

November 2013

Sunday 3rd November

9.30 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Family Service
6.30 pm Service for All Souls

All Saints

Swilland
Otley
Otley

Sunday 10th November

11.00 am Remembrance Day Service
10.50 am Remembrance Day Service
10.45 am Remembrance Day Service
10.45 am Remembrance Day Service

Remembrance Sunday

Ashbocking
Debach USAF war memorial
Otley village war memorial
Swilland

Sunday 17th November

9.30 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Family Service

2nd Sunday before Advent

Otley
Swilland

Sunday 24th November

11.00 am Family Service
6.30 pm Evensong

Christ the King / Stir Up Sunday

Clopton
Otley

Sunday 1st December

9.30 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Advent Praise

Advent Sunday

Swilland
Otley

Other Services in the Benefice (Every Weds. at 10.30am Holy Communion at Culpho)
November 3rd

Grundisburgh 8.00am Holy Communion 11.00am Remembering Service

Hasketon 9.30am Remembering Service

Burgh 9.30am Holy Communion **Boulge** 11.00am Holy Communion

November 10th

Grundisburgh **Hasketon**

8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Remembrance Service

Burgh and Boulge 10.50am Remembrance Service

November 17th

Grundisburgh

Hasketon

Burgh

8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Morning Prayer

9.30am Family Holy
Communion

11.00am Family Holy Communion

Boulge 11.00am Holy Communion

November 24th

Grundisburgh

Hasketon

Burgh

8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Holy Communion 9.30am Morning Prayer

11.00am Family Holy Communion

Sunday Bible Readings

3rd November All Saints

Is 1:10-18; 2 Thess 1:1-12; Lk 19:1-10

10th November Remembrance Sunday

As Set

17th November 2nd SBA

Mal 4:1-2a; 2 Thess 3:6-13; Lk 21:5-19

24th November Stir up Sunday

Jer 23:1-6; Col 1:1-11-20; Lk 23:33-43

Prayer for the month

Love, justice, truth and equality are the guarantees of lasting peace. "My peace I leave you, my peace I give to you." O Lord of peace, may we live in respect of each other, in a spirit of truth and affirmation, rejecting all jealousy, overcoming evil with patience, wiping it away with pardon and bringing in the reign of peace through goodness.

Chaldean Church

HOUSE GROUPS The daytime group meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 2.00pm at Penny Clark's house (Cherry Bank, Otley). The evening group meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 8.00pm at Karin Upson's (16, Spring Park, Otley). New members are always welcome.

FFY

All sessions are 7 to 9pm at Otley Village Hall and are open to all in the benefice. Membership of the youth group is free.

Here is our list of what's coming up in the next few sessions:

6th November - ready steady cook - everyone to taste & choose the winning team

20th November - Christmas crafts & fitness night

4th December - Christmas cooking crafts - open to ideas from the young people

18th December - Christmas party

Please note we will also have the table tennis tables, playstation, football

table etc as well. If anyone has any suggestions please tell me so we can include them in our plans - after all it is your youth club and we want you to have fun.

Michelle Boreham - FFY Youth Leader (tel. 890269)

Benefice Diary of Events

Nov 2nd Coffee morning **Grundisburgh Parish Rooms** 10.30 to 12 noon
Swilland church quiz **Newton Hall Equitation Centre** 7.30pm

Nov 4th Beyond Alpha. A highly successful group which gives us the opportunity to discuss more areas of Christian Faith. Meetings held at **Hasketon Village Hall** from 10:30 - 12:00. See more details elsewhere.

Nov 6th SWAP SHOP – 10.15-11.30am **Grundisburgh Parish Rooms** an opportunity to swap stories, news, toys, veg, fruit, flowers, books, recipes, cakes etc over tea and cake

Nov 6th – “Understanding Dementia” – a workshop in the **Parish Room Grundisburgh** 2.00pm, led by Age UK, for all who work with or care for, or have concern for those with dementia. All are welcome

Nov 7th Meeting at 7.45pm for COSA CWs and Ministry Team

Nov 11th “Giving in Grace” – a diocesan presentation on encouraging generous giving within our parishes – 2.00pm and 7.00pm- take your choice!

