

May 2013

Sunday 5th May

9.15 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Family Service

Easter 6 / Rogation

Swilland
Otley

Thursday 9th May

12.00 midday Holy Communion

Ascension Day

Otley

Sunday 12th May

9.15 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Family Service

Easter 7

Clopton
Ashbocking

Sunday 19th May

9.15 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Family Service

Pentecost

Otley
Swilland

Sunday 26th May

9.15 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Family Service
6.30 pm Evening Prayer

Trinity

Ashbocking
Clopton
Otley

Sunday 2nd June

9.15 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Family Service

Trinity 1

Swilland
Otley

HOUSE GROUPS: We have two benefice house groups, to which all are welcome. 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.

Sunday Bible Readings

5th May Easter 6/Rogation

Acts 16: 9-15 John 14: 23-29

12th May Easter 7

Acts 16: 16-34 John 17: 20-end

19th May Pentecost

Acts 2: 1-12 John 14: 8-17

26th May Trinity

Rom. 5: 1-5 John 16:12-15

2nd June Trinity 1

Gal. 1: 11-end Luke 7: 1-10

Prayer for the month

God help my thoughts! They stray from me, setting off on the wildest journeys; when I am at prayer, they run off like naughty children, making trouble.

When I read the Bible, they fly to a distant place, filled with seductions. My thoughts can cross an ocean with a single leap; they can fly from earth to heaven, and back again in a single second. They come to me for a fleeting moment and then away they flee. They slip from my grasp like eels; they swoop hither and hither like swallows in flight.

Dear Christ, who can see into every heart and read every mind, take hold of my thoughts, bring them back to me and clasp me to yourself.

Anon

Reader's reflection

My first attempt at a sermon was highly irregular - Frank Rowell (then rector of Clopton and Otley; yes, just the two) invited me to "say something" on Trinity Sunday at Evensong at Otley. In for a penny, in for a pound, and without any proper study or training, I chose to talk about the Three in One. I have long since forgotten what I said, but God, Frank and the congregation were so encouraging that in due course I applied for reader training.

It wouldn't measure up to today's standards. Although Elizabeth Moore interviewed me at the start, she had not yet written the course that has set

the pattern for readers in this diocese for the last two decades. Over 3 years, I had to write four essays annually on largely academic topics, attempt to digest a huge reading list, and meet a tutor every 6 weeks. Fortunately, my fellow-student (Richard Court, now a priest in Wales, then a bagpipe-playing Brummie working at B.T.) and my tutor (Elizabeth Brooks, now rector of Friston, Knodishall etc., then, as a woman, excluded from ordination) made the essays bearable and the tutorials fun. Elizabeth Moore was tolerant in marking what I wrote, and Frank Rowell, followed by Bruce Wakeling, guided and encouraged me in leading worship and preaching. Others among you were very tolerant and supportive.

Trinity Sunday falls in May this year and will be the last of the great festivals of the Church's annual cycle. The Sundays after Trinity may not have any special badge attached to them, but that seems particularly relevant to my role as a reader. I feel that my discipleship, my trying to follow Christ, do the Father's will and be filled with the Spirit, is about what I do with the ordinary on Monday morning every bit as much as about my preaching or leading worship on Sunday. I am blessed that my job as a lawyer has much to do with the Church of England in Suffolk, but even if it didn't, having other roles during the week enables a reader to complement the role of the priest. What I say wearing my blue scarf on Sunday has to be such that it can be sustained on Monday morning in the office when the phone rings, at a village-hall committee meeting, or at home in the evening in a domestic crisis, and my experiences there can bear directly on what I say the following Sunday.

The Trinity is about the relationship of the Three in the One, each distinct, but all working in the harmony of perfect love. I see readers as having a particular contribution to make in working out how our faith and our ordinary lives, particularly our work and our place in our local communities, relate to each other. I also see all of us, whatever our label in the Church - bishop, cleaner, priest, flower-arranger, reader, bell-ringer, churchwarden, youth-worker, elder, sidesperson, bottom on pew - as being part of the priesthood of all believers, all with a shared mission, each with a ministry that may seem ordinary, but that is unique.

Rogation, when we ask God's blessing on the emerging crops, and Pentecost, when we celebrate the sending of the Spirit, also fall in May.

May God bless us, may Christ lead us, and may the Spirit inspire us each at our unique work in His fields.

