

POEM FOR THE MONTH

RING OUT, WILD BELLS

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light.
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old; ring in the new.
Ring, happy bells, across the snow.
The year is going; let him go.
Ring out the false; ring in the true.
The year is going; let him go.
Ring out the false; ring in the true.

Ring in the valiant men and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand.
Ring out the darkness of the land;
Ring in the Christ that is to be.
Ring out the darkness of the land;
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

Alfred Lord Tennyson, 1809–1892 (abridged)

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

ASHBOCKING

With Christmas fast approaching by the time you read this the Ashbocking Christmas Bazaar will have taken place, and will hopefully have been a very positive event. The results will be published at a later date.

I just wish to thank everyone responsible for helping to make the event possible. As well as the wonderful team who have supported it from the beginning and all who helped on the day, I wish to thank all the people in the village and further afield who gave so generously to make it a special day. A full report in the next issue in February.

The next coffee morning is on Friday 1st December hosted by Sharon Chenery at No 1 Nelson Close, Ashbocking. This is the first house on the left as you enter The Green from the crossroads. We hope to complete our rota for coffee mornings and church cleaning as there are still gaps that need filling.

February's coffee morning is at Bernard and Brenda Mitchell's house, Knole House, Church Lane Claydon, IP6 0EN. Please contact Linda and John Pollard if you require directions or transport.

Both coffee mornings start at 10 am until 12 midday.

Church cleaning rota for December is Linda and John Pollard, this will be for our Carol Service which takes place on Sunday 17th December at 4pm. This will be led by Clare Sanders and we have been asked to select our favourite Carols at the coffee morning.

Unfortunately, there will be no Christmas day service in Ashbocking this year, so please do come and enjoy singing carols at our Carol service on the 17th, followed by mulled wine and mince pies. Everyone very welcome.

We are hoping to sing carols through the village again this year, and plan to start at the Crockery Barn, as we did last year, meeting at 6pm. We will then meet up with Swilland's carol singers in the Moon and Mushroom for a sing and socialise. Watch out for confirmation of details on Ashbocking's village WhatsApp.

In the new year we will be having a meeting to discuss next year's events. It is hoped that we can offer some different fundraising ideas,

such as a golfing and a family canoeing experience. We are also planning a flower festival in early summer so if you like flowers and want to have a go at arranging watch this space for further details.

We would like to wish everyone across the benefice, and the ministry team, a very happy and peaceful Christmas and New year.

Linda Pollard

Church Cleaning:

Linda and John Pollard

CLOPTON

The Remembrance Sunday Service was held at the 493rd Bombardment Group memorial. The service was led by Jane Wood and there was a gathering of about seventy people. Wreaths were laid by Richard Taylor for the 493rd Bomb. Group and by Chris Angwin for the Parish Council. The names of the fifteen men from Clopton who died in the First World War were read out and we also remembered all the men from the 493rd stationed in Debach who gave their lives in World War Two (Over 230 men).

The memorial is kept in wonderful condition by the Yallop family. After the service refreshments were served in the visitor centre on the old airfield. A big 'Thank you' to Adrian and Julie Yallop and family and friends for all the wonderful food that they provided. Thanks also to Richard and Prilly Taylor for letting us use the Visitor Centre and for providing the teas and coffees. We hope that next year as it is one hundred years since the end of World War 1 we will have one hundred people at the service!

The December Hobbies Morning will be on Wednesday 6th December from 10am until noon in the Village Hall. Everyone is welcome.

We shall be Carol Singing around parts of Clopton on Sunday 17th December starting from Thamaniya in Shop Road at 6pm. Please come and join us, you do not have to have a wonderful voice, just enthusiasm! All money collected will go to the Children's Hospice in Ipswich. The evening will end with mulled wine and mince pies at Pear Tree Farm with the Schurr family.

On Wednesday 20th December from 10am until noon is our annual Christmas Coffee Morning. Each year it is hosted by Della Hughes and Anne Pryke and they always make it very special. If you have never been to one of our Coffee Mornings come and give it a try!

