. Another difference from the aircraft is that it makes no noise! listen out for that. Whilst you're waiting for it to appear you may even spot other pieces of space hardware particularly satellites travelling from south to north or vice versa again illuminated by the Sun's rays although much dimmer than the ISS.

Something to think about when you view it so high and bright in the sky, do you realise there are tiny human beings inside waving at you, sometimes they might even be hanging on to the outside that's one hell of a ride! *Chris Taylor, Otley*

RUSSELL LING REPORTS

September has remained warm with just enough rain to keep the vegetables growing, apart from that there is very little that I can say about it. Rainfall has again been low with just 1.20 inches.

At the end of harvest a new farming year begins on the 28th September Michaelmas day, this was the date that tenant farmers paid their rent and farmworkers could move to another employer if they wished. It was much easier to move in the past as most farm workers lived in tied cottages and it merely required a horse and waggon to transport their belongings to their new home provided that they had acquired another position to go to.

The first essential work to be carried out after harvest was ploughing and preparing the soil for drilling autumn crops. Today the implement most used is a reversible or turnover plough which turns the soil over the same way when ploughing in both directions thus creating a level field which is essential for combining. Previous to this in the horse age ploughs only had mouldboards which turned the soil in one direction only which meant that a system of stetch ploughing had to be undertaken. Ploughs were pulled by two horses one of which walked in the furrow and the other on the land and the horseman controlled them from the rear with a line attached to the bridle.

Markers were placed at each end of the field about twenty five yards apart and it was essential that these distances were accurate. A fleet furrow was drawn from one marker to the next and on the return the plough would turn another fleet furrow away leaving no soil unturned. On the next bout these furrows would be undercut to create a top so that all the soil was ploughed. The top would then be ploughed around until it was halfway to the next one and the last furrow was again left fleet, this was called a stetch. The same process would apply with the next marker until the furrows met. At this point it was essential that the two furrows were parallel so that on the last pass one would undercut the other giving a finish of a narrow open furrow. In following years it was only necessary to turn the first furrow into the previous year's open furrow in order to make a top. After the stetch work was finished the headlands had to be ploughed, one year it was ploughed away from the headland and the next towards it.

Ploughing was a very skilled undertaking and in the past farm workers would on a Sunday inspect their fellow workers ploughing skills and if any mistakes were spotted the person responsible was well and truly made a figure of fun.



Children's Corner

Messy Church Day At Otley

On Sunday 16th September 20 children plus parents joined together at Otley Village Hall for Messy Church which was based on the theme of 'Messy Welcome'. There were a variety of activities to suit children of all ages that included baking biscuits, lollypop stick decorations, painted handprint banner, decorating cup cakes and a treasure hunt around the playground. After the activities we enjoyed some singing and a story before having tea together. Tea was a selection of yummy cheese, jam and ham sandwiches followed by cakes.

The Messy Church sessions run from 3pm to 4.30pm and a £1 per family donation is suggested. If you are interested in coming along to future Messy Church sessions we would love to see you. Please contact Mark Cresswell on <u>mark@cresswell.onl</u>

On Saturday 15th December there will be a Messy Christmas Holiday Club at Grundisburgh Village Hall between 10am and 3pm for school age children without their parents!! There will be games, activities, craft, story and singing and of course some food. There is also an option for the under fives to come along with their parents between 1pm and 3pm to enjoy the fun too. This is the only Messy Church session that has to be booked in advance so please contact Mark for further information. The Messy Church Team



Hasketon Village Hall Sunday 18th November, 3pm to 4.30pm

Che Ches

If you'd like to come, **please** let us know names of adults and children so we can get the catering right. Email: <u>mark@cresswellon!</u> El per family suggested donation. What do you call a duck who likes watching fireworks? A firequacker!

What do you get if you cross a stegosaurus with a firework? Dino-mite



What was Guy Fawkes' favourite meal?

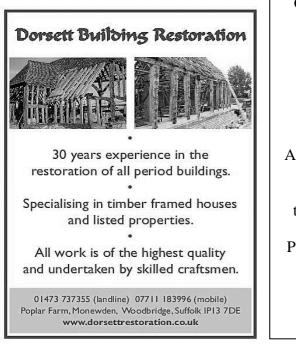
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The Pub is the Hart of the Village...





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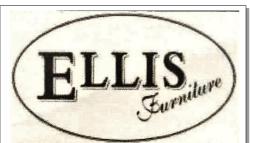
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5

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