

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Lord God, we ask you to give us your blessing - to your church, holiness; to your world, peace; to all nations, justice; and to all your people, knowledge of your law. Keep safe our families, protect the weak, heal the sick, comfort the dying and bring us all to a joyful resurrection. We ask these things through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

ASHBOCKING

The Away Day at Otley Hall on Saturday 16th April, led by Clare Sanders and Catherine Beaumont, was a great success, with members of both Ashbocking and Swilland churches meeting together for discussion, prayer and reflection. We discussed who we are as Christians, what we do as a church, what our individual gifts are as well as how we can move forward from here. We considered the benefits of being companion churches and the day helped to forge the connection between us. There was time for a walk around the beautiful gardens at the hall to reflect on what had been discussed and to clear the mind. It was a shame the weather was so cold and wet! We finished this special day with communion in the round and were sent away with specific ideas to form into a five-year plan for things to do in the church.

As mentioned in previous issues, we are fund-raising for a toilet and kitchenette, and arrangements for the Ashbocking Quiz are progressing. It will be held on the 25th of June at 6pm. Tickets will be available soon and flyers will be distributed shortly. Please keep this date free for a fun evening; a BBQ and dessert will be included, along with a bar and raffle with a chance to win a Land Rover bear.

Last month I said that Bishop Mike was visiting our church. Unfortunately, the date given was incorrect and his visit will be on Sunday 12th June at the 11:00 service. This will be a very special service and we look forward to as many people as possible coming to welcome him as the new Bishop of Dunwich.

The flower demonstration by Brenda Mitchell and Linda Ellis in May has had to be postponed. Thank you for your interest and we look forward to your support when we have a new date. The next coffee-morning is on 6th May 10:00am at Brenda and Bernard Mitchell's house at Ashbocking Hall Farm IP6 9LG. This is just up the lane past the church on the right hand side. The May family service is the 8th at 11:00am and will have V.E.Day as its theme. We shall be collecting for Christian Aid in the week commencing 15th May

We still want to start a church choir and are looking for someone to help us stay in tune and lead our singing. Also, anyone who can play an instrument and would be willing to accompany us would be most welcome. There must be some accomplished and budding musicians in the village who could help. It is only once a month, so would not take up too much time, and it would certainly enrich our church services. If you are interested, please let Catherine Beaumont or me know; when we have enough people we can get started.

Linda Pollard 890836

Church Cleaning

Sharon Chenery and Pam Simons

“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 1st & 3rd Wednesday at 10.00am till 12.00

For more details call Jan or Jon Bates on 01473 892605

CLOPTON

Peggy Martin died on 19th March, just one week before her ninety-ninth birthday. She was involved with Clopton church all her life and served as churchwarden for many years, as well as writing monthly articles for the magazine and organising flower and cleaning rotas. She was an excellent cook and her coffee and walnut cakes were always in demand at village events. As Peggy was very hard of hearing it was usual to write down what you were trying to tell her. Peggy had been a teacher and even in her final years she was delighted to find a spelling or grammar mistaken in what had been written! We send our sympathy to Barry and the rest of her family. Clopton has lost a very special lady who leaves lots of fond memories.

Now that the weather is warmer the Hobbies Group will be meeting again in the village hall from 10am until noon on the first Wednesday of each month, starting on May 4th. The village coffee-morning will be on Wednesday 18th from 10 until noon in the village hall. Please come and join us.

The Flower Festival plans are progressing well. There will be a final meeting in church at 10.30am on 11th May. The Festival is from Saturday 28th until Monday 30th May from 10am until 5pm each day. Volunteers to help with teas etc. would be very welcome. It is still not too late to do an arrangement, just contact us!

On Sunday 12th June at 6.30pm we shall be holding a Songs of Praise service in the church to celebrate the Queen's official 90th birthday. This will be preceded at 5.30pm by a 'bring your own' picnic in the churchyard, teas, coffee and soft drinks will be provided. Contact us if you have a favourite hymn that you would like at the service.