Nov 13th- 10.30-12.00 Coffee Morning at **Burgh School Room**

Nov 13th 7.30pm Deanery Synod

Nov 14th- Tiddlywinks Toddler & Parent Group **Grundisburgh Church** 2.30pm

Nov 15th 7.30 pm at **Clopton Church**. Roy Tricker will be giving a talk and showing slides. Followed by Cheese and Wine. Tickets £5 Contact Doris Main Tel 737602 (After Half-term)

Nov 18th Beyond Alpha.

Nov 21st COSA PCC meet in **Clopton VH** 7.30pm

Nov 28th 12.00 noon **Hasketon** Community Lunch in the **Victory Hall**

Nov 28th Tiddlywinks Toddler & Parent Group **Grundisburgh Church** 2.30pm

Nov 30th **Otley** Church annual draw and coffee-morning 10.30am village hall

Dec 1st 6.30pm 'Ad-Venture' - a lively, contemporary look at Advent, through music, song and picture.

St Mary's Church Grundisburgh - All welcome

Dec. 18th at 2.30 Carlford Network Group in the **Grundisburgh Parish Room**. The theme will be "Christmas celebrated elsewhere". All welcome. £1 Donation (for our expenses & charity). People who have lived abroad (or visited at Christmas) who have things to tell. Contact Mollie Bolton 01473-735098

Letter from Clare Sanders

Faith, Hope & Love

When I was at school I struggled with Latin! However, 40 plus years on, what I still remember are the verb patterns for present, imperfect, perfect, pluperfect, future and future perfect. They are inscribed in my brain, almost as much as times tables!

November is the great month of remembering- looking back, beginning with All Saints and All Souls Day- quickly arriving at Guy Fawkes, a remembering of a particular moment in our nation's history and then Remembrance Sunday itself.

Our Christian faith is one that always calls us to look back, in terms of reading and re-reading the story of Jesus and the early Christians and before that, of God and the people of Israel's faith journey in the Old Testament. However, looking back in the Christian faith is always balanced by looking forward in hope to the future, being open to the leading of God's Spirit, but doing so by being fully immersed in the present.

One thing is certain in this world, that nothing ever remains the same, and yet as I type those last few words, I am immediately challenged by the last few words of Chapter 13 of Paul's Letter to the Corinthians- "Meanwhile these three remain, faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love".

Faith, hope and love give us the great trinity of our Christian living. Faith looks back for inspiration and is open to the guiding of God into His future. Hope carries us through many a dark hour, knowing that God is always with us. Love binds all things together and is eternal. Love that we share with one another as human beings, love that fights for justice and right in our world, love that goes to death in the struggle for freedom and in the service of humanity, that love is God at work in us - that love is at the heart of our faith and is the basis of our hope.

May we know the gift that is God - the gift of faith, hope and love, and may those gifts shape our lives.

Clare Sanders

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

CLOPTON

We need to do yet more work on the bells! The sound is too loud in the ringing-chamber so an extra floor has to be installed and other soundproofing measures undertaken. We did not foresee this extra cost but hope that it is not too expensive!

We aim to have a few taster sessions at Clopton Church for people who would like to try bellringing. The first one is on Wednesday 6th November at 7.30 pm and will be led by David Sandford. You don't have to commit to being a ringer - just come along and see how it is

done and talk to the ringers who will be there with David. Tea and coffee provided.

The Ladies Group will meet on Thursday 7th November at 8pm in the village hall. The speaker will talk about 'The History and Work of the Woodland Trust'. Men are also always welcome at the meetings. (We were hoping to change the name of the group to make it sound more inclusive, but have not yet found a suitable alternative.)

Our Remembrance Day Service will be at the American Memorial off Snipe Farm Road. The service starts at 10.50 am and refreshments will be at the Education Centre after the service.

On Friday 15th November at 7.30pm we are having 'An Evening with Roy Tricker'. It promises to be informative and fun. Roy is an excellent speaker. Cheese and wine will be served after the talk. Tickets are £5. Please telephone me on 737602 or Beryl on 735375 to reserve tickets.

The November coffee-morning is on Wednesday 20th November between 10am and noon in the village hall. It will be hosted by Penny Moon and Sue Emmerson.

