

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Give us, Lord, a vision of our world as your love would make it:
a world where the weak are protected and none go hungry or poor;
a world where the benefits of civilized life are shared, and everyone can enjoy them;
a world where different races, nations and cultures live in tolerance and mutual respect;
a world where peace is built with justice, and justice guided by love; and give us the inspiration and courage to build it, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Geoffrey Brown (St. Martin's in the Fields)

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

ASHBOCKING

We send our warm congratulations to Jon and Bev on the safe arrival of Jacob George James Last at the end of February.

On 27th March Bishop Mike Harrison was installed as Bishop of Dunwich at Bury St Edmunds Cathedral and Ashbocking church was privileged to be invited to participate in the service, which had Growing in God as its theme. Catherine Beaumont, Liz Stegman, Linda Pollard, Adine Schrankel and Stephanie Andrews-Pearce gave readings, prayers and a short interview to reflect Growing in Number. Stephanie had baby Isaac strapped to her and he, as always, stole the show. The service was indeed a very moving one and we all enjoyed participating with the support of family and friends. Bishop Mike will be visiting Ashbocking for the service on June 5th. This will be a wonderful opportunity for everyone to welcome him.

Brenda Mitchell has kindly offered to do a flower arranging demonstration in the church on Saturday 8th May at 10:30am. Anyone with an interest in arranging flowers in the church is welcome to come and be inspired by Brenda's great knowledge and experience. Tea and coffee will be available for a small donation.

1st April is the date of the next coffee-morning at Linda and John Pollard's house, Hawthorns, The Green, Ashbocking. Last month's at Otley Hall was well attended with about 25 people. We had a whip round to start fundraising for the church kitchenette and toilet, and were pleasantly surprised to raise over £47. Well done everyone. We agreed that at coffee-mornings in the future we will have a stall for bring and buy items. This is to include books, plants, cakes and novelties, but no jumble please. Telephone me on 01473 890836 if you require transport.

Meetings are in full swing for the Ashbocking Church quiz to be held on the 25th June. Please put this date in the diary as it will be a fun evening starting at 6pm for all the family. There will be a BBQ, bar and raffle as well as an opportunity to win a Land Rover Teddy bear. The event will raise funds for a toilet and kitchenette in church. Flyers will be circulated soon and tickets will be available nearer the date.

We hope in the future to bring more music into the church and are appealing to those who like to sing to join a church choir. If you are interested, please let Catherine Beaumont or John and Linda Pollard know. However, before we can start a choir we do need a musical director who can read music, to lead the singers. There must be someone out there with just the talent! We only have one service a month so the commitment isn't too great.

Our church family service is on 10th April at 11:00am. The annual church meetings will be held at the end of this service and everyone is welcome. There is an away day at Otley Hall for

Ashbocking and Swilland parishioners on 16th April (cost £5, including lunch). Places are still available. Please contact Catherine Beaumont.

Linda Pollard

Church Cleaning

Jan and Jon Bates

“GOING DEEPER” HOMEGROUP

We have moved to **Manor Farm** across the road on the Green, at **Ashbocking**, where we have plenty of room to welcome any newcomers.

We 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

The Clopton coffee-morning continues to be well supported. The April one will be on Wednesday 20th and will be hosted by Della Hughes. Everyone is most welcome to come and join us between 10am and noon in the village hall.

The preparations for the flower festival on 28th to 30th May have started. We would like a few more flower arrangers and help with teas etc. over the weekend. We are mostly amateurs so do not be afraid to offer to help.

Our annual fete is on Sunday June 19th and the aim is to make it even better this year! More details to follow; keep the date free! The strawberry tea will be on Saturday June 25th, another date for the diary!

Doris Main

Church cleaning
Church flowers

Doris Main
Doris Main

OTLEY

The quiz evening was a great success, with eight tables taking part. This year the questions were compiled by Julie and Andrew Baker and Andrew's sister Sarah, and they included new subjects e.g. 'Scotland', 'Religious', 'Green' (environmental), and no 'Food and Drink'! The winners were the Secret Seven team - Ian and George Chilvers, Graham and Liz Hudson, Joan Parish and friends. A delicious jacket potato and chilli con carne supper was provided by Ruth Farnhill, Penny Clark and Alyson Chilvers, and the evening raised a profit of £690 for church funds. Well done to everybody involved. Our next fundraising event will be the progressive dinner on Saturday 25th June.

