

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Thank you, God, for the fruits of your creation and for your gifts to every nation, thank you for the ploughing, sowing and reaping. In the just reward of labour, may your will be done; in the help we give our neighbour, may your will be done; in our world-wide task of caring for the hungry and despairing, and in the harvest we are sharing, may your will be done. Thank you for the harvests of your Spirit, for all the good we inherit, for the wonders that astound us and the truths that confound us. Most of all, thank you that your love has found us.

Fred Pratt Green (adapted from his harvest hymn)

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

ASHBOCKING

On August 24th the funeral of Audrey Matthews was held at Ashbocking Church. Audrey was born on 27th February 1921 and died on 2nd August in Barham nursing home, where she had been a resident for several years, cared for by the staff and loving friends, especially Val and her family, Frances and Shirley. The service was not just a sad goodbye but very much a celebration of a life.

Audrey and her husband Ron ran the Hemingstone garage and shop for many years, living in the bungalow next door. She was devoted to Ron and ever faithful to him long after his death some years ago, saying that she had made her promise at the altar and would remain faithful to the end. She ran the shop until the Berrys took over in 1986.

Audrey was everyone's friend, she loved children and knew all their names, but did not have any of her own. She was always a generous member of the community, making sure everyone had cake and some scones when they visited the shop!

Audrey loved Ashbocking Church and would be seen trudging up the lane from the garage with her trolley of cleaning things to go and clean the church. She knew every inch of the building from cleaning it every week, and she loved doing it. She said she was not an educated person and we know she did not have a happy upbringing, but she did have an unshakeable love of Jesus and could talk with great confidence about faith. Her optimism and strong faith in God which led to her favourite saying, "Don't worry about it dear, it will be alright" and this is what she always believed. She also prayed every night that she would not let Jesus down the next day. Her faith was an example to many.

She was buried in her wedding dress, which was what she had always wanted, the dress having been lovingly ironed by the matron at Barham. She also knew what she wanted at her funeral and chose the readings and hymns. The funeral was very much hers and she was laid to rest with her beloved husband in the churchyard. Family and friends were invited to the Hut in Hemingstone afterwards in response to Audrey's specific instructions for a glass to be raised in celebration of her life. She may have been known as 'little Audrey' but she certainly had a big heart. The Suffolk Guildford of bell ringers rang a quarter-peal in her memory on 26th August. Elizabeth Christian who rang the third signified a special goodbye as this was the bell that her dad always rang at Ashbocking.

The Ashbocking village produce show on 17th September was a huge success, thanks to the dedication and hard work of the parish council team and volunteers, and despite the horrendous weather the day before. The church and the parish council do support each other in their events and our community has enjoyed getting together at them. Whilst manning the barbecue, I was able to see just how many young people we have in our village and I know some have been baptised in Ashbocking church. We would love to see some of these young people taking part in services and with Christmas not so far away, we invite them to join in the carol

service, either singing or playing an instrument. Can we muster a young choir and maybe some accompaniment? Do you know any youngsters who might enjoy the challenge? More in next month's issue.

Ashbocking's harvest festival is on 9th October at 11am. It will be a family service and everyone will be very welcome. Archdeacon Ian Morgan will join us to commission Jan Bates and Linda Pollard as lay elders. Coffee and cake will follow the service. Anyone wishing to help decorate the church, please contact Linda Ellis (890309).

Our home groups have restarted – see below for one of them. The other group at Hawthorns, led by Catherine Beaumont, meets on the 12th and the 26th at 7:30 pm. Contact Catherine or John Pollard (890836) for details. Everyone is welcome to these groups. We discuss and learn in a light-hearted, sharing and supportive environment, so please join us if you have a wish to learn more about the bible, prayer and the church.

Linda Pollard

Church cleaning - Jan and Jon Bates, but extra help is always welcome.

“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 will be meeting on **Wednesday 12th and 19th October** and thereafter every **1st & 3rd Wednesday at 10.00am till 12.00**

For more details call Jan or Jon Bates on 01473 892605

CLOPTON

We had twenty-two cyclists visit the church for the SHCT Bike Ride and Stride this year, making it the highest number since 2007.

