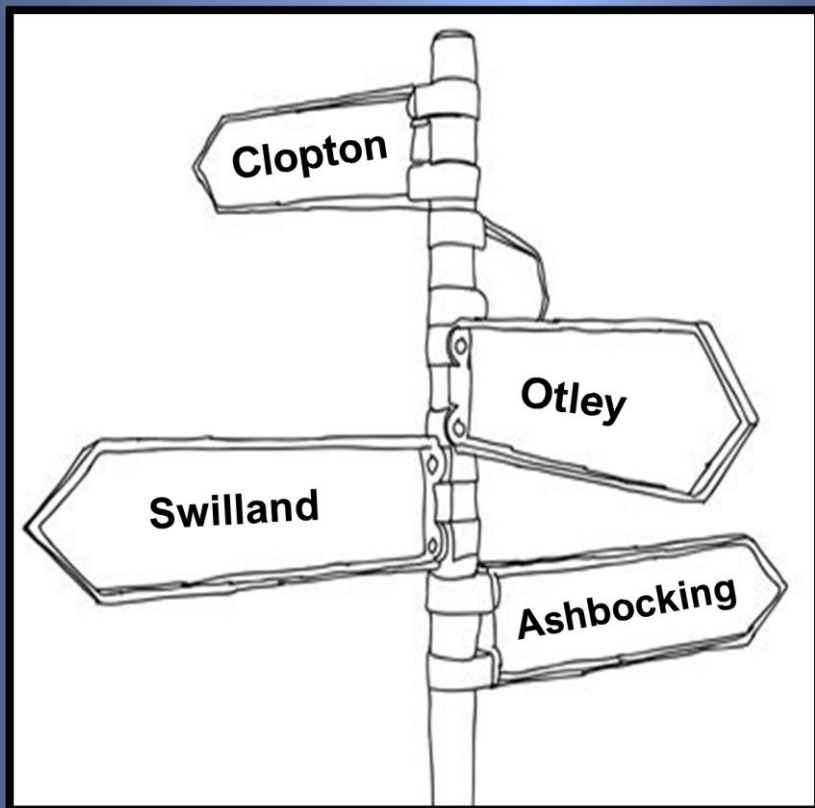


# *The Signpost*



*News from the Parishes*

## A Word from The Editors.....



Welcome to the **November Signpost**. We are now on the countdown to Christmas but before that comes Guy Fawkes. Hopefully this year there will be more social events for you to attend to watch magnificent displays of fireworks. You may decide to have your own displays in your back gardens but don't forget sparklers too, as children many of us will have had great fun writing our names with them. Have fun but be careful! As the clocks go back this coming weekend, darkness will appear even earlier giving us very short days. *Please remember to keep your houses, cars and outbuildings secure to avoid any unwanted thefts.*

We have all the latest news from the villages and updates on social events. If you would like to see anything else within our magazine, whatever it may be, we would gratefully receive it for inclusion in our upcoming editions. If you would like any family or friends' birthdays or anniversaries celebrated, then please do let us know and we will include in next month's magazine.

Our next magazine and last one until our February edition, will be the **December** issue with a deadline **of the 24<sup>th</sup> November.**

To register to receive The Signpost via email each month, please email Amy [bakergirl174@gmail.com](mailto:bakergirl174@gmail.com) and Angela [amtreloar@btinternet.com](mailto:amtreloar@btinternet.com)

News of the Carlford Churches and details of online Worship can be found on the website [carlfordchurches.org](http://carlfordchurches.org) and within the Mini Grapevine. If you would like to receive the Mini-Grapevine weekly via email, please register via the website [carlfordchurches.org](http://carlfordchurches.org) or with Mark Cresswell – [mark@carlfordchurches.org](mailto:mark@carlfordchurches.org). There are links on the Carlford Churches website to the Facebook page, Mini-Grapevine and The Signpost. The Carlford Churches Facebook page can be accessed directly <http://facebook.com/carlfordchurches>. Should you wish to speak with Rev'd Katrina Dykes or a member of the benefice team please telephone 01473 735183.

***Keep safe and take care***

***Amy and Angela***

## "DULCE ET DECORUM EST" – WILFRED OWEN, 1917

Bent double, like old beggars under sacks,  
Knock-kneed, coughing like hags, we cursed through sludge,  
Till on the haunting flares we turned our backs,  
And towards our distant rest began to  
trudge.