Doris Main

Flowers for November
Cleaning for November

Doris Main
Audrey & Chris Barker

OTLEY

The Harvest Festival service at Otley was well attended, and it included several young families, which was good to see. The children had met the previous day for a Messy Church session, making bread, learning about the harvest and doing artwork, and they also paid a visit to Gull Farm. During the service they were involved in taking up the gifts of garden produce and vegetables as

usual, but also bowls of wheat, seeds, topsoil and even a shepherd's crook. Also taking part were farmers from the village, Russell and Anthony Ling and Jimmy Wightman. As a result of the collection, £237-87 was sent to Farm Africa, and the produce was distributed - the perishable fruit and vegetables to the Salvation Army hostel in Ipswich, and the non-perishable goods to FIND, all very gratefully received. After the service there was a lunch at the village hall.

The Christmas Draw and coffee-morning, for church funds, will take place earlier than usual, 30th November, and tickets will be circulating in the village soon. We shall also be grateful for some draw prizes.

The Remembrance Day service will take place at the war memorial opposite the village shop on Sunday 10th November. Please note that it will start at 10.45am so that we can observe the two minute silence at 11 o'clock.

The next drop-in coffee morning will be held on Thursday 14th November at Field View, Helmingham Road, the home of Peter and Gerry Senior, who will be very pleased to welcome you.

The Gardening Club meets again on 4th November, when Matthew Tanton-Brown will be speaking about 'Plants for Problem Places'. Matthew is well known here and is a knowledgeable and interesting speaker.

TOPS will be producing their next drama-dinner "Who Killed the Holiday Rep?" on 22nd and 23rd November, tickets £12-50 each from Richard Brook tel. 890851.

The Christmas dinner/dance organised by the Community Council will be held on Saturday 7th December. Tickets cost £20 per person, to include a welcome drink, three course meal and

Christmas disco. To book, please phone Penny Sunaway tel. 890257, or pop in to the Otley Village Store.

The Friendship Club is now collecting items such as clothes, handbags and bedding (not duvets or pillows) in good condition which will be forwarded to Third World countries. The club receives 50p per kg. from RagBag, the handling company, and has already raised £135. To contribute items, please contact Wendy Marshall at 10 Newlands (tel. 892588) or take them to a meeting of the club.

If anybody still wants Christmas cards from the Otley Church Preservation Trust, this is the last reminder before Tess Papworth sends the order in to the printers, so please ring her asap, tel. 890091.

Rose Rogerson

Village diary

- 7th Nov. Friendship Club - tea party at Bowerfield House, Mrs Hilton
9th Nov. Fireworks Evening 7.0 for 7.30pm
21st Nov. Friendship Club - Mr Russell Ling
22nd/23rd Nov. "Who Killed the Holiday Rep?" drama/dinner TOPS
30th Nov. Grand Draw and coffee morning - St Mary's PCC
30th Nov./1st Dec. "A Christmas Carol" puppet show by Micawber Theatre Co, Callum Hale and friends
7th Dec. Christmas dinner dance - Community Council

Church flowers:

Tessa Brown/Joan Parish

Church cleaning:

Angela Treloar

Brasses:

Betty David

Otley Church Sidespersons Rota

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| 3 rd Nov. | 11.00am Family Service | Ruth Farnhill |
| | 6.30pm All Souls | Penny Clark |
| 10 th Nov. | 11.00am Rem. Sunday | War Memorial |
| 17 th Nov. | 9.30am Holy Communion | Jane Woods |

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thank you to everybody who supported our coffee-morning for Macmillan Cancer Support - our tenth year. 45 people attended, others sent donations, and we raised £380, a wonderful result for a small event. As a matter of interest, last year 115,000 people hosted coffee mornings and £15m was raised. This year, although still added to The World's Biggest Coffee Morning, the proceeds from our event have been sent to the Woodbridge committee who are raising money to fund a community cancer nurse specialist locally, and she has already been appointed.

We were delighted to welcome Juliet Bellfield, chairman of the Woodbridge committee, and her husband Peter, David Dow, the treasurer, and Jenny (ex residents of Clopton), and Jenny Shaw of Grundisburgh who has started a 'befriending' service for patients home from hospital, and who spoke about her work.