We shall be decorating the church on Thursday 21st December, everyone is very welcome to come and help.

On Sunday 24th December, Christmas Eve, is our annual Candlelight Christmas Carol Service. We look forward to seeing lots of people. The service will be followed by mulled wine and mince pies. Do come and join us.

Wishing everyone a very joyful Christmas and a happy and healthy 2018.

In January the Hobbies Morning will be on Wednesday 3rd from 10am until noon and the Coffee Morning will be on Wednesday 17th from 10am until noon. Both events will be in the Village Hall.

Doris Main

<u>Church Cleaning:</u>	December	Beryl Birchmore
	January	Doris Main
<u>Church Flowers:</u>		Charmaine Williams

OTLEY

The Fireworks Evening was a great success, with a bigger crowd than in previous years. The rain had stopped, which encouraged people to

come, and this year there were fireworks to music which was fun. Everybody tucked in to hot dogs, soup and hot chocolate, and a good time was had by all.

More than 100 people attended the Remembrance Day service at the war memorial on a cold and sunny November morning. Revd Fred Woods led the service and the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers were on parade with their banners. Peter Rogerson, who saw active service in Aden, read the roll of honour from the memorial and, at each name, pupils from the primary school - Rocco, Phoebe and Harry - planted a poppy cross. We observed the two minutes silence and Guy Nicholls from the Ipswich Hospital Band sounded Last Post and Reveille on the trumpet. Lieut.Col. Geoffrey Mason, who served in Cyprus and Aden, read the Exhortation, and James Kelly, who served in Korea, spoke the Kohima Epitaph. Gerry Senior, representing the Scouts, read the lesson and a wreath was laid by a Scout, a Cub and a Beaver on behalf of the 1st Otley Scouts. Wreaths were then laid by representatives of the village organisations. Thank you to everybody who made this a memorable occasion. Victoria Hook organised the sale of poppies in the village - at the shop, the surgery, the school and the College - and also the wreaths, the poppy crosses and the knitted poppies, and raised a total of £969.03 for the Royal British Legion, an excellent result and more than we have raised before.

At the end of October, a service was held at church for All Souls, taken by Mark Cresswell, remembering especially people who had died during the year, but others as well. Members of their families were present to light a candle and we hope they found it helpful.

Christmas services at Otley will be Communion on Christmas morning at 11 o'clock, and the carol service on - please note - SATURDAY 16TH December at 6 o'clock, to fit in with Clare's busy schedule, with refreshments afterwards. On Christmas Eve the Chilvers family are hosting 'The Nativity' in the barn at Warrens Farm at 4.30pm. The donkeys Rosie and Molly will be playing a part, and also Joanna the sheep. Everybody is welcome, and it would be great

if the children would dress up as angels or shepherds or kings. It will be a spontaneous occasion - unrehearsed but following a script - and there will be more mince pies and mulled wine! Alyson also wants to thank everyone who took part in, or donated to, the ramble for Children in Need. It raised the wonderful amount of £204.

The Grand Christmas Draw and coffee morning will take place at the village hall on 9th December at 10.30am where there will be loads of prizes, so do call in for a coffee and hope to win something. Also, that evening will be the Christmas dinner/dance organised by the Community Council, 7.30pm till late, tickets £22.50 each from James Green tel.01473 890109.

The next monthly coffee mornings will be held on Thursday 14th December at Southview, the home of Anne and Geoff Robinson, and here at Church House on Thursday 11th January. These coffee mornings are friendly and informal, and we are always glad to welcome newcomers.

Advance notice - Junior TOPS will be producing "The Wizard of Oz" on 2nd and 3rd February and on 10th February we will be holding The Annual Otley Quiz – with entertaining quiz, yummy food and bar and if you are lucky a raffle. To book a table contact Ruth on 01473 890543 or 07902024976.

We are very sad to announce that Albert Taylor Balls of Greenacres in the Ipswich Road, passed away peacefully after a short illness. Albert worked tirelessly maintaining the Church grounds for over twenty-five years. He and his wife Dinah have lived in the village all their married life and Albert's parents farmed at Hall Farm in Hall Lane. We extend our condolences to Dinah and the family.