Men marched asleep. Many had lost their  
boots,  
But limped on, blood-shod. All went  
lame; all blind;  
Drunk with fatigue; deaf even to the hoots  
Of gas-shells dropping softly behind.

Gas! GAS! Quick, boys!—An ecstasy of  
fumbling  
Fitting the clumsy helmets just in time,  
But someone still was yelling out and stumbling  
And flound'ring like a man in fire or lime.—  
Dim through the misty panes and thick green light,  
As under a green sea, I saw him drowning.  
In all my dreams before my helpless sight,  
He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning.

If in some smothering dreams, you too could pace  
Behind the wagon that we flung him in,  
And watch the white eyes writhing in his face,  
His hanging face, like a devil's sick of sin;  
If you could hear, at every jolt, the blood  
Come gargling from the froth-corrupted lungs,  
Obscene as cancer, bitter as the cud  
Of vile, incurable sores on innocent tongues,—  
My friend, you would not tell with such high zest  
To children ardent for some desperate glory,  
The old Lie: Dulce et decorum est  
Pro patriamori.

He was sent to France and was wounded in battle 3 times. In 1917, he was sent to Craiglockhart War Hospital in Edinburgh.

He was suffering from "shell-shock," nowadays called post-traumatic stress syndrome.



### Biography of Wilfred Owen



## **Rainfall for September**

After a very dull cold August we at last got some warm sunny weather in September with only a total .65 inches of rain. It has been recorded that September had the second highest temperatures for that month since 1884. The other interesting fact is that the total rainfall at the end of September is almost exactly the same as the last two years which is 14.60 inches, but more importantly it consistently rained for the remaining three months. It remains to be seen if the same situation occurs this year.

*Russell Ling*

### **3<sup>rd</sup> November - Hubert and the stag**



The morality of hunting has made the headlines in recent years, but here at least was one man who was converted while hunting. Hubert (bishop, d 727 AD) was out on Good Friday hunting stag when he came across a stag with a crucifix between its antlers. This so shook him that he converted to Christianity and went on to become Bishop of Tongres-Maestricht. History does not tell us if he killed the stag or not, or if he ever hunted stag again.

### **Otley and District Gardening Club**

Dear readers and fellow gardeners,

Another month has gone by, and the preparations are well underway for autumn and winter in our garden. The hedges have been pruned and cut back; the bulbs are nearly all planted, but we have some still to go. Mum's been busy in the greenhouses trying to get them ready to house our tender perennials over winter. So, things are starting to look shipshape. There are still some lovely colours in the garden, dahlias are still flowering strongly, and some of the roses have some blooms left too. That along with the changing colours of the leaves, most places are looking quite stunning. Plants are going to be shutting down though and some areas of the garden will look quite bare until springtime. But that's not a sin, you are allowed to see the soil at some periods of the growing season.



Otley and District Gardening Club's next meeting is on "Reducing Plastics in the Garden and feeling closer to nature" with Ruth Goudy from Kiln Farm Nursery in Kesgrave. We commence at 19:30 on 2<sup>nd</sup> November at Otley

Village Hall. Please come along even if you're not a member as it proves to be a very interesting subject and one that we often get requests for. I'm hoping to learn some different gardening practices to ensure we can garden in years to come. The way we garden has a serious impact on the environment, so it'll be good to get the facts on greener gardening. Please feel free to pop along to our meeting, even if it's your first time. Non-members entrance fee is only £4.00 to try us out. You never know, you might like us.

Until then and next month's edition,

*Phil Pollard, The Green Chairman*

### A Cat Story

A cat dies and goes to Heaven. God meets him at the gate and says, "You have been a good cat all of these years. Anything you desire is yours, all you have to do is ask."

The cat says, "Well, I lived all my life with a poor family on a farm and had to sleep on hardwood floors."

God says, "Say no more." And instantly, a fluffy pillow appears.

A few days later, 6 mice are killed in a tragic accident and they go to Heaven. God meets them at the gate with the same offer that He made the cat. The mice said, "All our lives we've had to run. Cats, dogs and even women with brooms have chased us. If we could only have a pair of roller skates, we wouldn't have to run anymore."

God says, "Say no more." And instantly, each mouse is fitted with a beautiful pair of tiny roller skates.

About a week later, God decides to check and see how the cat is doing. The cat is sound asleep on his new pillow. God gently wakes him and asks, "How are you doing?"

Are you happy here?"

The cat yawns and stretches and says, "Oh, I've never been happier in my life. And those Meals on Wheels you've been sending over are the best!"