The next monthly coffee-morning will be held on Thursday 28th April at 16 Spring Park, the home of Karin and Brian Upson. More people are attending the coffee-mornings now, which is very good to see. Everybody is welcome.

The annual church meetings will take place in church at 6 o'clock on Sunday 24th April.

Rose Rogerson

Village diary

7th April	Friendship Club AGM
21st April	Friendship Club Quiz
25th April	Community Council AGM
28th/29th/30th April	"Wild Goose Chase" - The Otley Players
5th May	Friendship Club - talk on Health Matters - alternative medicine, by Nelson Runton

Church flowers:

Church Cleaning

Sidespersons' Rota

Joan Parish/Linda Peek

Mary Hunt and Ruthie Bullock

3rd April 11.00am Family Service David Papworth
17th April 9.30am Holy Communion Betty and Philip David

A date for your diaries... Otley Village Show: Saturday 10th September 2016

The Otley Village Show Committee will be organising the village show again this year and would really appreciate a bumper number of entries! We work very hard to organise the show and our greatest reward is to see as many entries as possible. So please don't think you are not good enough, because you could be surprised! The categories will be advertised shortly in the Otley Village Stores and on Facebook and the brochures will be available from May onwards.

Helen Quilliam on behalf of the Otley Village Show Committee

Friendship Club

This year we have compiled a programme of events which should cater for a wide variety of interests. On 5th May there is to be a talk by Nelson Brunton MD on Health Matters and this is about natural medicines and their uses. On 22nd September Sue Courtney will be showing us how to carry out flower arrangements with our garden flowers. On 3rd November David Papworth is telling us about his years looking after pigs entitled "Pig tales (or should it be tails?)". The outings this year begin with a visit to Blickling Estate in Norfolk on 30th June, followed by Flatford Mill (made famous by John Constable the painter) on 28th July. The final visit is to Duxford Air Museum on 25th August, when children accompanied by their parents are very welcome to join us.

The Friendship Club's ordinary meetings take place on the first and third Thursday of the month and consist of games, quizzes, crafts, coffee mornings, cream teas, BBQ and a Christmas dinner and a Christmas tea party at the end of the year. All meetings begin at 2.30 pm in summer time and 2.00 pm when the clocks go back.

We welcome anyone to the talks and outings, including non-members, but of course we hope that you will join. If anyone is interested to go on any outings, please contact Wendy Marshall on 01473 892 588 for times etc



“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go” (*I can Read with my Eyes Shut*, Dr. Seuss). Last month saw all sorts of characters from children’s books come to pre-school for World Book Day:

Peter Pan; Captain James Hook; Zog; Funnybones to name just a few. Everyone had a great day sharing favourite stories and carrying out role plays as their chosen characters.

The children have been busy making crafts for Mother’s Day and Easter. A day of theme activities was organised to celebrate Chinese New Year. Parents were greeted at pick-up by an enormous Chinese-style dragon made out of boxes, paper, paint and eight little people hiding within – it looked fantastic! Our annual Easter egg hunt was held in the grounds of Otley Primary School – needless to say the Easter bunny had been busy, much to the children’s delight. An Usbourne book sale was also held to raise funds for the setting.

This month a lot of the children will find out which school they will be attending in September. We continue to help prepare them for the transition, making marks in the outdoor sandpit, learning shapes and working with colours at the colour-sorting station. If you would like to visit us please get in touch on 07789 468853. Please look at our Facebook page or our website:
www.otleyunderfives.co.uk

Viva La Vegas

Otley County Primary School PTA is holding a casino night on Saturday 7th May in Otley village hall. We have high quality casino games and we include a welcome drink, a pot of poker chips and a buffet within the great value £10 ticket price. Smart dress is encouraged, so what better excuse to dust down the tux, dress up and step out for a fun sociable evening? There will be plenty of fun games for all abilities and a licensed bar is available. Tickets are limited and available from 12th April from Otley Village Stores and Vicky Thrun in the school playground. For more information please call Vanessa on [01473 892180](tel:01473892180).