Congratulations to Beth Parish and Ian Mallet on the birth of their baby son, an early arrival who took them by surprise, a little brother for Willow.

We wish everybody a very Happy Christmas, and a happy and healthy New Year.

Rose Rogerson

Village Diary:

2nd December	School Christmas Bazaar - Otley School PTA
4th December	Gardening Club - Christmas Horticultural Quiz with Matthew Tanton Brown
7th December	Christmas Dinner - Friendship Club
9th December	Grand Christmas Draw and coffee morning - St Mary's PCC
9th December	Christmas Dinner/dance - Community Council
14th December	Christmas tea party - Friendship Club
15th December	Christmas Bingo - The Scouts
21st December	Community Lunch at The White Hart
25th January	Community Lunch at The White Hart
2nd/3rd February	"The Wizard of Oz" - Junior TOPS
10th February	The Annual Otley Quiz

Church Flowers: Advent, no flowers/Christmas, everyone

Church Cleaning: Kate Watson / Karin & Brian Upson

Sidepersons:

3 rd December	11.00am	Advent Songs of Praise	Philip David
16 th December	6.00pm	Carol Service	Pauline Crowley
25 th December	11.00am	Family Communion	Rose Rogerson
7 th January	11.00am	Morning Worship	Peter Rogerson
21 st January	9.30am	Holy Communion	Penny Clark
28 th January	4.30pm	Evening Praise at 16 Spring Park	Karin Upson

Otley & District Gardening Club

As a curtain-raiser to our November meeting we were delighted to welcome along Karen Bleay of Suffolk-based charity "The Befriending Scheme" (TBS), to spend a few minutes telling us about a new and worthwhile local educational project called 'Friends Farm Hub'. As TBS Project Manager she is setting up this initiative in partnership with Easton & Otley College in Otley. The focus is on

helping adults and young people with learning difficulties enjoy gardening and caring for small farm animals, through guided and shared activities which help develop enhanced confidence, social and practical skills and knowledge.

Starting up a project like this, needs plenty of initial and ongoing support. Karen is currently seeking help from local people, groups and organisations who might be willing to lend their time, skills, and/or donations of all sorts of surplus equipment and materials, tools, hardware, plants and bushes/trees, animal hutches, the list goes on...

The Friends Farm Hub has been given the use of a one-acre plot with some groundworks, a portacabin and poly-tunnel from Otley College, and she would like to hear from interested people and organisations who could offer support or just want to learn more about how to help make the Friends Farm Hub become a working reality making a difference to people's lives. Call Karen on 07818 262113 for more information, or email her at karen.bleay@thebefriendingscheme.org.uk.

Moving on to our main speakers and their topic, Sarah Cook aided by husband Jim Marshall treated us to a very lively and fascinating talk on local artist, gardener and iris breeder Sir Cedric Morris. Sarah has impeccable gardening credentials as a Chelsea Gold Medal winner and former Head Gardener of National Trust Sissinghurst Gardens in Kent. She also holds the important National Collection of Cedric Morris bearded irises, while Jim specialises in fragrant Malmaison carnations.

We learned that Cedric Morris (1889-1982) was a *bon-viveur* character who kept a bohemian Suffolk household at Benton End near Hadleigh, and was one of the founders of the East Anglian School of Painting and Drawing (notable alumni include Lucien Freud and Maggi Hambling).

A passionate gardener, Morris bred his own strain of bearded irises over many years, for their "elegance, pride and delicacy". Not a good

record-keeper though, since his death many of the 90 or so Morris-cultivars have been "lost", and Sarah's quest has been to discover them again wherever examples can be found, from Suffolk to Germany!

At December's meeting we'll be testing our horticultural knowledge in a Christmas Gardening Quiz with question-master Matthew Tanton Brown.

