

POEM FOR THE MONTH

Autumn Blessings

Autumn brings to the soul relief,
as hot summer days, slip to an end
God sent the season for weary hearts
to restore, repair and mend.

Unlike the Autumn trees,
that shed their changing leaves
God sent the season for failing hearts
to adhere, embrace and cleave.

Just as with the Autumn winds,
there comes a new refreshing rain
God sent the season for fraying hearts
to increase, grow and gain.

The Autumn sun is slow to climb,
and dips much earlier into the night
God sent the season for tired hearts
to rise, shine and awake in His light.

God gave to us the Autumn season,
so we could have a respite and rest
for it is the season for our beset souls
to see how much we are blessed!

Deborah Ann Belka

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

ASHBOCKING

We have been blessed with some lovely weekend weather this last month. It did stay dry for Oliver and Chelsea Christians wedding on

October 7th even though it was wet later in the day. It was lovely to see the church so full and the bride looked radiant. The church had been decorated by the church flower ladies and looked beautiful.

Following the wedding the extra harvest decorations were put in place for the Harvest service the following day. We were grateful to Otley for passing on the wheat sheaves from their service the previous week. We were also thankful for the Harvest bread, baked and donated by Ann Ledgerly. Produce was given to the Winesham Nursing home and dry goods went to FIND.

On Sunday 15th October Noreen Finch and Ken Petherbridge, church warden at Boulge Church, had their wedding rings blessed by Bishop John, following their marriage on Friday. It was a beautiful day and guests were invited back to Feoffee Farm house for Wedding cake and prosecco. We wish Noreen and Ken every happiness in their life together.

Preparations for the Christmas bazaar are ongoing. We are still accepting nearly new items, bric-a-brac and books, and would be glad of cakes to sell. There has been a donation of an original oil painting by Brenda Mitchell for which we will be taking sealed bids. It is a very pretty floral picture which I am sure will generate a lot of interest. A really big thank you to Brenda for her generosity. We can collect or you can drop items off at John and Linda Pollard's house. Hawthorns, The Green. (bottom of Ashley Grange) Tel: 01473 890836.

Please join us on 25th November at Ashbocking Church, 11:00am until 3:30pm when there will be handmade gifts, decorations, nearly new bric-a-brac. There will be a tombola, raffle, books, plants and refreshments of cake, scones and sausage rolls with tea, coffee and soft drinks. We look forward to seeing you on the day.

The next service at the church is the Remembrance service on November 12th. This is a family service led by Mark Cresswell. Please

remember that we start the service earlier at 10:50am to accommodate the two-minute silence at 11:00am.

The November coffee morning is on the 3rd at 10:00am, at Hawthorns, The Green. We look forward to welcoming you for coffee and cake, all invited, please let us know if you require transport.

Church cleaning for November is Nel and Rex Peries although we would be grateful to anyone who can help with setting up for the Bazaar during the previous week. Please contact Linda Pollard if you would like to help.

Linda Pollard

Church Cleaning:

Nel and Rex Peries

CLOPTON

The church looked beautiful for our Harvest Service in September. Thank you to Sue Emmerson for helping with the arrangements and to Ann Kent for giving us the lovely pew end arrangements. Jane Wood gave a very interesting talk about how pigeon peas are being grown as a more viable crop for drought conditions in Africa rather than sweetcorn. We all went home with some peas so maybe there will be a good crop in Clopton next year! A car load of harvest produce was taken to the Salvation Army Hostel in Ipswich. Thank you to all those who donated food.

Audrey and Chris Barker have been on the cleaning rota at Clopton for many years. They have decided to 'retire ' this month. They have been wonderful and we are sorry to lose them. The church always looked really clean when they had been working there. I expect they will miss the bats too.

Dates for this month:

Wednesday 1st November, Hobbies morning from 10am until noon in the Village Hall. Everyone is very welcome.

Saturday 4th November from 10am until noon. Table Top sale in the Village Hall. Entry is free and there will be refreshments. People have been collecting together lots of interesting items that they no longer need but they could be just what you really want. Come along and get some bargains!

