

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Lord, teach me to rest in you.

Teach me to see the sky and to think of nothing else but the joy of it.

Teach me to look at field and flower and be soothed by colours and seasons.

Teach me to close my eyes and to rest in the love that has supported me all my days.

Lord, teach me to rest in you.

Frank Topping

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

ASHBOCKING

We held our **Pet Service** on Sunday 8th June. It was a beautiful sunny day which meant we were able to hold the service outside. In total, 37 people (incl. 5 children), with garden chairs and picnic rugs, 13 dogs, a horse, a cockerel and a stuffed rabbit were present!

Our next service will be on **Sunday 13th July**.

On **Saturday 19th July** we will be holding our **Auction of Gifts & Promises** at the church, to raise money for the necessary repairs to the building identified in the recent 5-year inspection. If we manage to raise sufficient money, we also plan to upgrade the organ. The event **starts at 6pm** and will include a **bar and BBQ**, with **Rob Dunger** of BBC Suffolk acting as auctioneer. We have a list of **40 wonderful gifts** donated very kindly by numerous companies and local people. They include a champagne dinner for two at the British Larder; a full day's all-inclusive sailing; a Sri Lankan meal for four; a couple of flying gifts; and a weekend for two in Amsterdam.

Tickets may be purchased in advance (for £3) or on the door (for £4). Please contact Sarah Wilson (785213), John &

Linda Pollard, Pam Simons, Adine Schrankel or Eileen Plummer, or visit The Crockery Barn or Otley Village Stores to buy your ticket. **Please do come along – it promises to be a fantastic event.** For those who are not able to come on the night, **pre-bids will be accepted.** If you wish to make a pre-bid, please contact Catherine Beaumont at Catherine.beaumont@otleyhall.co.uk or on 07801 342336.

Duncan Bray

CLOPTON

A tea-party was held at the church on June 1st for Jack Rude and Arthur and John Barham. Jack is a veteran of the 493rd Bomb Group who flew from Debach in World War 2. He has just celebrated his 90th birthday and this year marks seventy years since he arrived in Suffolk. Arthur and John Barham have been maintaining the churchyard for fifty years and Clare presented them with long-service certificates.

We send our best wishes and congratulations to Frances Priestnall and Frank Titshall who have both celebrated their 100th birthdays this month.

Lizzie Richie and Sean Swift were married here on 14th June. We wish them both a long and happy life together. The guests were greeted by a piper on arrival at the church and it was great to hear the bells ring out after the service, the first ring at a wedding for many years. Thank you to the Otley ringers.

Events in July

- Wednesday 2nd** Craft-morning 10am until 1pm at the village hall. Everyone is welcome. Info 737805
- Friday 4th** Heritage Group meeting 7.30 pm in the church. Looking at records already collected and plans for research.
- Wednesday 16th** Coffee-morning. 10am until noon at the village-hall. Hosted by Beryl Birchmore. Come and join us.

Church cleaning
Church flowers

Doris Main
Beryl Birchmore

Doris Main

OTLEY

The Big Lunch at the playing field took place on a beautiful sunny day and was a great success. It began with the pet service of thanksgiving, led by Jane and Catherine, and - as well as the Scouts and Cubs and many families - was attended by two ponies, lots of dogs, a hamster in a cage, and a container of stick insects! After the pets were blessed, the owners were interviewed by microphone. There were some amusing stories from the children, but the most interesting was of Penny Sunaway's Jack Russell terrier, Mr Beans, who was found abandoned in a car park in Bristol. At the time he was starving and in a poor condition, but now he thrives at the Post Office in Otley. He arrived at the service in Penny's bicycle-basket and she had made him a chorister's collar for the occasion.

After this, more and more people began arriving with their picnics, and later there were sports and games. There was a fathers and sons' football match which was hotly contested, fathers' race, and races for the children, including egg-and-spoon and three-legged - all great fun. Meanwhile, for the little ones, there was tin can alley and the hook-a-boat game and, for older people, a quiz involving photographs of Otley taken from some baffling angles. There was also a treasure hunt for a pet's passport.

It was a wonderful, relaxed family day, cost-free, with no prizes so not intensely competitive, and enjoyed by everybody. Congratulations to Jane and her team for organising it; some imaginative ideas and a lot of hard work made a super community event. They are hoping it will become a regular biennial fixture.