## The Ancient House Ipswich

Ipswich's most famous landmark is The Ancient House which stands on the corner of Butter Market (the street) and St Stephens Lane.

The earliest reference to the Ancient House can be found in the 15th century, when it was owned by the knight, Sir Richard of Martlesham. In the 16th century the house was owned by a string of local merchants, including George Copping, a draper and fishmonger, who acquired the property in 1567. It was Copping who commissioned the panelling of the ground floor room at the front of the house. He also built the 'long gallery'. The Sparrowe (spellings vary) family became the owners of the house in 1603 and continued ownership of it for the next 300 years. It became known as 'Sparrow's House'. Robert Sparowe, a grocer, added the elaborate pargeting to the front and side of the house between 1660 and 1670. The association with trade, provisions and markets is because for hundreds of years the thriving market on Cornhill spilled out into nearby streets and lanes, including, of course, 'the butter market'. One legend tells of King Charles II, hiding from his enemies in the Attic Room after the Battle of Worcester in 1651.



In the late seventies, the Ancient House was in an extremely poor state of repair and close to collapse. At this stage it was purchased and renovated by Ipswich Borough Council and returned to its former glory using modern building techniques and materials. The Ancient House boasts highly detailed exterior plaster work (pargeting) and ornamental wood carvings and is currently called home by **Lakeland Kitchenware**.

The fine oriel windows which front the Buttermarket are most noted for the pargeted reliefs showing figures and objects which relate to the four known continents of the Tudor period. The lettering in the upper part of each panel is shown enhanced in each image. (*Australasia had yet to be discovered by westerners*).



## AMERICA' ... 'AFRICA' ... 'ASIA' ... 'EUROPE'



America is represented by an Aztec/Inca-style man with a bow and arrow and a dog at his feet, Africa is represented by a naked man holding a spear and sunshade, Asia by a woman on a horse with a domed mosque-like building, Europe by a woman holding a cornucopia, seated on a horse with a castle in the background. Other panels show the three elements: Earth, Water and Air. Round the corner on the western gable is a nice depiction of Atlas carrying the world on his shoulders, also St George in the garb of a 17th century gentleman dealing with a recumbent dragon.

Impressive, not least in that they have survived so long!

*A.M.T*

### Brain teasers

1. You're escaping a maze, and there are three doors in front of you. The door on the left leads to a pit of lava. The door in the centre leads to a room filled with deadly gas. The door on the right leads to a lion that hasn't eaten in three months. Which door do you choose?
2. What has cities, but no houses; forests, but no trees; and water, but no fish?

3. If I am holding a bee, what do I have in my eye?
4. Paul's height is six feet, he's an assistant at a butcher's shop, and wears size 9 shoes. What does he weigh?
5. I am the beginning of sorrow and the end of sickness. You cannot express happiness without me yet I am in the midst of crosses. I am always in risk yet never in danger. You may find me in the sun, but I am never out of darkness.

**(Solutions on Page 21)**

## **History of Fireworks**



It is believed that fireworks were originally developed in the second century B.C. in ancient Liuyang, China. Historians believe that the first natural "firecrackers" were bamboo stalks that when thrown in a fire, would explode with a bang because of the overheating of the hollow air pockets in the bamboo. The Chinese believed these natural "firecrackers" would ward off evil spirits.

Sometime during the period 600-900 AD, legend has it that a Chinese alchemist mixed potassium nitrate, sulphur, and charcoal to produce a black, flaky powder – this being the first “gunpowder”. This powder was poured into hallowed out bamboo sticks (and later stiff paper tubes) forming the first man made fireworks.

By the 13<sup>th</sup> century, fireworks had made their way to Europe and by the 15<sup>th</sup> century they were widely used for religious festivals and public entertainment. The Italians were the first Europeans to manufacture fireworks and European rulers were especially fond of the use of fireworks to “enchant their subjects and illuminate their castles on important occasions.”





Early U.S. settlers took their love of fireworks with them to the New World and fireworks were part of the very first Independence Day – a tradition that continues every 4th of July when America celebrate as John Adams had hoped “with pomp, parade, bonfires and illuminations from one end of the continent to the other.” Americans' spirit of celebration continued to grow and in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, politicians used displays to attract crowds to their speeches.



While the 5<sup>th</sup> of November is our nation’s big day for fireworks, they are now used all year round all over the world to celebrate at festivals, special events, weddings, and sporting traditions such as the Olympics.

Fireworks entertainment generates millions of pounds as well as millions of smiles. Stay safe this bonfire night and have fun!