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

The Reluctant Gardener

SWILLAND

By the time you read this our Christmas Draw will be imminent. Do come and join us for filled rolls, homemade soup and mince pies starting at 12 noon in Witnesham Village Hall. The draw will take place at 1 o'clock. There will be a cake, biscuit and preserves stall, a book stall and a gift stall. If you haven't bought Draw tickets by then, they will still be available.

Carol Singing in the village will take place on Friday 15th December starting with refreshments at Gina Wilden's house at 7 High Road and finishing in the Moon and Mushroom where we will be joined by Ashbocking Carol singers. Do come and join us. Our Carol Service will be on 17th December at 11 a.m. with refreshments afterwards.

May I wish everyone a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Ann Kent

Flower rota:

3rd - 10th December

17th December

24th - 31st December

7th - 14th January

21st - 28th January

Gill Reidy (Greenery only)

Decorate for Christmas

Jackie Williams

Margo Barker

Ann Kent

MRS B'S SHORTBREAD (LOVELY & BUTTERY)

Ingredients

4oz butter

2oz caster sugar

5oz plain flour

1oz ground almonds

line tin or grease well

Method:

Soften butter then beat with sugar until smooth, gradually add flour using a fork and then add ground almonds. Draw mixture together using finger tips. Press into 7inch square tin, prick well all over.

Bake in the centre of a moderate oven 340-350F or 170-175C for about 40 minutes until pale golden brown. Leave in tin for five minutes. Cut into fingers, remove from tin when cold.

RUSSELL LING REPORTS

October was a very dry month with only .75 inches of rain which mostly fell during the third week, the weather was quite mild with some very sunny days. I have only ever recorded one other low autumn rainfall which was in October 1978 when we had .12 inches. The total rainfall this year has been 15.85 inches, it looks as though it is going to be a below average rainfall for the year.

Autumn in the past consisted mainly of ploughing and carting the farm yard manure onto the fields or muck spreading as it was called then. During the year when the muck layer in the animal sheds got too high and required cleaning out it was carted onto large heaps known as muck hills. After harvest was finished tumbrels drawn by horses were filled with the muck by two men using four tined forks, one of the men would take the cart to the field to unload. There would be another in the field unloading and a third coming back from the field so that there would a continuance relay of tumbrels. When the load reached the field, the muck was pulled off the tumbrel from the rear using a muck cromb. The muck cromb consisted of two metal tines six inches long and six inches apart set at an angle of seventy degrees and was fixed to an eight foot

long stave. The muck was pulled off in heaps six yards apart and six yards between rows, the tumbrel was tipped up for the last heap in order that it was completely empty for the return journey. The heaps would then have to be spread and this was done by hand using a four tine fork, one man was expected to spread one acre in a day. If the muck was ploughed in using horses again one man was expected to plough an acre in a day.

CAROLS, CRAFTS AND CAKES

Saturday 2 December 2017 1.30 - 4.30 pm

at Woodbridge Community Centre

ENTRY £2 per person or £5 for a family with children under 12

Father Christmas has agreed to attend

with a Sack full of gifts (£3 per child)

Come and sing some of our favourite carols with the Suffolk Singers

Carol singing at 1.45pm, 2.45pm and 3.45pm

Craft stalls with lots of ideas for Christmas gifts

Refreshments and homemade CAKES

Children's Activities

Tuesday 12 December, 7.00pm - 10.00pm, Otley Village Hall

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

with Margaret Knights of Rose Cottage Flowers

Cost £25.00, to include refreshments and materials

There are only 15 places available, so book now!

Call Sandra on 01473 610264



Thank you to all our readers and contributors for your continued support and editorial. We will not be producing a magazine in January, so our next issue will be February 2018.

We would like to wish you all

"A Very Merry Christmas and A Happy and Healthy New Year"



CHRISTMAS CARDS

Time to write your Christmas cards again – what designs have you picked to send this year? Are they religious ones?

Look in the shops at all the different designs, traditional and modern. Traditional religious cards have usually included the nativity – Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus. But what else would you count as religious? The Three Kings? The Bible doesn't say they were kings, or that there were three; just that they were Wise Men, who travelled far to bring special gifts for the baby Jesus.