The next such occasion will be **Otley village fete on 12th July**, from 2 to 5 pm, with the usual stalls and sideshows, gym-club display, dog-show, fancy-dress competition, egg-throwing, tug-of-war etc. From 7 to 11 in the evening there will be a barbecue and a band. A bar will be open all day, so please do not bring your own drink. Collectors will call on Tues. 7th to ask for prizes for the raffle and tombola.

OtleyFest is on **26th July** from 5 to 9 pm. Local musicians will play and anyone wanting to try out a hidden musical talent should contact Nathan Cant (email otleyfest@gmail.com). A bar and food will be available.

Please support both events. Entry is free. The fete raises money to maintain and improve the village-hall and playing-field; OtleyFest is not intended as a fundraiser, but donations will be very welcome.

Russell Ling has replanted his wife Rita's flower-bed in front of the church, in her memory. She designed and planted it originally, with advice from Matthew Tanton-Brown, and Matthew again helped with the replanting. It will be very attractive when it has matured.

The result of the recent door-to-door collection for the British Red Cross was £433.39 and Betty David would like to thank everybody who helped her with this and everybody who contributed.

The next monthly coffee-morning will be on Thursday, 10th July at Southview, Chapel Road, the home of Anne and Geoff Robinson, where you will have a chance to admire their lovely garden. Everybody is welcome there.

"Good Luck" to the Suffolk Singers, who are based in Otley, taking part in the Choir of the World Competition at the Llangollen Eisteddfod in mid-July. They will be up against stiff opposition, so our very best wishes go with them.

Village diary

3rd July	Friendship Club - Cream Tea
12th July	Otley Fete
15th/16th July	"Go for Gold" – Otley School play, Tuesday afternoon, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings
16th July	NB a Wednesday Friendship Club outing to Bury St Edmunds, departing from Newlands at 10.0 am
26th July	OtleyFest

Rose Rogerson

Church flowers Ruth Farnhill/Gerry Senior

Church cleaning Tessa Brown

Brasses David and Tess Papworth

Sidepersons' Rota

6th July	11am Family Service	Ruthie Bullock
13th July	11am Morning Praise	Tessa Brown
20th July	9.30am Holy Communion	Penny Clark
27th July	6.30pm Evensong	Tess Papworth

Christian Aid Collection in Otley

During Christian Aid Week nine volunteers called on almost every household in the village to collect envelopes. The money collected was added to that given at the Christian Aid service and also the donations from the Christian Aid lunch. A very worthwhile total of £718.23 was raised. Requests from various charities arrive in the post almost daily and it is becoming ever more difficult to ask for donations. Many thanks are due to the Otley Scouts, who delivered the envelopes, the loyal band of collectors and, of course, the parishioners who gave so generously. Thank you all!

Nigel Crowley.

Otley Parish Council

Our annual parish meeting is an opportunity for all residents to find out what their parish council has been working on over the

last year and to raise any community issues which concern them. This year's meeting took place on 19th May and we are pleased to report the following:

The Hubbards planning application took up a considerable amount of time over the past year with a number of consultations with HTC Trading and their representatives, exhibitions and public meetings. With outline planning permission passed by SCDC we wait to see how the future of this site develops and we will want to be actively involved in the more detailed plans, to ensure that Otley gets the range of housing and type of development that best integrates in the village.

Speeding is regularly discussed and we have recently been able to get the village prioritised within the police SNT. We hope to see a greater police presence in the village as well as Community Speed Watch, which we sponsor, to try and make it safer for all.

Following requests from residents, we have purchased a new grit bin for Newlands along with two doggy bins for the village. Through posters and articles we have tried to draw attention to the issue of dog fouling in the village. We are currently applying for a bus- shelter at Newlands following a request from several residents from that area, who have also organised a petition to help further the cause. We have been asked to research the possibility of having a defibrillator in the village and we hope to organise and sponsor some first-aid courses.

We have also been considering the possibility of a "Neighbourhood Plan", which would allow us more control over future developments within a legal framework. This is a long and complex process and we are looking for volunteers to help. If you are interested, please contact Martin Liddell via email martinliddell@btinternet.com.