# Dracula isn't here!



*Photo by Kevin Meagher*

A church in North Yorkshire has been trying to convince eager tourists that the vampire's grave is NOT in their churchyard.

Recently the church leaders at the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Whitby, even put up a poster in the entrance door which reads: "Please do not ask staff where Dracula's grave is as there isn't one. Thank you."

Whitby inspired Bram Stoker to write his novel, *Dracula*, in 1897. And it seems that Stoker first came across the name 'Dracula' in Whitby's library. It was another name for the blood-thirsty Romanian ruler, 'Vlad the Impaler'.

St Mary the Virgin stands beside Whitby Abbey and has a churchyard. This prompts many tourists to ask for the exact location of Dracula's grave, even though of course Dracula never existed.

The grave that *can* be found, however, is that of a man named Swales, who is also mentioned in the book.



On average, a Panda feeds for approximately 12 hours per day. This is the same as an adult at home under quarantine, which is why we call it a "Pandemic"



## Chestnut and Leek Stuffed Chicken Supremes

Enjoy this delicious recipe with seasonal ingredients and be sure to read the top tips at the bottom of the page.

- 180g pouch Merchant Gourmet whole chestnuts (see tip)
- Large knob of butter
- 3 tbsp olive oil
- 1 small leek, sliced
- 1 garlic clove, chopped
- 6 fresh thyme sprigs, leaves chopped
- 2 fresh rosemary sprigs, leaves chopped
- 4 tbsp Merchant Gourmet chestnut purée (see tip)
- 65ml double cream
- 100g bacon lardons
- 200ml fino sherry
- 2 large free-range chicken supremes or chicken breasts, skin on (see tip)
- ½ savoy cabbage, cut into wedges
- 100g brussels sprouts, trimmed
- 325ml fresh chicken stock
- Finely grated zest 1 lemon

### **You'll also need...**

- Cocktail sticks to secure



## **Method**

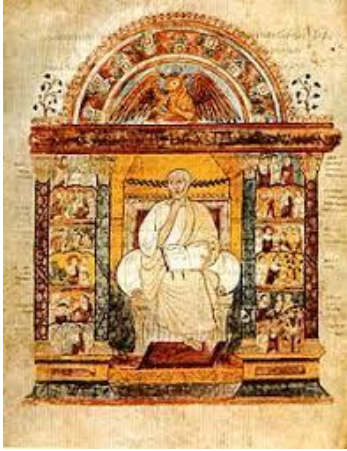
1. Heat the oven to 200°C/180°C fan/gas 6. Chop 80g of the whole chestnuts and set aside. Melt the butter with 1½ tbsp oil in a pan over a low-medium heat. Cook the leek with a pinch of salt for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally, until softened. Stir in the garlic, herbs and chopped chestnuts, then cook, stirring, for a few more minutes. Mix in 2 tbsp chestnut purée and 1 tbsp double cream, then stir over the heat for a few minutes. Remove from the heat and set aside until cool enough to handle. Season.

2. Meanwhile, in a large non-stick frying pan, fry the bacon over a medium heat for 5-6 minutes until golden. Add the rest of the whole chestnuts and fry in the bacon fat for 2-3 minutes more. Set aside on a plate. Add a good splash of sherry to the pan and bubble for 1 minute, then use a wooden spoon to scrape up any bits stuck on the bottom of the pan. Pour the sherry from the pan into a bowl and set aside. Wipe out the pan with kitchen paper and keep the pan to hand.
3. Make a pocket in the sides of both chicken supremes, above the fillet (see Know-how). Stuff with the chestnut mixture, cover with the fillet and secure with cocktail sticks. (If you're using smaller chicken breasts, you might find you have stuffing left over. If so, add it to the pan when you make the sauce for extra flavour.) See Make Ahead.
4. Heat the remaining oil in the frying pan over a medium heat. Fry the stuffed chicken, skin-side down, for 5 minutes until golden. Turn the chicken and cook for a few more minutes to brown the other side.
5. Arrange the cabbage, sprouts, chicken, bacon and chestnuts in an ovenproof baking dish. Add another splash of the sherry to the frying pan, put over a medium-high heat and scrape the base with a wooden spoon to release any chicken bits from the pan. Pour in the cooked reserved sherry and any remaining sherry, along with the rest of the 2 tbsp chestnut purée and the remaining double cream. Season, then gradually stir in the chicken stock. Simmer for 6-8 minutes to reduce. Season to taste.
6. Pour the sauce around the chicken in the baking dish, then bake for 40 minutes (if using smaller chicken breasts, check after 30 minutes) until the chicken is cooked through and the cabbage is lightly charred. Scatter over the lemon zest to serve.