Our harvest festival this year is at 9.30am on Sunday 9th October. Clare Sanders will be taking the service and from 9am we will be serving bacon butties, tea and coffee so please come and join us. Help with decorating the church would be much appreciated.

The hobbies group will meet on Wednesday 5th October from 10am until noon in the village hall. The next coffee-morning will be hosted by Kath Raffell in the village hall on Wednesday 19th October from 10am until noon. Please come and join us at these events and meet your friends and neighbours.

Doris Main

Church cleaning
Church flowers

Doris Main
Beryl Birchmore and others!

OTLEY

Harvest Festival will be in the church at 11 o'clock on 2nd October. It's a family service with the Scouts and Cubs on parade, and so a good opportunity for everyone to get together. There will be refreshments in church afterwards.

The village show seemed to be a great success, with new people taking part, although the committee would have liked to see more entries in all the classes. Changeable weather this summer meant that there was not so much garden produce, but the judges said that the exhibits were of a higher standard. It was good to see lots of young families in the hall, where there was a 'buzz' as people looked at everything on display, and it was a happy afternoon. The cup winners were: Jill Scott and Anne Robinson, jointly, for vegetables and flowers (Otley residents only), Jill Scott for produce and another for cookery, Joan Parish for flowers, and Carly Clow

for art and crafts. Special mention was made as Best Exhibit for Jill Scott's sloe gin, loaf of bread and runner beans, Linda Peek's foliage arrangement, and Carly Clow's lovely painting of cows. The winner of the Wyevale Trophy for most points overall was Jill Scott, and the winners of the Barrell Cup, the family cup, were the Osborne family, with Alexander winning the section for primary school children and Joseph winning the section for primary and secondary school age. Congratulations to everybody, and thank you to the committee for all their hard work in organising the event.

The Sponsored Bike Ride (now Ride and Stride) took place on the same day - cooler, breezy, but without the steady rain that was forecast. As far as I know, only James Hall cycled for Otley. His route included a train-ride to Manningtree and then a circuit in the Stour Valley before reaching Sproughton as it shut bang on 5. Fourteen cyclists checked in at Otley church as part of their route. Thank you to all who sponsored or manned the church

The next monthly coffee-morning will be held on Thursday 27th October at Lavender House, The Green, the home of David and Tess Papworth, who extend a warm invitation to all.

Finally, congratulations to Madeleine Ling who has a place at Loughborough University next year to study Systems Engineering. I am sure there are all sorts of other successes among our young people – tell us about them and well done.

Rose Rogerson

Village diary:

- 3rd Oct** Gardening Club – “Gardeners’ Question Time”
Matthew Tanton Brown
- 6th Oct** Friendship Club - Russell Ling: The History of Parish Councils
- 20th Oct.** Friendship Club - Wendy Marshall: sugar paste demonstration
- 21st/22nd Oct.** Otley Players - Murder Mystery evening, with supper

5th Nov. Community Council - Fireworks evening

Church flowers: Linda Peek/Tessa Brown
Church Cleaning: Mary Hunt/Ruthie Bullock

Sidepersons:

2nd October	11.00am Harvest Festival	Pauline Crowley
16th October	9.30am Holy Communion	David Papworth
23rd October	6.30pm Evening Prayer	Peter Rogerson

You are all invited to

Otley's Harvest Festival & Church Parade

at 11 am on Sunday 2nd October in Otley Church

Please do bring gifts for the Food Bank & Farm Africa Collection

& join us for a glass of wine & nibbles afterwards.

Otley Community Lunch

This has got off to a tremendous start, thanks to the wonderful hospitality of Linda and her team at the White Hart. On the third Thursday of each month residents of Otley and the surrounding area can enjoy a delicious two-course lunch for just £5! Linda is an excellent cook and offers a varied and interesting menu. To book a place to join us for a friendly and relaxed get-together and a wonderful home-cooked meal, ring Linda on 890312. The next lunch will be on Thursday 20th October at 12.30 pm. Transport can be provided for anyone who has difficulty in getting out and about – please telephone me on 737674. *Alyson Chilvers*



In time for Christmas!