Thank you, too, to our helpers - Ann Baker, Helen Jay and Trudie Stratford who kept the coffee flowing, and to Audrey Farley who ran the draw. All of you contributed to the success of the day. The St Mary's Handbell Ringers have also chosen Macmillan Cancer Support as their charity this year.

Rose Rogerson

1st Otley Scouts

What a wonderful summer and this year was the County Moot Camp. As I'm sure everyone knows Moot is an old word for meeting, thus we have Moot Halls or Meeting Halls, and the County Moot Camp is held every four years or thereabouts and is for all the Scouts, Guides and Leaders in the County to have a wonderful time together – bonding, I believe, is the term. This year the camp was held at the Bentwaters airbase, a super place with copious room for everyone to camp without being cramped. We had nearly one thousand youngsters plus Leaders and because of the large

number the camp was split into subcamps, each one named after an aircraft. We were on the Lightning subcamp, which was led by our own Scout Leader, Chas.

Arnaud agreed to be our chef once more and his wonderful culinary skills filled our cook tent with odours that made us salivate like Labradors, except for one or two cases, who were more like St. Bernards – it's the shaking of the head that's so messy.

The activities were varied and exciting. Just to name a few, there were abseil towers, archery, and a trampoline bungee system that allowed people to bounce really high and then spin into somersaults before reminding themselves what they had for breakfast. For the more warlike there was a trebuchet (look the word up as I'm not telling you what it is) which was powerful but not entirely accurate. The missile went for a super distance on one occasion, but not at all in the right direction and ten young Scouts, two Leaders and an ageing helper had a fantastic look of "I do believe I may be about to die" on their faces as it hurtled towards them. Worth seeing. Sometimes it even went backwards!

A highlight of the camp was watching a neighbouring Guide Company trying to put up a toilet tent. For a while I thought they were trying to wear it, but after much guffawing the typical male gallant and chivalrous nature came to the surface and we helped. The weather was kind, the company was super and we enjoyed six days of Scouting bliss.

Two weekends ago we had our Group camp and thirteen Beavers, ten Cubs and six Scouts enjoyed a weekend at Hallowtree Camp Site in Ipswich. We started with orienteering. It truly is a most wondrous thing how easy it is to get lost and be perfectly content - doing things correctly is often so boring. We baked bananas with chocolate chips on an open fire and deep-fried cheese sandwiches dipped in batter - cholesterol here we come. Arnaud's kitchen helped us gain weight again.

My thanks go to all the Leaders and Helpers in the Group who make these things happen, some twenty seven at present, yet I need more if you would like to join in the adventure please contact me or if you are in the shop, speak with Christine. Occasional help is as valuable as regular.

Above all, I thank The Lord for all His love, goodness and the blessings that He has bestowed upon this Group for 38 years. May each Beaver, Cub and Scout come to a knowledge of a wonderful and caring Heavenly Father, who will be with them always, and please pray for Leaders, that they will be helped as they try to set an example in a world that cares less and less for God.

Brian Childs

Ofsted inspect Otley Primary School

With only half a day's notice, Ofsted carried out a full two-day inspection of the School on the 11 and 12 September. I am very pleased to report that the school was awarded a "good" grade across all areas.

The school was last inspected in October 2008, when also awarded a "good", but since then Ofsted have introduced two new inspection frameworks, both of which have been much more vigorous and tough than the previously. To maintain a "good" rating is a real achievement. The official definition of a "good" school is one which "is effective in delivering outcomes that provide well for all its pupils needs. Pupils are well prepared for the next stage of their education."

Quotes from the inspector's report:

"This is a good school"; "Pupils.....make good progress"; "Pupils of all abilities learn rapidly"; "pupils behave well"; "expectations are high across the school"; Pupilsknow that they are expected to do their best"; "pupils feel safe around the school"; "pupils are polite to each other and to adults"; "pupils enjoy being at school"; "leaders evaluate the school's effectiveness accurately"; "partnerships are

helping the school to improve”; “the school works well with parents”; “all (parents)...would recommend the school to another parent”; “leaders (the headteacher, middle leaders and the governing body) work well together”; “the governing body is effective”; “the governing body works closely with staff”; “they (the governors) work well with the headteacher.....they are active in its improvement”.

The full report is available to read online at:

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/124602>

It did highlight four areas to explain why the school is not yet “outstanding”. The school and governing body have accepted these recommendations and have already started work to eliminate them.