## **Top tips**

1. To purée the chestnuts, boil, then peel and whizz with a little water until smooth.
2. Prepare the chicken up to the end of step 3 up to 1 day in advance. Cover and chill until ready to cook.
3. Chicken supremes have the meaty wing bone and fillet (or false fillet) still attached. They're larger than standard chicken breasts, so 2 supremes could serve 4 people.
4. Red bordeaux, preferably a médoc, is a star pairing here.

## 10<sup>th</sup> November Justus – leading the Church in troubled times



Does this sound familiar? An Archbishop of Canterbury tries to bring unity and calm to a Church split down the middle over seemingly irreconcilable differences, and all the while to promote the Gospel to the wider non-Christian society, in the face of widespread ignorance and even hostility towards Christianity.

This isn't Justin Welby, though. It was Justus, a 7<sup>th</sup> century archbishop of Canterbury. Like Justin Welby, he had a passion for mission – he began as one of the Roman missionaries sent in 601 by Pope Gregory the Great – to reinforce Augustine. Once

in England, he was quickly put to work – becoming the first ever Bishop of Rochester, in 604. It was then that he joined with other church leaders to urge the Irish and British (Celtic) Christians to repair the great church divide of the time – to conform their customs to those of Rome. (They were largely ignored.)

In 616 things got worse. There was a pagan reaction in Kent and Essex, and without any support from the pagan King Edbald, Justus and Mellitus knew it was time to get out – quick. They escaped to France, and the whole English mission seemed in peril. Then – an unexpected breakthrough occurred – the king was converted. So back came Justus, to become Archbishop of Canterbury in 624. Pope Boniface V had faith in his ability and courage – he bestowed on him both the pallium and the power to consecrate bishops in England. When Justus died in 627, he was buried at St Augustine's monastery. Then, in the 11<sup>th</sup> century, Justus was moved to a site in Canterbury Cathedral, behind the high altar.

“War does not determine who is right - only who is left.”

*Bertrand Russell*

## NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

### ASHBOCKING



However much we try to hang onto summer eventually one must recognise that autumn has caught up with us, and indeed winter is waiting in the wings. Once the clocks change, I always feel that we are now well and truly in the grips of the season for hunkering down and of course advent and Christmas.

For the time being though, let me tell you what is going on in Ashbocking in November and report the events of Harvest.

Our Harvest Festival was led by Phil Dykes and James Hall and was enjoyed by a good congregation. The church was beautifully decorated, and people had been more than generous with produce. Most donations were of dried or tinned produce which is very useful for FIND and the fresh produce was delivered to a local nursing home and very much appreciated.

There is a basket for dried and tinned produce in the church all year round and anything deposited is taken to FIND after each service. It is amazing how a few things deposited on a regular basis really does help.

It was also good to remember the how busy our farmers have been and to be thankful for the food we have readily available to us, thanks to their hard work.

Our next service at Ashbocking on **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 10:50** is the **Remembrance Day service**, held inside the church as we have no outside war memorial. We start promptly at this time so please get there five minutes early if you can. This is to allow for the two-minute silence at 11:00.

Everyone is welcome but please wear your masks and note that distancing is also being observed.

**Coffee mornings** are still going ahead at present. I am sure you are all aware of the rising Covid numbers, so we ask that you please check the village WhatsApp nearer the time to see that nothing has changed. The next one is in **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November** at Hawthorns, The Green; if you're unsure where we are then please do contact me on the number at the bottom of this editorial. We start at 10:30 until 12:00 and try to keep a good airflow in the house for the duration. Please, if anyone is sniffly or under the weather we would





appreciate it if you did not come. Apart from Covid 19 there are lots of nasty winter bugs doing the rounds and nobody wants to share them.

The next coffee morning is the 3<sup>rd</sup> December, venue still to be arranged. If anyone wishes to host, please let me know; thank you.

**Knit and stitch** is also going ahead and is a little easier as it is not such a big group. We meet at **10am** on **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Nov** at Hawthorns, The Green, everyone is welcome if you want to join us.

The next Knit and Stitch will be the same time on 6<sup>th</sup> Dec.



We have now purchased the portable loo for the church and are awaiting the go ahead to get it installed.

