

## **PRAYER FOR THE MONTH**

God, You called your servant Abraham from Ur in Chaldea, watching over him in all his wanderings, and guided the Hebrew people as they crossed the desert. Guard your children who, for the love of your Name, make a pilgrimage. Be their companion on the way, their guide at the crossroads, their strength in weariness, their defence in dangers, their shelter on the path, their shade in the heat, their light in the darkness, their comfort in discouragement, and the firmness of their intentions; that through your guidance, they may arrive safely at the end of their journey and, enriched with grace and virtue, may return to their homes filled with salutary and lasting joy.

*Pilgrim's prayer from Codex Calixtinus, 12th century*

## **NEWS FROM THE PARISHES**

### **ASHBOCKING**

We had a very special service on Sunday 12 June. Bishop Mike, Bishop of Dunwich, led the service of celebration for the Queen's 90th birthday and presided at communion. The church was decorated beautifully with many flower arrangements and the hymns were all connected to the Queen - we sang the National Anthem with pride. We rejoiced that it was almost a year since the Confirmation service and the white altar cloth and frontals given by the Confirmation group were used.

Bishop Mike looked splendid in a red and gold cope and mitre and carrying a shepherd's crook. I held the crook for a while for him and it fell apart! Horrified, I turned to the Bishop, only to discover that it was his 'travelling crook', designed to be taken apart to fit into a small car. A very modern Bishop...

His sermon included questions testing our knowledge of Her Majesty, for example:

- What is the largest live present the Queen has been given?
- Which language does the Queen speak so fluently that she needs no interpreter?
- Which European country has the Queen never visited?

See *answers below...*

He preached about three of the Queen's qualities. She is known for many small gestures of kindness. This echoes Mother Teresa's dictum that we are not called to do extraordinary things but to do ordinary things with extraordinary love. For example, in 2005, on the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, she met with a group of Holocaust survivors at St James' palace. It was one of the occasions when the Queen did not leave punctually - she stayed and lingered. Why? To give every survivor in that large group the opportunity to tell her their personal story. The Chief Rabbi, Jonathan Sacks, who was there, said, "It was an act of kindness that almost had me in tears...it brought a kind of closure into deeply lacerated lives."

He spoke of the Queen's humility in an age where self-promotion is the norm. A Christian writer, Richard Foster wrote, 'The flesh whines against service and screams against hidden service. It strains and pulls for honour and recognition'. As Christians, we are challenged to ask ourselves, "Where will our hidden service be this month?"

Third, he emphasised the Queen's faithfulness to the promises she made, to serve this nation and to give of herself. This runs counter to today's culture, which is preoccupied with maintaining its freedom to choose in ways which maximise its pleasure, not understanding that pleasing ourselves all the time doesn't bring peace of mind or contentment. It seems to make us more needy, more aware that our hearts are empty, and more restless and thirsty than ever. Six months before her coronation, the Queen asked her people to 'Pray that God may give me wisdom and

strength to carry out the solemn promises I shall be making, and that I may faithfully serve Him and you'.

The Queen's life of service points, not to herself, but to the God who inspires her to such service and faithfulness. We hope that those of you who have received the book "The Servant Queen" have enjoyed it and we thank those who donated and distributed them.

The coffee-morning is on Friday 1 July from 10 to 12, at Tudor House, Ashbocking, with warm thanks to Pat Stoddart's son and daughter-in-law, David and Michelle. On Sunday 10 July, Rev'd Jane Hall will be baptising Jacob Last, son of Beverley and Jon from Jodem, Allotment Lane, at the church at 11am. We look forward to welcoming Jacob into our church family and invite everyone to attend.

*Revd. Catherine Beaumont*

***Answers to Queen questions*** - a 7 year old bull elephant called Jumbo, by the President of Cameroon in 1972, donated to the London Zoo; French; Greece.

## **"GOING DEEPER" HOMEGROUP**

We meet at Manor Farm to study the Bible, pray, and encourage each other to "go deeper" in our faith in Jesus together.