Otley Church Preservation Trust have produced their first ever village calendar which will be in A4 format.

Each month will display a photograph of a different scene in our village.

2017 Otley Calendar

On sale soon @ £4.99

For more details and advance orders please contact:

Tess Papworth on 01473 890091



The Otley Players

The Otley Players present **Triumphs, Trophies and Tragedies at the DAFTA Awards** - a murder mystery evening with a 3-course meal.

Every year, actors and actresses, directors, producers, scriptwriters, stunt persons and numerous film technicians eagerly and hopefully await their Drama, Arts, Film, and Television Academy (DAFTA) nominations and subsequent invitation to the DAFTA Awards Festival. However, before the event gets started, disaster strikes!

One of the award nominees is discovered...dead!

The only question is this: which one of the guests actually committed the crime? Join us for a night of serious fun and sleuthing!

October 21st & 22nd, Otley Village Hall, tickets are £12.50 - please see our website for details on how to buy -

www.theotleyplayers.co.uk

Vanessa Ling, TOPS



Otley and District Gardening Club

2016-2017 New Season Programme

We meet at 7.30pm, 1st Monday of the month
Otley Village Hall, Chapel Road, Otley
(Invited speakers on a wide range of subjects)

Next meeting Monday 3rd October

“Gardeners’ Question Time” with Matthew Tanton Brown
Compare gardening notes over tea, coffee & biscuits

All welcome – Join up or just come along

Admission £1.50 (members) £4 (non-members), including refreshments .Annual membership £10.To find out more contact Alan Trevelyan (890563) Jenny Vince (738244) or Isabel Lincoln (890826).

SWILLAND

The recent Lunar Ladies evening at the Moon and Mushroom was well-attended. Catherine Beaumont gave an interesting talk on her early years and when she was a lawyer and business-woman in London before coming to Otley Hall and ordination. Thank you to Gina for organising it.

During our Harvest Festival service Bertie Leggett was baptised. He is the grandson of Robert and Cathy Leggett of Ashbocking. It was lovely to have a church full with many young people and children. We wish Robert Thomas, Nina and Bertie a happy family life. Coffee and biscuits were served in the churchyard afterwards so people had a chance to chat.

Gill Reidy and Barbara Lines took part for Swilland in the Suffolk Historic Churches Ride and Stride and look forward to hearing how many churches they visited and how much they raised. Thank you to them and to all those who manned the church during the day. We had 15 visitors, which was more than in recent years.

The next coffee-morning is at the home of Gina Wilden, 7 High Road, on Saturday 1st October from 10-11.30 a.m. Do come and join us. Gina's house is the last one on the right before the water-tower when coming from the church.

Christmas Draw tickets are now on sale. Please sell as many as you can. The draw will be on 3rd December in Witnesham Village Hall over lunch time.

Flower rota:

2nd October. Jackie Williams
9th - 16th October. Margo Barker
23rd - 30th October. Ann Kent

Ann Kent

RAINFALL – AUGUST

We can't complain that we haven't had a good summer this year. Apart from a few light showers, August was hot and dry with only 1.1 inches of rain, and the hot spell continued well into September.

With good weather and modern combines, harvest can be completed relatively quickly as it was this year, but this wasn't always so. When binders were used to do the cutting, about twelve sheaves were stood up with the butt ends on the ground and leant against each other to form the shape of a tent, thus making a shock or in Norfolk a stook. These were then left until the binding had been completed and then loaded onto wagons and taken to the stackyard to be made into stacks. Later, a threshing machine came to separate the grain from the straw. However, in a wet year very often the ears would start to sprout in the shocks before they could be carted and then they would have to be re-shocked in order to get them dry.

Russell Ling



Tap Dance Classes for Adult Beginners

Due to the success of the 8 week Tap Dance Class, we are going to continue to meet every Wednesday 10.30-11.15am at Otley village hall.

Never tapped before? Would you like to learn the basics?