Sunday 12th November starting at 10.50am is the annual Remembrance Service. This takes place at the 493rd Bombardment Memorial off Snipe Farm Road. The service will be followed by refreshments in the Education Centre on the old airfield. This short act of remembrance is very special so do come and join in.

Wednesday 15th November from 10am until noon is the monthly Coffee Morning in the Village Hall. Jenny Vince will be hosting it so do come along and meet other people in the village.

Doris Main

Church Cleaning: Audrey and Chris Barker

Church Flowers: Doris Main

OTLEY

Harvest Festival was a lively service, attended by a lot of people, and Clare had planned it around the theme of gardening. She asked the children what grew in their gardens, everybody was given a pumpkin seed, and volunteers had to taste six different apples and guess their varieties. Members of the Gardening Club had contributed flowers, fruit and vegetables, and the church was filled with produce and beautifully decorated. The collection for Farm Africa amounted to £106.71. The perishable fruit and vegetables were sent to the Salvation Army, and the non-perishable goods to FIND.

The Progressive Dinner was fun and sociable, as ever. Sixteen couples took part, finding their way from house to house, and ending up for coffee at the home of Jonathan and Ruth Farnhill. £320 was raised for church funds.

Our coffee morning for Macmillan Cancer Support was a great success and - including some generous donations – raising £590, a fantastic result. THANK YOU to everybody involved. The Surgery also held a coffee morning that day, which made an additional £140. Over 1,000 Macmillan coffee mornings were held in Suffolk this year, and the charity is hoping to fund a specialist lung cancer nurse at Ipswich and two family support workers.

The next monthly coffee morning will be held on Thursday 9th November at 'Windmill', 36 Church Road, the home of Fred and Jane Woods, and they will look forward to welcoming you there.

The Remembrance Day service will take place at the War Memorial in the centre of the village, on Sunday 12th November, starting at 10.50am to allow for the two-minute silence at 11 o'clock.

We are sorry to hear that Roy Bassett has died after an illness, we extend our sympathy to his widow Pat, and to his family.

Congratulations to Tom Rogerson and Tassa Deparis who were married on 7th October. (Tom has played the organ and the piano at church here, and also brought his school choir when he was head chorister, many years ago!) Congratulations, too, to the family of Benedict Brown, who was baptised here the same weekend, and to Fergus, the baby son of Alice Stebbings and Adam Gomm, who was baptised here before that.

Rose Rogerson

Village Diary:

2nd November	Friendship Club - David Papworth: French and Belgian World War I Memorials
4th November	Fireworks Evening (or Sunday 5th November if it rains)
6th November	Gardening Club "Sir Cedric Morris- Iris Breeder, Gardener and Artist"
10th November	Under 5s - Clairvoyant evening
16th November	Friendship Club - Christmas cards craft

18th November TOPS - Fun Quiz Night, with supper and entertainment
23rd November Community Lunch at The White Hart

Church Flowers: Tessa Brown/Advent
Church Cleaning: 1st week - Tessa Brown. 3rd week - Treloars

Sidepersons:

5th November	11.00am	Family Service	David Papworth
12th November	10.50am	Remembrance Service	TBC
19th November	9.30am	Holy Communion	Penny Clark

The Otley Players

TOPS are putting on a “fun” evening in aid of “Children in Need” on Saturday 18th November in the Village Hall. There will be food, ably cooked by Sue, Vanessa and Joan (with helpers), starting with nibbles on the tables followed by a main meal, desert, coffee and tea. This will be interspersed with a bit of entertainment and a not too taxing quiz.

If you are up for a bit of a jolly then please book your tickets **early** – space is limited and tickets are already selling fast. Tables of 8, with 8 or less in a team. Don’t worry if you only want to book one / less than 8 tickets, we will make up tables.