Otley And District Gardening Club

The next meeting is Monday 4th April – AGM followed by David Papworth – “Les Jardins de la Vallee de la Loire”. All welcome.

Alan Trevelyan

London Moonwalk

On 14 May a group of ladies from Otley will be travelling to the capital to take part in the London Moonwalk. This is a charity “power walk” in aid of vital breast cancer causes. All money raised will go towards ground breaking research projects as well as supporting those that have cancer now. We will be setting off at midnight with thousands of other enthusiastic walkers, dressed in pink and brightly coloured underwear (I’m not too sure about this!) and we hope to finish, as a team, in time for breakfast. If you would like to support us we have organised a selection of events where you can contribute to this very worthwhile cause.

Saturday 9th April – Quiz and draw – Otley White Hart 8.00 p.m.
£2.00 per team member

Sunday 10th April – Vintage full afternoon tea – Otley village hall
2.00 p.m. £10.00

Saturday 16th April – 80’s disco – Otley village hall – 7.30 p.m.
£10.00

If you would like tickets for any of the above please contact Alyson Chilvers 01473 737674 or Ruth Farnhill 01473 890543. Alternatively if you are unable to join us but would still like to contribute we have a giving page <https://moonwalklondon2016.everydayhero.com/uk/city-striders> or Penny has kindly provided a charity jar for us in the Post Office. Very many thanks.

The "City Striders"

Tap Dance Classes for Adult Beginners in Otley

FREE taster session Wednesday 27th April 10.30-11.15am

Followed by an 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

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✓ Refreshments provided



For queries and to book, please contact

Jill Streatfeild 07778 746315 / 01394

384557 jillstreatfeild@hotmail.co.uk

SWILLAND

May I wish everyone Happy Easter. May the weather get warmer and drier!

There will be a coffee-morning on Saturday 2nd April from 10 - 11.30 am. at Gill Reidy's - 1 Church Lane. Do come.

It is not too late to say you would like come to the away day for Ashbocking and Swilland churches at Otley Hall on Saturday 16th April. We shall be discussing what it means to be Christians, what we do as the church, being companion churches, and how we

move on in the future. The cost is £5 including lunch. For more details or to book, please contact Catherine Beaumont.

Our annual church meetings are on 17th April after the 11am family service. Everyone will be welcome. If you are not on the church electoral roll but would like to be, please contact Gill Reidy and she will give you a form.

Flower rota:

3rd - 10th April	Jackie Williams
17th - 24th April	Margo Barker
1st - 8th May	Ann Kent

Ann Kent

RAINFALL – FEBRUARY

February fill dyke it was not as we only had .95 inches of rain in the month, although 2012's total was even less, at .35 inches, it was mainly damp and cloudy with a few fine spells towards the end. There were a few night frosts but the temperature never fell below minus 2 degrees. Winters as they used to be seem to give us a miss, especially in this area, and this is borne out by the Met. Office reporting that it has been the warmest winter ever recorded since 1912, when records began.

Years ago a mild winter was bad for winter wheat which would have made a great deal of growth and became what was known as winter-proud. Then, if there were some late frosts, the leaf would suffer from the cold and take a long time to recover. Farmers with sheep would often put them onto the fields to graze them to reduce this growth, thus giving a free feed for the sheep; the wheat soon recovered once the warm weather came. One has to remember that the old varieties of wheat grew much longer stems and were liable to lodge (bend over) towards harvest time, which the newer varieties don't do. There was an old saying which went "laid barley makes a man, but laid wheat breaks a man" meaning that if a crop of barley lodged, it would still

give a good yield, whereas wheat would only produce small grains, which weren't worth so much.

Russell Ling

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

Saturday 2nd April A day with Gordon Melvin 'Reviewing Enneagram, Part two'. Workshop for people who have taken part one. 10am – 5pm. £28 per person

Wednesday 13th April Elizabeth Corker – 'Prayer and spirituality for busy people'

Wednesday 27th April Malcolm Guite – 'Parable and Paradox' Poetry and reflections on the saying of Jesus.