As this is on a temporary agreement of five years, we are having to up our game in fundraising to get the permanent loo, planned for inside the church, up and running. Obviously, this incurs a lot of expenses as other things also must be altered to accommodate it.

One idea is to hold a **Jumble Sale in the New Year**, covid allowing. Therefore, can I please ask for everyone to hang on to their jumble for us. if you cannot store it, we will collect before Christmas although this is not ideal. This will be the start of a long fundraising campaign, and I know I can count on your support as in the past.

More news on this to come.

We wish everyone a bug free winter and urge you all to take care and keep well.

*Linda Pollard, 07887537152*

## **CLOPTON**

Clopton church looked wonderful for our Harvest Festival. Thank you to those who gave their time to decorate it so beautifully. The donation of two buckets of chrysanthemums made the whole church look bright and festive. Bacon butties, tea and coffee were enjoyed by everyone before the service which was led by Mark. We had an enormous quantity of food donated. Thank you everyone for your generosity.

Jenny and Andrew took a car full of the gifts to the Salvation Army Hostel in Ipswich. They were delighted with our offerings and have written to thank us.



Last month I mentioned that Bob Tye had died at the age of ninety one. Bob lived in a cottage on the edge of Debach Airfield when he was young and told stories about the kindness of the American airmen who provided the children with sweets (something that was very scarce in wartime Britain) and hosted Christmas parties for them.

Bob was always a hard worker and he had many different jobs throughout his working life. He was involved with the team who raised funds to build the Clopton Village Hall. He later spent many years as the hall caretaker. He started the Monday night Badminton Club and he continued playing until he was in his late eighties.

Bob loved travelling all around Britain with Linda, firstly in their car and in later years by taking coach trips. They also travelled to America to visit their daughter and her family. He loved gardening and his garden always looked perfect-not a weed to be seen!

Bob was a very popular and much loved man. Clopton has lost a very special person and we send our love to Linda and his family.

Our Remembrance Service will be at 10.50 am on 14th November at the 493rd Bombardment Group Memorial off Snipe Farm Road. The short service will be followed by refreshments at the Education Centre on Debach Airfield.

*Doris Main*

## OTLEY

Our Harvest festival was celebrated on Sunday, 3rd October.

Archdeacon Sally conducted the service, and the address was given by Revd. Katrina.

The church looked wonderful, with numerous floral displays, both in the church and porch. Children from St Lawrence school had made 'veggie people' and these were on display along with many examples of donated local produce.



**Veggie People**

The harvest produce was donated to FIND.

I gave a short talk about the work of Families in Need (FIND), and their food distribution in local communities.

Otley farmer Anthony Ling, spoke about the farming year, particularly dealing with the unpredictable weather that we have experienced in recent months.

A congregation of 22 enjoyed the service and stayed for coffee, tea and biscuits.

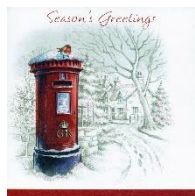
The collection of £160 was donated to Farm Africa.

*Nigel Crowley*

Otley Remembrance Service is on the **14th of November** at the War Memorial at 10.50am

We are holding our next Coffee Morning in the Church on the **11th of November**, we look forward to seeing you.

## CHRISTMAS POST



For the last few years, a group of Otley ladies have delivered Christmas cards to the residents in Otley village.

We have supported the Royal British Legion and East Anglian Air Ambulance and FIND. This year, because the village has experienced first-hand the terrible consequence of mental illness, we have chosen to support **MIND**.

“Every year, one in four of us will experience a mental health problem. But hundreds of thousands of people are still struggling.

MIND provide advice and support to empower anyone experiencing a mental health problem. They campaign to improve services, raise awareness and promote understanding.”

They **believe no one should have to face a mental health problem alone**. They listen, give you support and advice, and fight your corner.

Otley Village stores has kindly said we can put our post box in the shop again this year and it will be available from December 1st – 12<sup>th</sup>. Delivery will be during the following week.

The price is 25p/card **minimum**. (please put the correct money in the box with your cards.)

Your cards will be delivered by foot so **complete addresses** WITHIN Otley village only please.

Thank you for your support  
Jayne, Issy, Terry, Sam & Jude

## **SWILLAND**

We were very pleased to welcome our Rural Dean, Rev. Annette Cooper, to take our service on 17th October. It was a very friendly service and I found her sermon very interesting. It was a shame that there were only five of us in the congregation.

On **Remembrance Sunday**, 14th November, there will be a service at the memorial at 12.15.