Ofsted, quite rightly, has a tough reputation and they leave no stone unturned when carrying out their inspections. However, you have to experience one first hand to realise just how stressful they can be for a school’s staff. I would therefore like to thank all members of staff for their tremendous hard work generally and specifically during the inspection week. They are a great team and focus incredibly hard on achieving the very best for every child in their care. Children only get one chance at a good education and they and their parents have a lot to thank the staff at school for.

I have said on many occasions before that Otley is a good school and deserves all of our support; so it is pleasing that it has been officially recognised as such.

Ian Liddell - Chair of Governors

A chance to remember a loved one at an All Souls service

For the last 2 years we have held a simple but sensitive service around the time of All Saints Day (1st November) to remember loved ones who have died and whose memory is very precious. There have been music, prayers, time for reflection, readings and a sense of peace that I think those who came found helpful. A similar service will be at **6.30pm on Sunday 3rd November in Otley**

Church. We read out the names of those we have been asked to remember. If you would like us to include someone please let either of us know (890264 catherine.beaumont@otleyhall.co.uk or 785251 allthealls@tiscali.co.uk) know.

Catherine Beaumont and Jane Hall

Otley Church Christmas Draw & Coffee Morning

Start your Christmas by coming to our Draw and Coffee Morning which will take place in Otley village hall on Saturday 30th November. Many prizes will be available, topped by the first prize of £50. Your magazine distributor has tickets to sell, and they are also available in the village shop. If you would like to donate a prize please give it to Tess and David Papworth (Tel. 890091)

Nigel Crowley

Clairvoyant Evening

Come and enjoy an evening of clairvoyance with International Psychic Medium RYAN GOODING. Thursday 5th of December, 7.30pm @ Otley Village Hall. Tickets are £10 and all monies raised will go to Otley Under Fives. Please contact Katie Langley 07747 698223 for tickets.

SWILLAND

Quiz

Saturday 2nd November - 7.30 p.m. at Newton Hall Equitation Centre. If you would like to take part please contact Gill Reidy on 785716 or Ann Kent on 785262. The cost is £5 per person (teams of four) to include light refreshments. Please bring your own drinks and glasses. Please arrive by 7.15 so that we can start promptly.

Christmas Draw

Saturday 7th December in Witnesham village hall. Soup, filled rolls and mince pies will be served from 12 noon and the draw will take place at 1 p.m. There will be a cake and preserves stall, a book stall and a gift stall. Tickets are available for sale. Please contact

me if you would like some or can help to sell them. We shall be pleased to receive gifts towards the prize list.

Remembrance Day

Sunday 10th November – the Royal British Legion will join us in church for our service starting at 10.45 a.m.

Churchyard Working Party

Saturday 9th November from 9.30 a.m. - We are extremely grateful to Adrian Ward for keeping our churchyard so tidy. This working party is to attend to gutters, moss on roofs and the extremities of the churchyard and we shall be grateful to anyone who can come and help. Please bring your own tools. We also hope to clean the brasswork in the church. Last year it was a real community day and we achieved a lot.

Ann Kent

Church Flowers

3rd November

Kim Shaw

10th -27th November

Ann Kent

1st – 8th December

(Advent - Greenery only)

Gill Reidy

Rainfall – September

I spoke a little too soon in last month's edition when I said that summer had come to an end; a recovery took place and we have just had a very pleasant autumn. The difference to farming from last year has been very noticeable - haymaking, harvest and autumn-sowing have followed each other with hardly a break and unlike last year, when the wet weather created many difficulties, this year we have finished in record time. I have noticed over the last few years that the spring weather appears to come later and the drier autumns last longer. In my early farming years when most of the drilling took place in the spring, March was the main month for

this. Nowadays it is April or May before we have any sustained period of dry weather, although there are exceptions, as occurred last year.

The rainfall for September remained low - just 1.80 inches. We haven't exceeded 2 inches in one month since March and the total for the year so far only amounts to 16.10 inches.