The parish council has a website where you can keep up to date with what has been happening in the village. The web address is <http://www.otley.onesuffolk.net>. You will find the minutes for our meetings posted there along with meeting dates and other information. We regularly report highways and footpath issues to SCC, so if you have anything you would like to raise, please contact Vanessa Osborne, our parish clerk, on either otleyparishclerk@btinternet.com or 892180 - we are your parish council and are here to reflect your local needs.

SWILLAND

We collected £241.36 from the Christian Aid Week house-to-house visits. Thanks to all who contributed. We have roughly 70 houses in the parish, so that means over £3 per house.

The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Bicycle Ride will be on 13th September from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please put this date in your diaries. We hope to have some cyclists from Swilland. Nearer the time I will prepare a rota to man the church - if you are able to help with this please let me know. I have all the sponsorship forms - please ask me if you need one. Another reminder for our **Harvest Festival** on 21st September at 11 a.m. This will be held in the barn at Red Court. Bishop John Waine will be preaching and music will be provided by the music group - cello, flute, viola, clarinet - with Wendy Gourlay on the keyboard. Do put this date in your diaries.

Ann Kent

Church flowers

6 th July	Ann Kent
13th 20th and 27th July	Gill Reidy

RAINFALL – May

After a shortage of rain in April, May certainly made up for it with a total of 4.50 inches, 2 of which fell on consecutive days

just before the Suffolk Show. This rain was desperately needed and plants of all description responded with a burst of growth and there is every indication that it will be a good year for fruit. Looking back at my weather records there has been no previous instance in April and May when we have had .50 inches in one month and 4.50 inches the next. No two years' weather patterns are ever the same. The total for this year so far is 12.86 inches, which is about average.

Russell Ling

Otley Hall Retreat Day Programme

Tuesday 5th August Manwar Ali - 'Understanding Islam'
Manwar Ali, founder and chief executive of JIMAS, a UK educational charity, has worked in IT for 25 years and has extensive experience in teaching Islam and community involvement projects. He provides talks for university Islamic Societies, diversity training, presentations at schools, and engages with church groups and Interfaith organizations. He is a fellow of Suffolk New College, chaplain to the college, University Campus Suffolk and the Ipswich Hospital, board member of Ipswich & Suffolk Council for Racial Equality, governor of a primary school and sits on panels for the Police Crime Commissioner and the Crown Prosecution Service. He is also an interventions provider for the Office of Security & Counter-Terror, Home Office.

Tuesday 21st August - Jackie Sears
'People of the way' - Walking with God. A day of deep silence. An exploration of our Christian life and journey as 'People of the Way' and what that means for our life with Jesus today.
Revd Jackie Sears is a retired Anglican priest, and prior to that a Macmillan nurse. She is a trustee of Talitha Koum - a Christian therapeutic community building a centre at Witnesham, and has an interest in the healing ministry.

Both days run from 10am-4pm and cost just £22, to include all refreshments and a buffet lunch. Please contact Karen on 890264 or events@otleyhall.co.uk

Extracts from Rural Report

(the monthly newsletter focusing on issues of rural life and farming of relevance to the work of the Church of England in the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich)

Heavy rain has continued the main theme for this year, that of high levels of disease in many crops. Most farmers will now spend well over £100 per ha on wheat fungicides alone. Missed spray areas are already showing up as distinct patches full of disease. Potato growers will be watching for blight and the mildest winter for many years will see an early start to disease control in sugar beet crops. Supply shortages of fungicides have dominated the market. This, combined with their high value, has resulted in farm stores being raided.

Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep

Lose sleep at your peril! Society has become 'supremely arrogant' in ignoring the importance of sleep, claim leading researchers, who warn that cutting sleep is leading to 'serious health problems'. We are getting between one and two hours less sleep a night than we were 60 years ago, according to Russell Foster, Professor of Circadian Neuroscience at Oxford University. As reported recently by the BBC, Foster and other experts note that the 24-hour society means increasing numbers of people are 'living against' their body clocks with damaging consequences for health and wellbeing.