Days cost just £23 including all refreshments and lunch and run from 10am-4pm apart from Saturday 2nd April.

Contact [01473 890264](tel:01473890264) or events@otleyhall.co.uk for further information. Full programme available on our website www.otleyhall.co.uk

The Queen is 'very grateful' for the nation's prayers

In a strong statement of faith, the Queen has said that she is 'very grateful' to the nation for its prayers for her and that she has felt God's 'faithfulness' during 64 years on the throne. The comments – rare insights into the Queen's personal thoughts and Christian faith – came in the forward to a new book, "The Servant Queen and the King She Serves", published by Bible Society, HOPE and LICC to mark Her Majesty's 90th birthday. She said, 'I have been – and remain – very grateful to you for your prayers and to God for His steadfast love. I have indeed seen His faithfulness.'

The Queen's Christian faith is well-known. In recent years, Her Majesty has referred to her beliefs in public statements, including Christmas broadcasts. "The Servant Queen and the King She

Serves” highlights the Queen’s faith and how it has shaped her personal life and service to the nation.

Visit www.hopetogether.org.uk/thequeen to order copies.

SMILE LINES

Worry

I have so many problems that if a new one comes along today, it will be at least two weeks before I can worry about it.

Reception

Two television aerials met one day and fell madly in love with each other. Eventually they decided to get married and booked the local church. Apparently the service was not up to much but the reception was excellent!

Kisses

A husband and wife go to a counselor after 15 years of marriage. The counselor asks them what the problem is and the wife goes into a tirade listing every problem they have ever had in the 15 years they've been married. She goes on and on and on. Finally, the counselor gets up, goes around the desk, embraces the woman and kisses her passionately. The woman shuts up and sits quietly in a daze. The counselor turns to the husband and says "that is what your wife needs at least three times a week. Can you do that?" The husband thinks for a moment and replies, "Well, I can get her here Monday and Wednesday.....but Friday I golf."

Happy Ending

Comment from a parishioner: ‘Our vicar’s sermons always have a happy ending. The moment they’ve ended, everyone feels happy.’



HOLY WEEK

Holy Week is the week before Easter Day; it starts with Palm Sunday which is on 20th March this year. Palm Sunday is when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.



The Thursday of Holy Week is called Maundy Thursday which is named for the words that Jesus used at his last meal with the disciples, what we now call the Last Supper. The Latin words are 'Madatum novum da vobis' – a new commandment I give you'. Do you know what that commandment is? You can read the whole account in St John's Gospel, chapter 13.

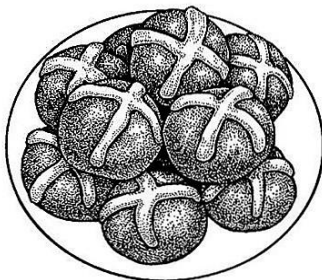
Then comes Good Friday - a lot of people can't see why a day that commemorates the trial and crucifixion of Jesus could be called 'good'. It was a black day but Christians know that without what happened that Friday there would be no Easter. Without the death of our Lord there would have been no empty tomb on Easter Day, no glorious Resurrection.

HOT CROSS BUNS

One of the pleasures of Easter is eating hot cross buns. Like most things they cost more now than they did in this old rhyme...

Hot Cross Buns,
Hot Cross Buns,
One a penny, two a penny,
Hot Cross Buns.
If you have no daughters,
Give them to your sons,
One a penny, two a penny,
Hot Cross Buns.

If you have some time to spare, see how many words you can make from the letters in the words HOT CROSS BUNS. Words of at least 3 letters, no plurals, proper names or foreign words.



What do you get when you pour boiling water down a rabbit hole?

A hot cross bunny.

Why couldn't the rabbit fly home for Easter?

He didn't have the hare fare.

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“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter...”

... so winter sees roaring fires, Old Ales, hearty stews and juicy mussels; spring is heralded with the pink, spindly rhubarb, followed by tender asparagus and a wide choice of Gin & Tonics for toasting the longer days; summer brings strawberries, rosé wine and plump Cromer Crab, whilst Autumn ushers in the Aspall Cyder, quinces and game pies. All this, with regular events and special menus for high days and holidays, really does make us a pub for all seasons...

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