For those who remember her, I visited Ann Rose recently. She had been in hospital but was home and in much better health than I had expected. She was in charge of feeding a few sheep for a friend for a couple of days. She is still driving and walking her dog, Floss. She sent everyone her best wishes.



We will be planting 400 daffodil bulbs on the roadside verges, which were donated by the Parish Council, on Saturday 23rd October, so look out for them in the Spring.

*Ann Kent*





# Remembrance Services 2021

Remembrance Sunday 14th November

Please join us to mark the sacrifices of all those who gave their lives in war, and to pray for peace.

Ashbocking Church, 10.50am

Boulge Church, 9.30am

Burgh Church, 10am wreath laying

then joining Grundisburgh

Clopton Memorial (Snipe farm Road), 10.50am

Grundisburgh Green then in church, 10.50am

Hasketon Church, 9.30am

Otley War Memorial, 10.50am

Swilland Church, 12.15pm

*We will remember them...*



## RUSSELL LING REPORTS



We are now in the process of preparing the land for drilling next year's cereal crops, with modern high-powered tractors and machinery this work is now carried out at a fraction of the time when it was done with horses. A man ploughing with horses could only manage an acre a day and even with the tractors available at that time it would not be more than three acres depending on conditions. The autumn work would also have started later than it does today as harvest didn't usually finish until near the end of September whereas now it is over in August. The reason for this was that the wheat which was the first crop to be cut with a binder

followed by barley, oats and beans had to be shocked then carted and stacked. Now the combine cuts threshes and just leaves the straw to be baled unless it is not required and then it is chopped and spread. Another man transports the grain from the combine by a trailer to the grain store where it is either augured into bins or tipped onto the floor of a building. The tipped grain is then pushed up into a large heap by a bucket on a tractor, this machine also loads the grain Lorries when it is sold.

Autumn cultivations also depended very much on the weather. If the summer was dry the soil could be very hard and difficult to plough with horses until it had a good soaking with rain. Most farms had livestock which produced muck and this also had to be carted and spread on the land and ploughed in. The land would then be prepared for a seedbed with harrows, the drills at that time were not as wide as they are now and the work was therefore much slower. Today most of the drilling of cereals takes place in the autumn but in the past, there was rarely time for drilling of barley and oats before the winter rains came which meant that they had to be sown in the spring. Horse ploughs could have a box attached which held winter beans and these were dropped into the bottom of the furrow at spaced intervals while ploughing. Beans need to be put six inches into the ground otherwise the rooks will follow the rows and eat them as they come up. Ploughing with horses





would sometime last until Christmas, the land was not ploughed as deep as it is today and the furrow width was only nine inches. Wider tyres are now fitted to tractors and they can also pull multi furrow ploughs. These ploughs have furrow widths of 14 to 16 inches wide to accommodate these wide tyres which means that the ploughing can be finished in a fraction of the time that it took with horses. The earlier tractors that were fitted with rubber tyres also had a problem with wheel slip on the landside when it was wet. Today this problem is overcome by having four-wheel drive and also differential lock on the rear wheels which means that the one in the furrow bottom can power both wheels.

**Solutions to the Brainteasers on Pages 7 & 8**

- 1) The door on the right. A lion that hasn't eaten in three months would be dead.
- 2) A map.
- 3) Beauty. Because beauty is in the eye of the beholder (bee holder)
- 4) Meat.
- 5) The letter S.



How did you do?

**TRAVEL PLANS FOR 2020**



## **An American in Otley: You're an American, So You Must ...**

Living abroad means that the people who meet you in your new adopted home have certain expectations of you. For better or worse, every nationality seems to be lumbered with characteristics and reputations that precede them. When those traits are present, you confirm to the expectations of your new neighbours although not necessarily with their approval. When expected traits or behaviours are absent, new friends are sometimes surprised or even disappointed.

Example One: “You don’t sound like an American.” I don’t know how many times my husband and I were told this. We discovered that what our neighbours meant was “You don’t sound like J. R. Ewing.” The TV drama, Dallas, had just begun its run its course on BBC and many of our neighbours believed that all Americans sounded like Texas oil barons. “Not all,” we would explain. Both Pete and I were raised in northern parts of the States, had university educations, and had lived abroad. Neither of us had been raised around southerners or westerners. As it turned out, most Brits assumed we were Canadian which was fine with us. Thinking that we were Canadians, we were spared criticisms of President Reagan, Greenham Common, and Vietnam,



Example Two: “You have set a proper table with china, cutlery, and stem ware.” That surprised observation was uttered by a dinner guest from the village upon seeing our dining room table. I had placed a linen cloth on the dining room table and set it the way my mother taught me. Granted, the dessert cutlery wasn’t above the place setting, British style, but everything else was correct. My surprised guest quickly stammered an apology and explained that every time they had dined with Americans, the table featured plastic cutlery and glasses and paper plates. When we moved to England, I had made the decision to bring many of our household possessions because it made the house my home.