Russell Ling

DEBENHAM GROUP PRACTICE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

The Debenham Group Practice is looking to recruit young mothers, single parents, senior citizens and those with a long term medical condition to join the Patient Participation Group, meeting quarterly with a member of the Practice staff. It has yet to be decided, but there is may also be an opening for representatives from across the complete patient population to become part of an online Patient Survey Group. What is a Patient Participation Group? - a group of people who work together with their GP Practice to provide:

- Practical support to help patients take more responsibility for their own health.

- To provide a way for patients to make positive suggestions about Debenham Group Practice.

- To discuss particular issues and problems that may have been encountered by patients with the Practice and local hospitals.

The PPG is NOT a forum to complain about the Practice or to vent personal grievances and these should be addressed to the Practice Manager through the official complaints procedure.

Current Group Members are;

Mr Chris Webb – Secretary
The Practice Business Manager
Revd. Graham Noble
Doctor Paddy Fielder

Mrs Jean Housley
Mrs Sue Jacques
Mr Alister Gourlay

Are you interested in joining us? Are you motivated or do you have a special skill to offer?

If so please contact Mrs Jean Housley on the following;
01728 628427 Jbhous1950@btinternet.com

Or Chair of the PPG c/o the Debenham Group Practice

‘Beyond Alpha’ – Autumn 2013 **What does the Bible really say about . . . ?**

The fifth run of this highly successful group gives us the opportunity to discuss more areas of Christian faith at five meetings held at **Hasketon Village Hall** from **10:30 - 12:00**.

Sessions are fortnightly - Monday; Nov 4th, 18th; Dec 2nd.

The meetings will be facilitated by Revd Wendy Gourlay. Tea and coffee will be available. All are welcome, with or without Bible knowledge.

Session Three – November 4th Paul – his character and work - What do we know about him? How was he financed? Who were his companions? Why is his writing controversial?

Session Four – November 18th

The Sanctity of Life – What is the Bible view of Abortion; Suicide; Euthanasia?

Session Five – December 2nd

The Kingdom Parables - What did they mean to the original listeners? What meaning do they have for us? So what is the Kingdom?

If you haven't attended a session yet, why not join us this Autumn?

Enquiries: Paul (Beyond Alpha) on: 738474 or paulwiffen222@btinternet.com

Rural Report – October 2013

Extracts from a monthly newsletter focusing on issues of rural life and farming of relevance to the work of the Church in the diocese.

Information is drawn from organisations connected with the countryside (in its widest sense) within Suffolk and beyond. If more details are needed on any of the topics mentioned, please contact Brian Chester at bc@bcnewslink.com or call 01379 669157

□ The sugar beet 'campaign' (harvest) began on September 20 with beet coming out of the ground in near perfect conditions. No mess and mud is good news for the factory and the farmers who hope to spend less time keeping the roads clean. Negotiations between the NFU and British Sugar on the price to be paid to farmers were completed in the nick of time. The new package recognises changes in commodity markets which have affected the comparative profitability of sugar beet and the difficult growing seasons experienced in recent years.

□ The British Poultry Council, NFU, Red Tractor and some of the UK's biggest retailers and foodservice companies have joined forces to promote the chicken industry and to help promote the Red Tractor mark of quality. A new-look Love Chicken recipe website (www.greatbritishchicken.co.uk), aims to encourage consumers to look out for British poultry meat when out and about shopping.

□ A major new report from the UN's Conference on Trade and Development, subtitled Wake up before it is too late, is calling for 'a rapid and significant shift' away from chemical and energy-intensive farming to 'mosaics of sustainable regenerative production systems that also considerably improve the productivity of small-scale farmers and foster rural development'. The report says that food shortages are caused by poverty and inequity rather than a lack of food, noting that we currently produce enough food for 12-14 billion people.

<http://unctad.org/en/pages/PressRelease.aspx?OriginalVersionID=154>

□ Research carried out by Bright Crop among more than 1500 young people, found that 96 per cent said they would not consider a career in agriculture because they believed that jobs were low paid, boring, dirty, repetitive and old fashioned. www.brightcrop.org.uk

aims to tackle these assumptions by enabling young people (aged 14-18), teachers and parents to explore the wide range of job roles and opportunities in the farming and food supply sector.

□The NFU has issued a fresh call for the agricultural industry to sign up to its Fruit and Veg Pledge. The call comes after new figures for 2012 show that fruit and veg self-sufficiency has fallen to 56 per cent, partly blamed on a combination of poor weather affecting production in 2012 and the knock-on impact this had in reducing the volume of fruit, vegetables and potatoes planted last year.