James Hall

The ministry of healing

On May 19th at our services in Otley (9.15am) and Swilland (11.00am), we welcome the Rev'd Elizabeth Baxter as our preacher. Elizabeth comes to teach us about the ministry of healing, that she and her husband lead at Holy Rood House in Nth Yorkshire, a centre for health and pastoral care. Please come and make her welcome. She writes:

"I am very much looking forward to visiting the benefice in May. I know this part of the world quite well as my father lives in Suffolk, and I also have friends in the diocese. I will be sharing with you a little about the churches' ministry of healing, because I am coming on behalf of Holy Rood House, in Thirsk, North Yorkshire, which is a healing retreat centre. We have many guests coming to us from both Suffolk and Norfolk. Sometimes when life is difficult we need to get right away from our home and church situation and find a safe place in order to work with those things that feel unsafe in our lives.

As well as keeping an eye on my Dad, who is now in his 90s I also find myself travelling up and down the A1 visiting my four children and eight grandchildren. My husband Stanley and I enjoy being with the community at Holy Rood House too, which is so welcoming – even to us – and we set up the centre back in 1993. I will see you soon – and you are welcome to Holy Rood House any time."

Revd. Elizabeth Baxter

Christian Aid Week

This will be held from 12th to 18th May. Donation envelopes will be delivered to each home prior to this period, and collected by volunteers a few days later. It will greatly benefit Christian Aid if donors also complete the Gift Aid form attached to the envelope.

The family service at Otley on **Sunday May 5th** will also have a Christian Aid theme and Maureen Reynel will be there to talk about the work of FIND, the charity she founded and runs to help homeless and poor people

in and around Ipswich. It is where we take the things given to our foodbanks.

A light lunch, in aid of Christian Aid, will be served at 10 Spring Park on **Tuesday May 14th**, from 12.30 pm. Christian Aid's mission is to 'Help people in poverty out of poverty'. Please give generously to it and to the foodbanks.

Nigel Crowley

FFY (youth group) AGM

Our AGM will be at 6.15 pm on Weds 15th May before the normal FFY session. If you are interested in supporting or being part of the youth group, please come and have your say about what we do. We will elect young people on to our committee. Please ring Michelle Boreham on 890269 with any queries.

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

CLOPTON

The annual meetings were held on 21st March. Beryl Birchmore has resigned from her roles as churchwarden and secretary, but will continue to give help and support until the vacancies are filled. We appreciate all the work that she has done during her five years as churchwarden.

The Ladies group will meet on the second Thursday in May because of the elections. The evening will be the second one on feltmaking and we hope that new people will come and learn about this fascinating craft. The cost is £3 with extra for materials. It starts at the earlier time of 7.30pm. Details from 737417.

The monthly coffee morning in the village hall will be hosted by Della Hughes. Everyone is welcome between 10am and noon - it is a great chance to meet friends and neighbours.

On **Saturday 18th May** Annabel Taylor and Adam Hicks will be married in church. We wish them both happiness in their new life together.

On Monday 20th May our bells will return with the new bell frame. The installation will take about five days. The final assembly will start on June 3rd and will take five or six days. Contact 737602 if you would like to know the best time to see the bells before they go into the tower.

There is a basket at the back of the church for donations to FIND (Families in Need) any donations of non-perishable food would be appreciated. There is also a collection box for old spectacles. These will be given to Vision Aid to help people with sight problems across the world.

The Community History Group will meet during May on a date to be arranged. If you would like to join in and share information that you have about the village, or just want to listen, please come and join us. Phone 737602 for details.

Doris Main

Church cleaning for May
Church flowers May

Audrey Barker
Charmaine Williams

OTLEY

We celebrated Easter on a bitterly cold weekend when the daffodils in our gardens were not yet in flower, and the ones from the supermarket were still in tight bud. Nevertheless, thank you to the ladies who succeeded in decorating the church with colourful floral arrangements.

On Maundy Thursday (the occasion of the Last Supper) there was an Agape service and meal at the village hall. On Good Friday Messy Church was attended by 53 parents and children (an excellent number), who made an Easter garden and hunted for Easter eggs in the churchyard, and on Sunday morning we sang the uplifting Easter hymns at the Communion service. It is a wonderful festival.

Towards the end of March there were celebrations to mark the 100th anniversary of Otley School on its present site. The pupils were given a taste of a school day in 1913, and Jemima Ling will write about this next month. There was also a gathering for former pupils, mostly aged between

40 and 80, who marveled at the modern facilities of 2013 and studied the photographs and registers from long ago that were on display. The head, Jan Hubbard, made them welcome, tea and cake were provided, and the current pupils entertained them with a musical ensemble.

On **Saturday 11th May**, starting at 7.30pm, the PTA are holding a Casino Night to raise funds for the school. There will be blackjack and crap tables, a roulette wheel and play-your-cards-right, and a licensed bar. Tickets costing £10 each will include a buffet supper and a pot of gambling chips, and these are available from Anthony Ling tel. 890787. This is always a popular event.