**No partner or experience required. Beginners welcome.
Meet new people**

For queries and to book, please contact Jill Streatfeild 07778 746315 / 01394 384557 <http://woodbridgetapdance.weebly.com>

DEBENHAM GROUP PRACTICE

If you are a patient at the Debenham Group Practice and are 65 or over, or suffer from heart disease, asthma, diabetes or renal disease, have a reduced immune system, are a carer or are pregnant we recommend that you have a flu vaccination. Our Flu Clinic dates are:

Wednesday 5 October 9.00am – 4.00pm Debenham
Community Centre - walk in clinic (no appointment needed)

Tuesday 11 October 3.00pm – 6.00pm Grundisburgh
Surgery - appointment required

Saturday 22 October 9.00am - 12.00noon Otley Surgery -
appointment required

At all our flu clinics this year, members of the Patient Participation Group (PPG) will be helping to raise funds towards the purchase of a Blood Pressure Monitor. If anyone is able to donate raffle prizes that would be very much appreciated – these can be dropped off in advance at any of the three receptions. Also – please make sure you remember to bring some change with you to the flu clinic so that you can buy lots of tickets!

Steve Bloomfield - Business Manager

SMILE LINES

If you understand it...

When you get to the point where you really understand your computer, it's probably obsolete.

Lost in translation

Sign on a door in Istanbul: American dentist – 2nd floor. Teeth extracted by a new Methodist.

A WC worth visiting

Years ago a young couple were house-hunting in rural Somerset, and so visited an elderly clergyman who had a cottage for sale. Later they could not remember seeing a bathroom in the property, and so wrote asking where the WC might be. The minister was not familiar with the term, and decided they must be asking for the nearest Wesleyan Church. And so he wrote them this reply:

'Dear ... I regret to inform you that the nearest WC is fifty miles away, which is most unfortunate if you are in the habit of going regularly. This one is situated in a beautiful valley, and many local people make a day of it, setting off in early morning and taking picnics with them. Some travel by car, others by bus, and some (on foot) arrive just in time. A bell rings 20 minutes before the WC opens, and there is plenty of standing room if you are late.

Inside, there are 40 plush seats, and beautiful carvings on the walls. The children sing as they process in, and there is even an organ accompaniment. I hope this will encourage you to visit it, and enjoy what it offers. I myself have not been for five months, and you can imagine this pains me very much. Yours faithfully...



St FRANCIS

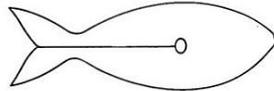
4th October is the feast day of St Francis of Assisi. When Francis came to God people thought he had gone mad and even his own father disowned him. But Francis' simple way of life soon attracted others. He and his companions went out to preach two by two. Unlike the preachers and priests that people were used to, they wore sackcloth and went barefoot. They were different in other ways too; they lived a very simple life and celebrated God's creation.

And to Francis all of God's creation was equally important. In one famous story a wolf had been eating people. The town wanted to kill the wolf but Francis talked the wolf into never killing again. And the townspeople made sure that the wolf always had plenty to eat.

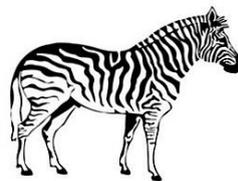
Even blindness did not discourage Francis' spirit when he wrote his beautiful 'Canticle of the Sun' praising God through the miracle of His creation. Francis died aged only 45, worn out with years of poverty and wandering.

SWIM, FISH, SWIM

How do you make a paper fish swim? Cut a fish shape from a sheet of ordinary writing paper. Make it 10-12cm long, and decorate it making sure that the colours won't run when the fish gets wet. In the centre of the fish's body cut a small circle and then a very narrow slit from the tail to the circle.



Now, keeping its surface dry, gently lay the fish on the surface of a bath or large bowl of water and carefully place a few drops of cooking oil into the central hole. The oil will expand through the slit and drive the fish through the water.



What's black and white and goes round and round?

A zebra stuck in a revolving door.

Why did the homeless turtle cross the road?

To get to the Shell station.

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