The Clopton Fete promises to be even better this year so put the date in your diaries--Sunday 19th June from noon until 5pm. More details in next month's magazine.

Doris Main

Church cleaning
Church flowers

Audrey and Chris Barker
Doris Main

OTLEY

Easter was early this year and there were plenty of daffodils available for the beautiful flower arrangements in church. On Good Friday, while the church was still bare, there was a sombre service of hymns, readings and time for reflection, for the whole benefice, taken by Fred Woods. Then on Saturday morning, at the village hall, there was Café Church, a family event led by Clare and Jane, where the children looked at the events of Holy Week using the theme of trees. In groups they drew, made, and studied trees, and then we all gathered to sing songs and listen to Clare tell the story of Easter. The morning was very popular, with the added attraction of hot cross buns and bacon butties, and about fifty people were there to take part. On Easter morning Bishop John Waine led the communion service with joyful Easter hymns. It is a wonderful time of year.

The next monthly coffee-morning will be held on Thursday 26th May at Field View, Helmingham Road, the home of Peter and Gerry Senior, and they look forward to welcoming you there. In the churchyard, Spring has sprung and there are cowslips, primroses, violets and forget-me-nots in flower. The newly- planted hedge is bursting in to leaf and looks good, there are even more molehills, and masses of frogspawn in the pond.

Finally, Olivia Bullock has recently gained her Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award, and received it at St James's Palace. This is a great achievement. Well done.

Rose Rogerson

Village diary

2nd May	Gardening Club outing to Larks Hill, Tuddenham
5th May	Friendship Club - Health Matters by Dr Brunton
5th May	Election of Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner
7th May	Casino Night - Otley School PTA
16th May	Annual Parish Meeting
18th May	Tap dancing class
19th May	Friendship Club - Crafts

Church flowers: Betty David/Vanessa Ling

Church Cleaning: Philip & Betty David

Sidespersons' Rota

May 1st	11.00am Family Service	TBC
May 15th	9.30am Holy Communion	David Papworth
May 22nd	6.30pm Evensong	TBC

Parking at Otley Church

Please be thoughtful when you park outside Otley church. The church gate is at the top of a hill and on a bend, so visibility is limited for drivers coming in to Otley if they have to pull out to overtake a long line of parked cars. Please leave some gaps, use the Bowls Club car park, or leave your vehicle a little further away. It is lovely to walk or cycle to the church too. Thank you.

Jane Hall

Christian Aid Week in Otley

This annual fund-raising event will be held from 15th to 21st of 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 the total collected if donors also complete the Gift Aid form attached to the envelope. Special Christian Aid themed services will be held in Otley church on Sunday 1st May, and Sunday 15th May. A soup and bread lunch, in aid of Christian Aid, will be served at 10 Spring Park (the home of Pauline and Nigel Crowley), on Tuesday 17th May, from 12.30 pm.

Christian Aid's mission is to "Follow in Jesus' footsteps, love every neighbour and help people in poverty out of poverty." Please give generously.

Nigel Crowley

Otley Sport Relief Mile

On Sunday 20 March some 40 runners and walkers from the village, and as far away as Dorset, Lincoln and Kent, took part in the Otley Sport Relief Mile. Some runners were clearly trying for their personal best over either one, three or six miles, while for others the challenge was to complete the course. Thankfully the weather was dry, if a little chilly, and everyone enjoyed the event. Many thanks to everyone who helped on the day and in the preparation for it. A cheque for nearly £300 was sent to Sport Relief and this will be more than matched by the sponsorship raised by those who took part.