Do you know why there are so many robins on Christmas cards? The first postmen in Victorian times wore red and were called robins, so robins were shown as delivering cards.



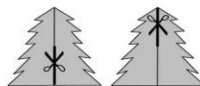
Whatever kind of card you send this year, be sure to include a kind message with love for your friends. Our love is a tiny echo of God's love for all the world.

CARD or DECORATION

Here is a simple 3-D Christmas tree that you can use as a decoration or a card. You will need green card, crayons, glitter or paint, scissors and sticky tape.

Fold a piece of card in half, then cut it in half. Put the two pieces together and fold them in half again.

Draw half a Christmas tree opposite the fold. Cut along the line and you will have 2 identical trees. Fold the trees in half, very lightly, hardly creasing the centre line to mark the centre of the tree. Cut a slit along the bottom half of the centre of one tree and along the top half of the centre of the other tree.



Slip the two trees together along the slits. To help the tree to stand firmly, use sticky tape to fasten the parts together where they meet.

Decorate the tree. If you are using it as a card then leave an area free of decorations so that you can write on it.



*What goes red white red white red white?
Santa rolling down a hill.*

**Boots
n
Blades**

GARDEN MACHINERY SERVICE & REPAIRS

WINTER OFFER

10% OFF SERVICING DEC '17, JAN/FEB'18 SO BOOK YOURS IN NOW.

WE NOW HIRE GARDEN MACHINERY OUT FOR THOSE ONE OFF JOBS. LEAF BLOWER/VAC, SHREDDER, ROTOVATOR, SCARIFIER, POST HOLE BORER ETC

**Closed Sundays & Mondays. Open Tue-Fri 9am-3pm,
Sat 9am-12pm.**

6A MEADOW WORKS BUSINESS PARK, DEBENHAM. IP14 6RP. TEL 01728 860330 EMAIL karen@bootsnblades.co.uk

The WHITE HART
Helmingham Road
Otley
TEL: (01473) 890312

www.thewhitehartotley.co.uk
team@thewhitehartotley.co.uk

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

... and as we move into Spring and Summer the pub opens up its sunny beer garden with wonderful views of the Suffolk countryside, where you can enjoy local asparagus, crabs and all the other wonderful taste sensations this area has to offer. When Autumn and Winter approach, we light the fire and cook up game pies, hearty stews and crack open the winter ale. Our community lunch gives you a slap-up meal, including pudding, and a chance to meet your neighbours for a mere £6 on the last Thursday of every month and there are Ukulele, Knitting, Cribbage, Book Clubs, all sorts of things to get involved with. See our website, give us a ring or pop in for more details.

The Pub is the Hart of the Village...

Dorsett Building Restoration



•
30 years experience in the
restoration of all period buildings.

•
Specialising in timber framed houses
and listed properties.

•
All work is of the highest quality
and undertaken by skilled craftsmen.

01473 737355 (landline) 07711 183996 (mobile)
Poplar Farm, Monewden, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP13 7DE
www.dorsettrestoration.co.uk

Graham Fowler Painting and Decorating



Top quality finish at a very
reasonable price.
All aspects of interior and exterior
re-decoration.

Many years' experience in the
trade with reference's available.

Please contact for a free estimate:

01728 685448

Mobile: 07798 832636

E-Mail:

graham.fowler@ymail.com

C Ling and Son
Grange Farm, Otley, Ipswich

We sell Point of Lay Chickens, Eggs
Hay, Straw, Shavings, Chicken feed,

Bird seeds and much more.

Tel: 01473 890787

**THE OTLEY VILLAGE STORE, POST
OFFICE and GARDEN SUPPLIES**
CHAPEL ROAD, OTLEY 01473 890257

The Otley Store is a traditional family-owned village shop which can supply all of your needs. It is well stocked with a range of groceries, fresh fruit and vegetables, wine, beers and spirits, newspapers and magazines, Calor gas and garden supplies. It also has a lottery terminal. Weekly home deliveries in the area are available, Monday-Friday 7.00am-7.00pm, Saturday 8.00am-5.00pm, Sunday 9.00am-12.30pm. Follow us on Twitter @otleystore and Facebook on "The Otley Village Store"

Debbie mobile Hairdresser

25 years' experience. In the
comfort of your own home.