□Police forces across East Anglia are joining together to tackle the growing problem of hare coursing (once the sport of country parsons), reports the Farmers Weekly. Operation Galileo will see forces in Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire taking strong action against those involved in this illegal activity. They are warning that those who choose to commit the offence could have their vehicles seized and crushed. Suffolk rural crime officer PC Mark Bryant said that 300 incidents of hare coursing had been reported in this county alone last year, a big increase on 2011.

□A new survey by the British Egg Information Service shows that, while 95 per cent of adults can cook at least one egg dish from scratch, only half of today's children can. More than half of the UK's population has to refer to a recipe before boiling an egg and one in four children think that they are cooking when making a sandwich.

SMILE LINES

Don't cross the line

There is a line on the ocean where you lose a day after crossing it. There's also a line on all busy roads, where you can lose a lot more if you cross it.

Purring

Little George was visiting his aunt. He found the cat in a sunny window purring cheerfully. "Oh Auntie, come quick," cried George. "The cat has gone to sleep and left his engine running."

Wife

A Sunday School teacher was teaching how God created everything, including human beings. One little boy seemed especially intent when she explained how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs. Later in the week his mother noticed him lying down as though he were ill, and asked him what was the matter. The little boy explained worriedly: "I have a pain in my side. I think I'm going to have a wife."

Oil

A curate took his rather old car to the garage for an oil change. After the mechanic had briefly inspected under the bonnet he turned to the young man and said: "If I were you I'd keep the oil and change the car."

More real-life notes left for milkmen...

- ~ When you leave my milk, knock on my bedroom window and wake me because I want to turn my mattress and you could give me a hand.
- ~ Please knock. My TV's broken down and I missed Coronation Street last night. Maybe we could talk about what happened over a cup of tea?
- ~ My daughter says she wants a milkshake. Do you do this before you deliver, or do I have to shake it at my end?
- ~ Please send me a form for cheap milk, as I have a baby two months old and did not know about it until a neighbour told me.
- ~ Sorry not to have paid your bill before, but my wife had a baby and I've been carrying it around in my pocket for weeks.
- ~ Milk is needed for the baby. Father is unable to supply it.
- ~ Please leave no milk today. When I say today I mean tomorrow, as I wrote this note yesterday.

Chicken rules

One day a new chicken was introduced to the farm. The duck, who was in charge, showed the new chicken around. "This is where you go to get fed, this is the water trough & that is the coop. Chickens hang out near the fence, us ducks near the pond & the geese near the gate. We're pretty friendly but we keep to our own. Oh, but whatever you do, DO NOT cross that road. You'll never hear the end of it."

St ANDREW
feast day November 30th



The Bible tells us that Andrew and his brother Simon Peter were the very first disciples to follow Jesus. They were fishermen working at their nets when Jesus called them. It was a hard thing to do, to leave everything for an uncertain way of life but Andrew knew that Jesus so special that he had to share this wonderful knowledge with others.

Andrew followed Jesus for the rest of his life. After Jesus' death he travelled widely spreading the message and building the early church. He was arrested for being a follower of Christ and condemned to death on the cross. Legend says that he was crucified on a diagonal cross.

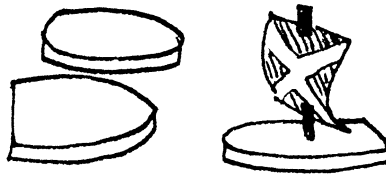
St Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland and his cross is on the Scottish flag which is a white cross on a blue background – the blue is for the sea which seems right for a fisherman.

SAIL AWAY

Andrew and Simon fished with nets from the shore or from small boats. You could make a fishing fleet of small boats and decorate their sails with St Andrew's cross.

You will need a polystyrene box or tray like the ones you see at the fruit shop or supermarket.

Using a bread knife, carefully cut out several different shapes and sizes.



Find a thin stick for the masts (you could use a pencil) and cut out a sail in paper. Thread or stick the sail onto the mast.

How do fish go into business?

They start on a small scale.



What day of the week do fish hate? Frydays.

Why are gold fish orange? The water makes them rusty.

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