We're already familiar with the elongation of the day in the opening hours of pubs and supermarkets. Increasingly, though, modern technology is keeping us up later, it being more difficult to 'switch off'. Even if we're not lying awake waiting for

someone to reply to our last text, evidence suggests that the light from smartphones, tablets and computers disrupts the body clock. For others, the pressure to 'achieve' requires more hours on the go, with lack of sleep becoming something of a virtue.

Yet, the rhythm of day and night, light and darkness, is part of God's good design for creation and for human beings. Scripture knows about the sound sleep of the one who has worked hard, the damaging sleeplessness of the one who is overly anxious, the excessive sleep of the one who is lazy, the broken sleep of the one getting on in years. In the light of this recent report, though, perhaps Psalm 127:2 is most apposite: 'In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat – for he grants sleep to those he loves.' More than just about resting sufficiently so we can be more productive when awake, sleeping well is a daily reminder of the gifts of his hand and a gesture of resistance to the assumption that we need to be on the go 24-7. Sleep involves surrender and trust, a way of acknowledging God's presence in our lives at all times, in all places, even during a big chunk of the night.

Although we might struggle with it for different reasons, sleep is a sign of our creatureliness and vulnerability, an expression of our dependence on God in this area of life as in everything else.

Plant a tree to remember the dead of WW1 - This summer marks the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War. The Woodland Trust is honouring all those who took part in the war effort by hoping to plant millions of trees that will stand as a tribute for centuries to come. Will you support them by planting a free tree pack in your community? The Woodland Trust has more than 4000 packs to give away in the autumn,

and they come in three sizes – 30 saplings, 105 saplings and 420 saplings in various themes (hedge, copse, wildlife, wild harvest, year-round colour, working wood, wild wood and wetland). You can apply for more than one pack and theme, with 420 saplings being the maximum quantity. Find out more at www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/freetrees. The deadline for applications is 4 September, but apply soon to make sure you get your trees.

Smile Lines

Forgiveness Late for a meeting and unable to find parking, I pulled into a spot behind a church. It was only after I'd got out of the car that I spotted this sign: "No parking. Forgiveness is our business, but don't make it harder than it already is."

School R.S. test - children were asked questions about the Old Testament. These were some of the results....

1. In the first book of the bible, Guinness, God got tired of creating the world so he took the sabbath off.
2. Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was called Joan of Ark. Noah built an ark and the animals came on in pears.
3. Lot's wife was a pillar of salt during the day, but a ball of fire during the night.
4. The Jews were a proud people and throughout history they had trouble with unsympathetic Genitals.
5. Sampson was a strongman, who let himself be led astray by a Jezebel like Delilah.
6. Samson slew the Philistines with the axe of the Apostles.
7. Moses led the Jews to the Red Sea where they made unleavened bread which is bread without any ingredients.
8. The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards, Moses went up to Mount Cyanide to get the ten amendments.
9. The first Commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple.



ST. THOMAS

Thomas was one of the 12 disciples and one thing we know about his family is he had a twin because he was called 'Didymus' which means a twin.

Thomas was ready to die with Jesus (John 11:16) but it is as 'Doubting Thomas' that most people remember him. Thomas wasn't afraid to ask the questions that the other disciples were thinking.

Thomas wasn't with the other disciples when they they first saw the risen Christ. He refused to believe that Jesus had returned from the dead 'unless I see... and touch... I will not believe', but when he saw and touched Jesus he exclaimed 'My Lord and my God'. You can read this in St John's Gospel, chapter 20.



Without Thomas' doubts perhaps we wouldn't be as sure about our faith today. We need someone to ask the questions that we are too afraid to ask for fear of seeming silly or foolish.

T-TIME PUZZLE?

All the answers to this Bible puzzle begin with the letter T – can you find them all? The first one is too easy.

1. The disciple called Didymus.
2. The own names after a Roman Emperor (John, chapter 6).
3. Roman to whom Luke addressed his Gospel.
4. Where St Paul was born (Acts, chapter 9).
5. Paul's companion on the journey to Jerusalem (Galatians, chapter 2).
6. She came from Joppa and was also known as Dorcas (Acts, chapter 8).
7. Deborah sat underneath one (Judges, chapter 4).



Are there any tiles that won't stick on the wall?

Reptiles.

Answers: 1.Thomas 2.Tiberius 3.Theophilus 4.Tarsus 5.Titus 6 Tabitha. 7.Tree

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