Tel 01473 890692 or Mobile
07765193247.

Papermaze

For all your papercraft supplies!
scrapbooking, card-making, Project Life

shop open Tues, Wed & Fri 9.30-3.00

Grange Farm, Otley, Ipswich, IP6 9NS

01473 892195

or shop online:

www.papermaze.co.uk

SHARON'S ALTERATIONS

*Roman Blinds • Zips replaced
Hems shortened / lengthened
Curtains made for Caravans,
Home • School Name Labels
Collection & delivery available*

Call Sharon on:

Tel 01473 737595 (Otley)

Mob 07790 227488

or email:

sharonsmithwick@sky.com



**Coastal
Building Supplies**

Derby Road
Ipswich
Suffolk
IP3 8DL
01473 320315

Unit 2, Sizewell Crossing
Leiston
Suffolk
IP16 4LW
01728 833453

For all your Timber and Building
material requirements

YOUR LOCAL HANDYMAN

Providing a friendly, reliable, quality service

SSJ

Specialist in small jobs

call or email:

Ken Petherbridge

07974 748887

Kenpetherbridge@hotmail.com

Foot Health Practitioner

Services provided:

- Nail trimming
- Callus reduction
- Corns
- Ingrown nails
- Verrucae
- Diabetic care



Charlotte Dowe DipFHP, MPSPrac

07712448775

charlottethp@outlook.com

"Member of the Accredited Register of
Foot Health Practitioners"





*Specialising in traditional handcrafted furniture
to complement and enhance both country and
town houses.*

Office: 01473 890509

Mobile: 07750 014017

ellis.furniture@virgin.net

~
Ellis Furniture

Donners, Ashbocking, Ipswich, IP6 9JX

Superbly crafted with

Timeless elegance

L.G.S

KITCHEN AND BATHROOM INSTALLATIONS

Top quality work at reasonable prices.
Supply & fit or fit only.
Please call for a free quotation.

01728 685448

or

07798 832636

WOOD FARM HAIR Otley

Hair Salon opening times

Monday	9am – 5pm
Tuesday	9am – 5pm
Wednesday	9am – 5pm
Thursday	9am – 5pm
Friday	9am – 5pm
Saturday	9am – 12 Noon

**Late night
Wednesday and Thursday**

01473 890782

Birketts

Excellence in Practice

For all legal work:

Business and private.

Local partner - James Hall
01473 406270 (232300 switchboard)
james-hall@birketts.co.uk

Offices in
Cambridge | Chelmsford | Ipswich | Norwich



GUARANTEED BY THE
RETAIL MOTOR INDUSTRY



EVERGREEN GARAGE CROWFIELD LTD

Gosbeck Road Crowfield Ipswich Suffolk IP6 9TB

ESTABLISHED 36 YEARS

Latest dealer diagnostic equipment for service, repair, engine management and body system electronics
Hunter all four wheel alignment to improve vehicle handling and tyre wear with print-out before and after adjustments

Good tyre selection at competitive prices – Air conditioning service and repair – Routine servicing histories maintained
Attended forecourt service (Fuel/Coal and Gas Cylinders sold)
Modern fleet of courtesy cars – Collection & delivery service available
Telephone: 01473-890377

Website: www.evergreengarage.co.uk

E-mail: jim.davey@evergreengarage.co.uk

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter @Evergreengarag

WOOD FARM KITCHENS

QUALITY KITCHENS AT AFFORDABLE PRICES

Show room open Friday to Sunday

Friday 9am - 5pm

Saturday 10 - 5pm

Sunday 10 - 4pm

By appointment Monday to Thursday

**Wood Farm Barns, Helmingham Rd
Otley IP6 9NS**

Tel: [01473 890122](tel:01473890122)

Email: woodfarmkitchens@btconnect.com