We meet every **1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 10.00am till 12.00**

For more details call Jan or Jon Bates on 01473 892605

## **CLOPTON**

Our flower festival at the end of May was a great success. We had lots of visitors on all three days. There were twenty-eight displays arranged by twelve people. The comments from visitors were full of praise, including one from a person who texted Radio Suffolk to say that she thought it was better than Chelsea. It was a lovely

weekend and it certainly showed how much talent we have, especially as most people had not done an arrangement before. It would not have been possible without the hard work of the arrangers, the research by Janice, and those who manned the busy refreshments. Thank you to all those who donated the delicious cakes and helped to clear up after the event. A special thanks to Sue Emmerson for all her help and advice and for keeping the flowers fresh for the Queen's birthday weekend. We made just over £900 for the Fabric Fund. All of the pictures are now on the website at [www.cloptonchurch.org.uk](http://www.cloptonchurch.org.uk). Click on the link to Heritage then Flower Festival 2016

The concert by Illuminati on the Queen's birthday weekend was superb. Everyone who came was so impressed by the choir's wonderful voices and by the amazing variety of songs. Being told the history of some of them made it even more enjoyable. Wine and nibbles in the interval completed a very special evening, so thank you Jenny and Andrew for organising it.

Our picnic on Sunday had to take place in the church due to the rain, but was still very enjoyable. Afterwards Clare led a special Songs of Praise. Each of the hymns had a particular association with the Queen and a link with one or other of the countries in the UK, which Clare explained, and we sung with real feeling and pride in our Queen. Thank you to Fred for playing the organ, including a selection of music from the Queen's coronation.

After all our events during the past few weeks July will be very quiet! The Hobbies morning will be on Wednesday 6th July from 10am until noon in the village hall. The coffee-morning will be from 10 to 12 on Wednesday 20th in the village hall and will be hosted by Beryl Birchmore. Everyone is very welcome to join us at either of these events.

*Doris Main*

**Church cleaning**  
**Church flowers**

Doris Main  
Beryl Birchmore

## OTLEY

With other villages all over the country, Otley celebrated the Queen's 90th birthday in style. We began with a service of thanksgiving on the playing field, led by Jane and James (which included a message from the Queen). Bishop Mike, the new Bishop of Dunwich, joined us straight from Ashbocking in time for the Blessing. This was followed by picnic lunches, more and more people arriving, and then the fun and games - egg and spoon races, children's treasure hunt, and the hotly-contested tug-of-war, much enjoyed by the spectators as well as those taking part. There was a quiz dating photos of the Queen. In the village hall Sally Whiffing had arranged a wonderful exhibition of photographs of Otley over the last ninety years, and entries in the various competitions (model of a palace, a posy fit for a Queen, a cupcake for a prince or princess) were on display. We can't list all the prize winners but Tracey Moss's painting of a corgi and her beautiful cake in the shape of a crown were particularly good. The day ended with a lavish tea (thank you to everybody who baked cakes and to the Gardening Club for providing flowers), by which time it was raining steadily, but with true British spirit we carried on. Congratulations to Jane and her team for all the planning involved and for producing another marvellous community event which will long be remembered.

At the family service in June the Clow family were baptised - mother Carly, Jacob, Fleur and baby Jonathan - who have all taken leading parts in the recent crib services at Warrens Farm. There were lots of families and small children in church and it was a lovely occasion.

Hetty Fox has died at the age of 94 and we send our love and sympathy to Ann, Patrick and all her family. Almost 100 people attended her funeral, a tribute in itself to Hetty, who had been so independent and energetic, entering into almost everything in village life. She was a faithful churchgoer, flower- arranger, and

member of the St Mary's Handbell Ringers, so it was very appropriate to see the church full of flowers and to hear the handbells rung before the service. She was proud of the five generations of her family, a great friend to the Wightman family, and will be missed by us all.

We are sorry to report that Bernard Fosdike, who will be remembered by many here, has also died. Only last year he and his wife came for the dedication of the stained glass window by the church door after its renovation funded by his brother John's legacy.

The next big event will be the Fete and dog show on Saturday 2nd July, and OtleyFest in the evening. The monthly coffee morning will take place on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> July at James and Jane Hall's home, Countryside, where everybody will be welcome.