The Gardening Club has held its AGM and the committee was re-elected en bloc. Unfortunately they have had to cancel some recent meetings because of snow, but the accounts are in good shape and we wish the club continued success. The formalities were followed by a light-hearted horticultural quiz, compiled by Matthew Tanton-Brown of The Place for Plants, which was great fun. The next meeting will be on **Monday 13th May**, when Rodney Tibbs will be speaking about 'Gardening Now and Then', and consider how gardening practices have changed over the years. This will be the last meeting for the summer, so "happy gardening" to everybody.

The next drop-in coffee morning will take place on **Thursday 9th May** at Pheasant Cottage, Cretingham Road, the home of Tessa and Chris Brown, where you will be very welcome. We have been running these coffee mornings for a couple of years now and the numbers are growing steadily.

Penny Sunaway is repeating her request for people wanting to take part in the rounders league, or the inter village sports tournament, to get in touch with her, either in the shop or at p.sunaway@btinternet.com. Come on, everybody - now is the time to get fit, and you are representing the village of the year!

I made two big omissions from the last magazine - 1. to wish George Chilvers "good luck" in his run in the London Marathon for the charity Orchid, and 2. to wish the Bowls Club success at the opening of their new

season. I am sorry about that. Do get in touch with us to publicise your events.

Rose Rogerson

Otley Parish Council

The annual parish meeting is on **Monday 20th May at 7pm** in Otley Village Hall. Everyone is welcome and this is an opportunity for you to have your say on community issues that concern you.

Vanessa Osborne

Village diary

- 2nd May** Council Elections
- 9th May** Friendship club – Rev'd Canon Graham Hedger
- 11th May** Casino night – Otley School PTA
- 13th May** Gardening club – “Gardening Now and Then”
- 20th May** Parish Council AGM 7.00pm all welcome
- 23rd May** Friendship club – Bring your favourite poem
- 26th May** FFY Car wash

Church Flowers

Betty David/Vanessa Ling

Church cleaning

Tessa Brown

Brasses

The Brownies

Otley Church Sidesmen's Rota

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------|----------------|---------------|
| 5th May | 11.00am | Family service | Mr N Crowley |
| 19th May | 9.15am | Holy Communion | Mrs P Crowley |
| 26th May | 6.30pm | Evensong | Mrs B David |

Otley Hall Quiet Days

Thursday 9th May– Revd Joyce Willis - Festivals and Saint days

Focusing on our need to celebrate and commemorate.

Tuesday 28th May - Jnanamitra - A day on Buddhist meditation skills for all faiths.

Monday 3rd June - Revd Martin Davies - ‘Digging for treasure’ – Exploring insights from Gerard Hughes’ classic “God of surprises”

Friday 21st June - Revd Andrew Dotchin - ‘Stations on the road to freedom’ – A journey with Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

All days will run from 10am-4pm and cost £20, to include all refreshments and lunch. Please contact Karen Gwynne-Vince on 890264 or events@otleyhall.co.uk

SWILLAND

We would all like to thank Ann Rose for masterminding the coffee morning on Easter Saturday. She has written about it separately, but I would like to emphasize how much work she put in and how she managed to involve so many people. Apart from the money raised, it was an excellent social event for the village.

Our next event is a concert on **Sunday 26th May**. The Woodbridge-based Cappella Choir Illuminati are returning to Swilland Church. The concert starts at 3pm and their programme of Music for a Sunday Afternoon will include madrigals, folk songs and some contemporary settings. Tickets cost £7 to include light refreshments and are available from Gill Reidy (785716) or me (785262). All proceeds will go to the organ refurbishment fund.

We launched our Appeal for the Tower in March. Details were distributed to every household in Swilland. The response has been excellent, but we still have a long way to go. Any more contributions or ideas for further fund-raising will be welcome. Other events planned for this summer are an Open Garden and a Barbecue. Dates have not been finalised yet.

Ann Kent

Church Flowers

5th-12th May

Kim Shaw

19th - 6th May

Ann Kent

2nd- 9th June

Gill Reidy

Easter Saturday - snow and a bitter east wind were not in the original plan for our coffee-morning with stalls in the church and churchyard.