Phil Whiffing



My dear young fellow," the Old Green-Grasshopper said gently, "there are a whole lot of things in this world of ours you haven't started wondering about yet". (*James and the Giant Peach*, Roald Dahl). Primary School places for September 2016 have now been announced and the prospect of 'big school' and all its excitement and adventure is ever closer – it seems so new and exciting and daunting all in the same breath. At Otley Under Fives we continue to help prepare the children in our care (and their parents!) for the transition, spending time with Class One at Otley Primary School and attending weekly at assembly to improve familiarity. The children are exploring phonic sounds, making letter shapes in the sand pit outside and using pens and paint inside. There are daily arts and crafts and they also enjoy cooking, taking home their delights packed up in individually designed bags.

The children continue to be active, building up the miles towards the target of covering the distance between Otley and Legoland Windsor as part of the Golden Mile initiative. Weather permitting, they are outside every day: cooking up a feast in the mud kitchen; tending to the vegetable patch; racing round on the bikes and scooters; investigating the new water taps; clambering over the play equipment which can be a pirate ship, castle, space rocket, house, fire engine depending on the children's imagination at any given moment. A number of them took part in the Otley Sport Relief mile, bringing their medals into pre-school to show their friends.

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

Come & join the Celebration - The Queen's 90th Birthday

You are invited to be part of the BIG LUNCH event on SUNDAY 12th JUNE at the village hall which will include: -

- 11.30am – Open air service of thanksgiving
- 12.30pm - Lunch (BYO picnic & drinks, rugs or chairs, no BBQ's please) & a children's treasure hunt
- 1.30pm – Activities on the playing field

including:-

Rounders, races & games, tug of war & apple bobbing. There will a variety of competitions in OVH (look at the Otley Village Stores website for details).

4.00pm – village tea – (BYO cup & saucer) in the car park

There will be a display of photographs showing Otley over the last 90 years and if anyone has any that could be copied, please contact Sally Whiffing on 892030. All Otley residents will receive an invitation. Please help with catering by returning yours to Otley shop. Please address any queries about the day to Jane Hall on 785251.



Tap Dance Classes for Adult Beginners in Otley

8 week course starting on Wednesday 18th May 10.30-11.15am

£24 if you pay for the whole course or £4 if you pay weekly

Never tapped before? Like to learn the basics?

No partner or experience required

- ✓ Beginners welcome
- ✓ Refreshments provided



For queries and to book, please contact Jill
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jillstreatfeild@hotmail.co.uk

Otley and District Gardening Club



At the Club's AGM Alan Trevelyan (chair) thanked Jenny Vince, secretary, and Issy Lincoln, treasurer, and the other committee members for their work throughout the year, and paid tribute to David Papworth's work as a founding member (and former chairman) in getting the club established. A lot of new people have joined, so membership stands at almost 50, and there have been some interesting speakers. They have planted two crab apple trees in memory of the former treasurer, Susie Mellor, who died very suddenly at the Suffolk Punch Trust at Hollesley where she was a volunteer. The meeting was followed by David showing his slides of lovely gardens in the Loire valley. The club doesn't meet again until October, but there are two outings, to Larks Hill, Tuddenham on 2nd May, and to Beth Chatto's gardens at Elmstead Market on 24th September for late summer colour - cost only £15 inclusive of coach and garden entrance (normally £6.95). For details contact Alan Trevelyan on 890563 or atrevelyan62@gmail.com

SWILLAND

The first Swilland coffee-morning on 2nd April and the first Ladies Group supper-evening at the Moon and Mushroom on 4th April were well attended and much enjoyed. The next coffee-morning is on Saturday 4th June at Red Court from 10 - 11.30 a.m. Do come along - if the weather is warm and dry we can sit in the garden.

Flower rota:

1st - 8th May	Ann Kent
15th – 22nd May	Gill Reidy
29th May – 5th June	Jackie Williams

Ann Kent

RAINFALL – MARCH

There is an old saying that if March comes in like a lamb it will go out like a lion or vice-versa; this year March came in like a very wet lamb, giving us 1.65 inches in the first week. It also went out like a wet lamb, after the lion of Storm Katie about a week before the end of the month. These old sayings are of course generalisations. The majority of cereals used to be drilled in the spring and March was the usual month for this. It was often cold and dry with an east wind keen enough to cut off your ears, and with no tractor cab for protection, were glad to get home and thaw out at the end of the day.