*Rose Rogerson*

**Village diary:**

<b>2nd July</b>	Otley Fete and OtleyFest
<b>7th July</b>	Council elections
<b>14th July</b>	Friendship Club - cream tea at Wendy Marshall's home, 10 Newlands
<b>19th July</b>	Otley School production
<b>28th July</b>	Friendship Club - outing to Flatford Mill

**Church flowers:** Valerie Pitchers/Rose Rogerson

**Church Cleaning:** 1st week Tessa Brown. 3rd week - Treloars

**Sidepersons:**

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> July</b>	11.00am Family Service, to include the baptism of Faye Flint Karin Upson
<b>17<sup>th</sup> July</b>	9.30am Holy Communion Richard Treloar
<b>24<sup>th</sup> July</b>	6.30pm Evening Prayer Pauline Crowley



"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And you are the one who'll decide where to go" (Dr. Seuss, *Oh the Places You'll Go*). It

hardly seems possible that the end of the school year has arrived and we are saying goodbye to our four year olds as they look ahead to September and 'big school' – but somehow we are.

We are very proud of each of our little people and how much they have all grown in the last ten months - and haven't they been a fun-filled ten months!? We have walked the distance from Otley to Legoland in Windsor (and some of the way back) as part of the Golden Mile initiative; learned circus tricks; explored new cultures; baked; painted; created; played; made friends; put on a play at Christmas; read hundreds of stories; dressed up as fictional characters for World Book Day; sown seeds and tended to seedlings; explored our village in each season; had fun at our annual sports day; and laughed a lot.

While Committee roles continue until the AGM in September, the end of the school year seems an appropriate time to thank all the parents, trustees and friends of Otley Under Fives for their support – their time in developing activities for the children; their fund-raising; and their support for the centre. Special thanks must of course go to our fabulous team – Chelle, Angela, Tiffany, Kate and Christie. Thank you for all of the hard work you put into making Otley Under Fives the fun, welcoming, safe and creative place that it is for our children.

And to our children who are leaving us to start new adventures at Primary School in September – we wish you every success and happiness in all of your new adventures.

For more information about Otley Under Fives, to arrange a visit and free trial session or to talk to a member of the team please call 07789 468853, visit our Facebook page or our website: [www.otleyunderfives.co.uk](http://www.otleyunderfives.co.uk)

### **London Moon Walk**

On 14 May, the City Striders, a group of intrepid hikers from Otley and beyond, took on the London Moon Walk challenge, a 26.2 mile hike around the streets of London in aid of breast cancer care. We set off from Clapham Common just after midnight and having endured weeks of intensive training we were hopeful of crossing the finishing line in time for an early breakfast. We soon discovered however, that marching along the quite lanes of Otley was very different to filing along the narrow pavements of the Capital with thousands of other enthusiastic walkers, and our predicted eight hour romp turned out to be a gruelling ten hour trek.

It really was a challenge and in the early hours of the morning the only thing that kept us going was the fact that so many of you had sponsored and supported us. With your help we have managed to raise nearly £3000 for this very worthwhile cause. Our very sincere thanks go to Penny and everyone at Otley Village Stores who spearheaded the fundraising campaign by selling tickets for the disco, the draw, the sweep stake and the spaghetti jar and also Lynda at the White Hart for organising the quiz evening. The vintage afternoon tea, organised by Ruth Farnhill was another wonderful fundraising event. All in all it was a tremendous community effort - thank you all so much for your support.

*The City Striders.*

### **Christian Aid Collection in Otley**

During Christian Aid Week, seven volunteers called on almost every household in the village to collect envelopes. In addition, many envelopes were taken to the village shop. 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 £641.23 was raised, which is a significant increase on last year. 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 Village Hall**

Regular hirers of the hall will notice that we have had to increase our charges this year. They were last changed some five years ago, costs have gone up and we have lost the Brownies and Gym Club. Nonetheless, market research suggests that Otley is still cheaper than nearly all the other halls in the area, so please spread the word that we are the best value venue for parties, dances, club meetings etc. Booking enquiries should go to Vanessa Ling on 890787.

During the last 12 months we have sprayed the roof with a rubber sealant and created a bigger dressing-room area behind the stage by removing the gents lavatory. The next project is to improve the floor-covering and redecorate in the backroom. New committee members are always welcome and if you are interested either in practical jobs on the building or grounds, or in helping with community events, please let me know. Thank you to all who use the hall, to Christine Gilbert (our long-suffering cleaner) and to all who help look after this invaluable village asset.