Tickets at a bargain £10.00 for adults and £7.00 for under 12’s are available by phoning Joan on 01473 890715 - plus it’s for a good cause so dial that number now! Do please come bringing your own tippie (no bar but glasses available) and a smiley face.

Otley & District Gardening Club

Our eagerly-awaited meeting on Monday 2nd October saw writer Jackie Bennett giving us her impressions of Jane Austen's consuming interest in the gardens she encountered during a lifetime sadly cut short by sudden illness - she died aged only 42. Apart from occasional passages in the Austen novels themselves though, there are few pointers to evidence her horticultural predilections, and so

there was unfortunately an all-too-evident dearth of relevant content in the talk to interest students of Austen and/or 18th century English gardens.

By contrast, next month's talk on the evening after Guy Fawkes night promises to go with considerably more of a bang, as we have two undoubted sparklers and passionate gardeners in Sarah Cook and Jim Marshall, waxing lyrical about their lifelong passion for bearded irises and the doyen of their breeding and painting, Sir Cedric Morris.

All are welcome to Gardening Club meetings, contact 01473 890563 for details.

The Reluctant Gardener

SWILLAND

The Harvest Festival was held on 17th September. Despite several of our regular congregation being away, 20 people came including the Deer children, Oliver and Isabella. Jane Woods talked about Christian Aid particularly relating to Malawi. Oliver showed us on a map where Malawi is and Isabella gave us all some pigeon peas which are grown in Malawi. As well as flowers, the church was decorated with fruit and vegetables and little sheaves of wheat and barley. There was also a beautifully made harvest loaf depicting loaves and fishes. The produce was taken to Witnesham Care Home where it was gratefully received. We also collect non-perishable gifts for FIND on a regular basis in the boxes at the back of the church, any time is an opportunity to give.

The Ride and Stride raised a total of £99. This was sent to the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust and £49.50 was returned for our funds.

The Coffee Morning at the beginning of October held at Gina Wilden's house was well attended and was a good social occasion with lots of chat. Thank you, Gina.

On 2nd December, instead of a coffee morning, do join us for a light lunch at Witnesham Village Hall from 12 o'clock. The Christmas Draw will take place at 1pm. Draw tickets are available for sale and we shall be pleased to receive gifts towards the prize list. There will be a cake, biscuits and preserves stall, also a gifts and books stalls.

On Saturday 11th November, there will be a working party in the churchyard from 9am – 12noon. We hope lots of people will come and join us. It's a fun morning and we always end up with the churchyard looking much tidier. If anyone has a strimmer and tools they can bring, that will be good. We usually polish the brasses and pews as well so that is an option to working outside. There will be biscuits, cakes, tea and coffee to keep you going.

On Remembrance Sunday, 12th November, a short service will be held at the memorial at 12.15pm.

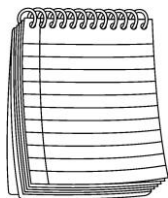
We shall be carol singing in the village on 15th December. More information in the December magazine.

Ann Kent

Flower rota:

5th – 12th November
19th – 26th November

Margo Barker
Ann Kent



Your Contributions Welcomed

We are inviting you to submit any short stories, anecdotes, jokes or recipes etc that you may think are interesting or amusing and would like to see in the magazine. Any suitable topic is welcome. we are happy to also accept "news from local groups/ upcoming events & charity fundraisers etc.

Please email your article to Amy Wasp at Bakergirl174@gmail.com and Angela Treloar at amtremoar@btinternet.com. All editorial must be received by the **16th** of the preceding month.

RUSSELL LING REPORTS

September has been rather an unsettled month but the rainfall has been light with only a total of 1.45 inches. We continue to have a number of low pressure areas coming in from the Atlantic which have deposited most of the rain in the west country, so by the time they reach us the clouds are quite scattered and we have usually avoided the heavy showers.