Example Three: “You aren’t really going to shovel all that muck, are you?” Tom Whitehead used some more colourful language when he spied Russell Ling depositing a large amount of pig manure near the Mason’s vegetable and rose gardens. He grinned and said that no other American tenants had taken an interest in gardening. In fact, he had already warned us off working in “his” garden lest we damage it. Apparently the last of Americans in Foxgloves had used a strimmer

around the bushes and trees and taken the bark off the trucks. I meekly explained that I had, in fact, gardened at home and that I had promised the Masons that I would enrich the beds with some of Russell's fine pig muck in the autumn. Tom agreed I could carry on and provided me with a pitchfork. He then stood back and grinned a lot, muttering "Well, I never thought to see..."



Example Four: "You mean you don't want ice in the whiskey?" "No," we replied. While both Pete and I drank mixed drinks with ice at home, we were perfectly happy to drink whiskey neat and without ice. We also could enjoy bitter and other ale as it came from the taps in pubs. We liked local brews and did not seek out ice cold American beer or wine.

Example Five: "You have a tea pot! Do you brew tea?" In fact, I had several tea pots and used them regularly. I used loose tea of various blends as well as tea bags. I quickly learned, however, that most of my village friends plopped the tea bag in a mug, poured in the boiling water, let it steep, fished out the bag, and then added milk. When I first arrived in Suffolk, I expected tea brewed in pots which had been warmed first with boiling water. I imagined that the tea would be poured into china cups that sat on saucers, sweetened with sugar cubes, and never served with lemon. The surprise was on me. I found lemon lovers, mug users, and tea bags of many different kinds. The only real differences in the "tea ceremony" was the tea blend. Americans tend to favour Orange Pekoe, and, in my experience, the British seem to use Black.

Mary Miner, [Susiespinner36@msn.com](mailto:Susiespinner36@msn.com)

"An unsophisticated forecaster uses statistics as a drunken man uses lamp-posts... for support rather than illumination."

*Andrew Lang*



## SMILE LINES

### **Parade for Remembrance Service**

Local newspapers advertising church services don't always get it quite right. Such as the local paper advertising a Remembrance Day service, who should have printed: *There will be a parade of uniformed organisations.*



Instead, they printed: *There will be a parade of uniformed organists.*

### **Daily Mail**

At a recent church meeting, our Sunday School teacher requested that a notice be put into the weekly pew-sheet, asking for church members to bring in any old copies they had of the Daily Mail. She wanted the newspapers for a big Christmas project involving lots of paper mache and thought that the ink on the Daily Mail would be less messy.

The secretary made a rough note, and the notice went in: 'Wanted by our Sunday School teacher: lots of daily males.'

### **Stewardship**

Our church launched a new Stewardship Campaign, which instead of holding a series of events, decided to focus entirely on one big fund-raising event. The evening became known as "putting all our begs in one askit."



### **Hold her hand**

While out in the town, I saw an elderly couple holding hands while they were walking. As they approached, I commented on how romantic it was.

The man replied, "We have been holding hands when we go out in public for over 30 years. I have to. If I let go, she shops."

- Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.
- In filling out an application, where it says, 'In case of emergency, notify': I put 'DOCTOR.'





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Remembering**

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come along

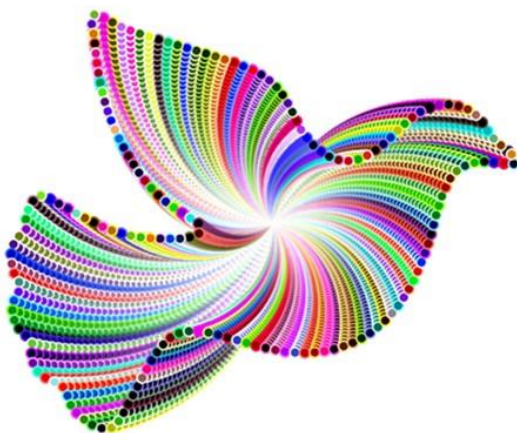
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5

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