*James Hall*

### **Otley Community Lunch**

Lynda and her team at Otley White Hart have kindly offered to host an Otley Community Lunch every third Thursday of the month. This is to give everyone in Otley and the surrounding area the opportunity to join together to enjoy a scrumptious meal and at the same time to broaden their social horizon. We would particularly like to invite those who find it difficult to get out and socialise, so transport will be provided if you need it. The first Community lunch will take place on Thursday 21 July at 12.30 p.m. and the price for

a delicious two course meal is just £5.00. If you would like to book your place please telephone Lynda by Tuesday 19 July on 890312 and contact Alyson Chilvers on 737674 or 07767775186 if you would like transport.

### **SWILLAND**

Our coffee-morning on 4th June was well attended with 13 people in all. We all had a lovely chat over coffee and homemade biscuits. The next one will be in the church on 6th August.

The meetings to hear about the possibility of bringing high-speed broadband to our villages were also well attended. In due course I shall be looking for volunteers to knock on doors in Swilland to find out how many people would be interested in taking up this option.

Thanks to Adrian Ward, the churchyard is looking very neat and tidy, with the hedges beautifully cut.

*Ann Kent*

#### **Flower rota**

<b>3rd July</b>	Gill Reidy
<b>10th-17th July</b>	Ann Kent
<b>24th-31st July</b>	Jackie Williams

#### **Otley Hall retreat Day Programme**

We provide a space for spiritual refreshment both for people who have been on the spiritual journey for some time and for those exploring spirituality for the first time.

**Friday 8th July** – Keith Jones – George Herbert: Looking together at his writings and seeing them in the setting of his time.

**Tuesday 12th July** – Catherine Beaumont - Silent prayer: healing and restoring. A day of deep silence to focus on the healing power of silent prayer.

**Tuesday 26th July** – Wendy Gourlay – Art inspired by meditation, a window to God's Grace

All days cost just £23pp including refreshments and lunch and run from 10 to 4.

Contact [01473 890264](tel:01473890264) or [events@otleyhall.co.uk](mailto:events@otleyhall.co.uk) for further information. A full programme is available on our website [www.otleyhall.co.uk](http://www.otleyhall.co.uk)

### **RAINFALL – MAY**

“Ne’er caste a clout until May is out”, goes the old saying. Personally, I think it refers to the may blossom on the hedges, which doesn’t come out until it gets warmer and the blackthorn bloom has faded. This year, if you had cast a clout when the may blossom came out in the early part of the month, you would certainly have had to put it back on when it turned cold again later on. Rainfall was quite low until the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, when we had 1.50 inches over 24 hours. Once again many places had even heavier downpours and suffered flooding. The total rainfall for the month was 2.05 inches.

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*Russell Ling*

### **SMILE LINES**

#### **Notices that didn’t quite ‘make it’...**

The preacher for next Sunday will be found hanging on the notice board in the porch.

Churchyard maintenance is becoming increasingly difficult, so it will be appreciated if parishioners cut the grass around their own graves.



## GRANDPARENTS

July 26<sup>th</sup> is the feast day of St Joachim and St Ann – and you are probably asking, who are they? Legend says that these are the names of Jesus' grandparents, his mother's father and mother. If these are their real names or not it doesn't matter: what does matter is that Mary's parents brought her up to be a very special person; someone who was calm in a crisis and loved her family. And this comes from being part of a close-knit, loving family.



July 26<sup>th</sup> is the 'feast of grandparents'. It reminds all grandparents of their responsibility for generations to come; to make family traditions and history live.

But the feast has a meaning for the younger family members as well. It reminds younger people that older people's wealth of experience is to be celebrated and appreciated. And we do, don't we?

## IT'S ALL RELATIVE

All these people in the Bible are related. Do you know how? Answers at the bottom of the page.

1. Mary and Martha (Luke, chapter 10)
2. Saul and Jonathon (1 Samuel, chapter 14)
3. Naomi and Ruth (Ruth, chapter 1)
4. Lois, Eunice and Timothy (2 Timothy, chapter 1)
5. Joseph and Benjamin (Genesis, chapter 42)
6. Aquila and Priscilla (Acts, chapter 18)
7. Simon Peter and Andrew (Mathew, chapter 4)




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### Why should Elijah's parents be remembered by all business people?

Because they made a prophet.

### How long did Cain hate his brother?

As long as he was Abel.

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Answers: 1.sisters 2.father and son  
 3.mother-in-law and daughter-in-law  
 4. grandmother, mother and son  
 5.brothers 6.husband and wife  
 7.brothers

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