However, everyone rose to the occasion. Those in the porch serving coffee and welcoming folk could not escape the cold, so they and the other loyal volunteers just had to brave the conditions and make the event work. Cakes, buns and special treats had been made in abundance and were quickly sold; the tombola, with an amazing array of gifts, carried on

non-stop; books were browsed, purchased and are, I hope, being read and enjoyed. Many thanks for every contribution and to all concerned. It was great to welcome friends from neighbouring villages and the money raised (£500) will help repair the brickwork linking the tower to the nave and restore our unique organ. It was a very worthwhile start to the round of fundraising events being planned for the coming months.

Ann Rose

Rainfall

I have now replaced my rain gauge, which cracked in the January frosts, and I am grateful to Anne Kent for providing me with the January and February totals, which were 2.3 and 3.9 inches respectively. In March we had 2 inches and the total for the year so far has been 8.2. At the end of March 2012 it only amounted to 3.1 inches, at which point we were issued with a hose-ban, and as you know it rained ever since. I hardly need to remind you of the long cold winter that has just passed with the small amount of snow which we have had in Suffolk. We have been extremely fortunate here in comparison to other parts of the country where snow drifts have caused considerable hardship and heavy lambing losses to farmers. We are still some three weeks behind for Spring weather, but it will catch up - it always does. Roll on the Summer

Russell Ling

The Carlford and Bealings Group BIG SING
19th May at 3.30pm at St Mary's Church, Grundisburgh
Conductor: Carol Jopling Accompanist: Helen Jay

Community & church choirs and instrumentalists will unite to present a contemporary musical for Pentecost : **'Pilgrim' by Michael Hurd.**

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Full rehearsal Sat. morning 18th May 10.30am - 12 noon

Earlier practices Tuesdays 7th, 14th May from 7.30 - 9pm
at St Mary's Church, Grundisburgh.

We look forward to welcoming you. Please contact me for more details.

(01728 685335) rev.gourlay@gmail.com

Wendy Gourlay

SMILE LINES

Some miscellaneous one-liners for those little gaps.....

Help! I keep hitting ESC but I'm still here!

Be kind to your dentist. He has fillings, too

What's the first thing you should learn in chemistry? Never lick the spoon.

A circle is just a round straight line with a hole in the middle.

I've learned that even when I have pains, I don't have to be one.

I'm worried that my inferiority complex is not as good as yours.

Not afraid of heights - afraid of widths.

Brain cells come and brain cells go, but fat cells live forever.

It's frustrating when you know all the answers, but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.

How to stay safe this Spring

1. Avoid car travel - it is responsible for 20% of all fatal accidents.
2. Do not stay home - 17% of all accidents occur in the home.
3. Avoid walking - 14% of all accidents are to pedestrians.
4. Avoid travel by air, rail, or water - 16% of all accidents involve these forms of transportation.
5. Of the remaining 33%, 32% of all deaths occur in hospitals. So, ... above all else, avoid them;

BUT , You will be pleased to learn that only .001% of all deaths occur during worship in church, and these are usually related to existing physical disorders. Therefore, logic tells us that the safest place for you to be at any given point in time is at church!

...And...Bible study is safe too. The percentage of deaths during Bible study is even less.

So, go to church, and read your Bible - IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!

St BONA of PISA **May 29th**

Bona was born in Pisa, Italy in 1156. When she was 14 she made her first journey, going to see her father who was fighting in the crusades near Jerusalem. On the way back she was captured by pirates in the Mediterranean. Rescued, she set out again, this time taking with her a large number of pilgrims to make the 1,000 mile journey to the shrine of St James at Compostella in Spain.

Bona became an official guide on this famous pilgrimage route and made the journey 9 times, "full of energy, helpful, and unselfish, ready to reassure with her smile those who were sick."

In recent times St Bona has come to be associated as the patron saint of travellers along with St Christopher; and in particular of couriers, guides and air-hostesses.

TRAVELLING ON...

There are lots of journeys recorded in the Bible. Can you find the answers to these travel questions? Answers at the bottom of the page.

1. Where Paul was ship-wrecked on his journey to Rome (Acts, chapt. 27)?
2. Where was there no room for Mary and Joseph when they journeyed from Nazareth?
3. Which country did Joseph's brothers travel to find food? (Genesis, chapt.42)
4. Why does the Bible always say that people were 'going up' to Jerusalem?
5. When Moses led the people out of Egypt, what did he take with him? (Exodus, chapt.13)
6. Which of the 4 horsemen of the Apocalypse rides a red horse? (Revelation)

What do you say to a hitch-hiking frog?

Hop in!

What do you call a penguin in the Sahara Desert?

Lost.

Answers: 1.Malta 2.In the inns of Bethlehem
3.Egypt 4.Because Jerusalem is built on a hill, so whatever direction you come from, you will always be going up to it. 5. Joseph's bones. 6. War

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