September in the past was the month that the sheaves of corn were taken back to the farm to be stacked. Wagons drawn by horses were used for this purpose. Early in the morning two men would take the wagon down to the field that was to be carted. One man would pitch the sheaves from the shock onto the wagon and the second man would load it. It was essential that the load was upright as the wheels on the wagon were solid and any rough ground that they went over could tip the sheaves off, ropes were used to help keep this from happening. After all the sheaves from the shock were put onto the load the pitcher would call out "hold tight" the horse would then automatically move onto the next shock and then on the command "whoa" the horse would stop.

There had to be a continuous supply of wagons to avoid wasted time in the field and it was usually the job of the farm boy to what was known as "drive away" that is to take the unloaded wagon from the stack yard back to the field. When the distance to the field became too far a fourth wagon with driver was needed and a trace horse was used to help pull the heavy loads home. The trace horse had chains attached to its collar and these were hooked onto an iron staple under the end of the wagon shafts. A plough line was used to direct the horse from where the driver could sit on the shaft if he wanted to as there was a considerable amount of walking to do over the day.

There were three men in the stack yard, one to pitch the sheaves onto the stack, another to deliver them to the man building the stack. There is an art in stacking, the sheaves had to be laid with the flat side uppermost and the middle of the stack had to be slightly higher than the outside. As the roofline was made the sloping

sheaves would then be able to prevent any rain getting into the stack until it was thatched.

The village children at that time would come and have a ride on the empty wagons to the field and then walk back again.

Russell Ling

St Elizabeth Hospice Great Garden Trail 2018

St Elizabeth Hospice is seeking beautiful gardens for its
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If you have a garden, no matter what the size, that you'd like to open to the public to support the hospice, please

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visit stelizabethhospice.org.uk/greatgardentrail

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Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Hebrews 13:2

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SMILE LINES

New arrivals

An expectant father mistakenly phoned the local cricket club instead of the hospital to see how his wife was getting on. "Very well" came the reply "we've got two out already and we expect to get the rest out before tea - the last one was a duck".

Praying for a brother

A small boy badly wanted a baby brother, so his dad suggested he pray every night for one. The boy prayed earnestly, night after night, but his prayers seemingly weren't answered. After a few weeks, he didn't bother to ask anymore.

Some months later, his dad said they were going to see his mum in the hospital and he was going to get a big surprise. When they got to the room, the little boy saw his mother holding two babies. 'Well, what do you think about having twin brothers?' his dad asked.

The little boy thought for a moment and replied, 'It's a good thing I stopped praying when I did.'

Careful!

There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country. 'Is there anything breakable in here?' asked the postal clerk.

The lady thought for a moment, and replied: 'Only the Ten Commandments.'



St HUGH of LINCOLN 17th November

In the Middle Ages, bishops were very important people. They were not only men of the church but also involved in running the country. They lived in great palaces and did not have much to do with ordinary people.

Bishop Hugh of Lincoln was different. He became known and loved for his charity to the poor; he cared for lepers and even risked his own life to prevent the killing of Jewish people during riots.

The Bishop rebuilt Lincoln Cathedral after it was destroyed by a great earthquake in 1185, but to him people were always more important than all the carved stones.

If you go to Lincoln, look out for the pictures of swans because St. Hugh is usually shown with a swan. He had a pet swan which guarded him while he was asleep.



BIBLE Hs

All the answers to this quiz begin with the letter H. Which 'H'...

1. Was a son of Noah? (Genesis, chapter 5)
2. Was David's first capital? (2 Samuel, chapter 2)
3. Was Herod's wife? (Matthew, chapter 14)
4. Did Goliath have that was made of bronze? (1 Samuel, chapter 17)
5. Was the King of Tyre who sent cedar wood for the Temple? (1 Kings, chapter 5)
6. Was hung on the willows by the rivers of Babylon? (Psalm 137)
7. Jesus said the birds have nests and foxes have these (Luke, chapter 9)
8. What are pleasant words like? (Proverbs, chapter 16)



Do you have a hobby?

Yes, I like sitting in the corner collecting dust.

Answers: 1. Ham 2. Hebron
3. Herodias 4. helmet 5. Hiram
6. harps 7. holes 8. honeycomb

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