This year we had two fine weeks in the middle of the month, but the land hasn't dried out enough to carry out any planting in the garden. The old timers would only plant seeds if they could sit on the ground with bare bottoms, as that would indicate whether the ground had warmed up enough for the seeds to germinate. I am still waiting for someone to do this and let me know the results. The total rainfall for the month came to 2.60 inches.

Russell Ling

A SILENT SERMON

An old man hadn't been seen much in the village, so the minister decided to visit him. She found the man at home all alone, sitting by a blazing fire. The man welcomed her awkwardly, led her to a comfortable chair near the fireplace and waited.

The minister made herself at home, but said nothing. In the silence, she contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After some minutes, she took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it on its own to one side of the hearth. Then she sat back in his chair, still silent. The host watched all this in quiet contemplation. As the one lone ember's flame flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow and then its fire was no more. Soon it was cold and dead.

Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting, but now the minister chose this moment to leave. She slowly stood up, picked up the cold, dead bit of coal and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately it began to glow once more, with the light and warmth of the burning coals around it. With that, the minister smiled at his host, and quietly let herself out.

SMILE LINES

Adam and Eve

Adam and Eve had an ideal marriage. He didn't have to hear about all the men she could have married, and she didn't have to hear about the way his mother cooked.

Share

There are only two things a child will share willingly - communicable diseases and his mother's age.

Children's exam papers

The following real life answers to various exams explain why teachers need long holidays...

What is a nitrate?

Cheaper than a day rate.

What was Sir Walter Raleigh famous for?

He is a noted figure in history because he invented cigarettes and started a craze for bicycles.

What did Mahatma Gandhi and Genghis Khan have in common?

Unusual names.

Name one of the early Romans' greatest achievements.

Learning to speak Latin.

Name six animals which live specifically in the Arctic.

Two polar bears. Four seals.

Name the wife of Orpheus, whom he attempted to save from the underworld.

Mrs Orpheus.

Where was the American Declaration of Independence signed?

At the bottom.

What happens during puberty to a boy?

He says goodbye to his childhood and enters adultery.

What is a fibula?

A little lie.



THE LADY & THE LAMP

On 12th May 1820 a baby girl was born who changed the way that we care for people who are ill. Florence Nightingale grew up at a time when only the worst kind of person became a nurse but she had an idea of the way things could be. Her chance to change things came with the Crimean War.

Florence travelled there with a few others and started work in the military hospital at Scutari where conditions were dreadful: wounded soldiers were left lying in dirt without proper food or care and most of them died. The army doctors already there didn't want Miss Nightingale or her nurses, but gradually they improved conditions. The nurses scrubbed and cleaned as well as caring for the wounded and the soldiers began to recover. Florence Nightingale was called the Lady with the Lamp because she would walk the wards at night, checking on patients. After the war, with the support of Queen Victoria, Florence was able to improve hospital care for everyone.

WASHING WORDS

All the words in this wordsearch are to do with clean and dirty. Can you find them all? The words go up, down, backwards, forwards and diagonally and some letters are used more than once.

S P A R K L I N G A
G I D Y O D A R V D
R T U B B U I O A S
U P S H B M V P C D
B A T H E C A U U E
B T E G N O P S U N
Y R R I W I P Y M I
L I U T A M R A U A
A D E S S D B R O T
D W T A H S K A O S

bath brush dirt
duster dry
grime grubby
mud soak
soap sparkling
stained tap tub
vacuum wash
wet



What did the dirt say to the rain?

If this keeps up my name will be mud!

What did the big tap say to the small tap?
Little squirt!



... and what did the small tap reply? Big drip!"

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