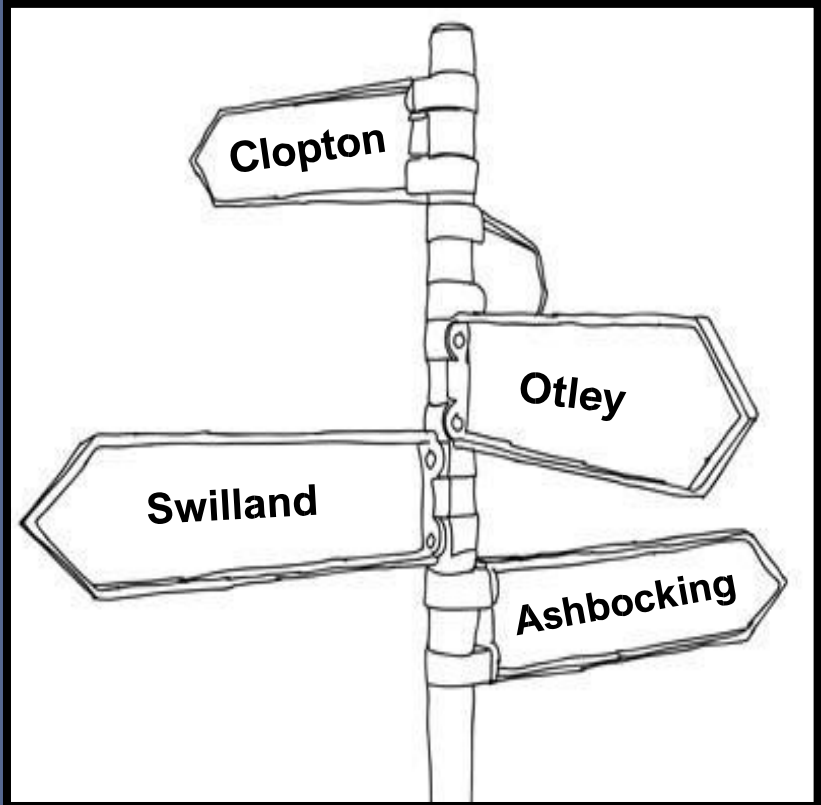


The Signpost



News from the Parishes

A Word from The Editors.....

Welcome to the **April Signpost**. So the birds are still singing, the sun is still shining, our Censuses have been submitted, hopefully you remembered!! Now the clocks go forward this weekend which means that finally our days will be longer and we start to appreciate having more time to get those outside jobs done in the garden or just enjoying the outdoors! Wishing you and your families a very Happy Easter!

We have a busy issue for you again gardening jobs, a delicious cake recipe especially for Easter. We have all the latest news from the villages. 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 will be the **May** issue with a deadline of the 24th April.

To register to receive The Signpost via email each month, please email Amy bakergirl174@gmail.com and Angela amtrelor@btinternet.com

News of the Carlford Churches and details of online Worship can be found on the website 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 or with Mark Cresswell – 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>.

Keep safe and take care, Amy and Angela

JUST OUTSIDE THE BOX



Maybe getting a dog to sniff out the hidden treasure was not such a great idea.



'The Happy Life'

*See all the beauty the world has to show;
Take all the blessings life can bestow;
Hear all the music and pluck all the flowers;
Seize all the happiness out of the hours.
Do every duty that comes to your hand;
Meet with good humour each daily demand;
Start every day with a joke and a smile;
Fill every moment with something worthwhile....
Take every blow with a shrug and a jest
-tackle your problems and give of your best;
Leave every friend with a message of cheer;
Take every chance to do good while you're here.
So may we walk in the sunshine of love
- under the guidance that comes from above
To work and be happy
-to take and to give
-this is the life that God meant us to live.*

Rainfall for February

This month there has been a total change in the weather from what we have endured during the past winter. On the 7th of February there was 5 inches of snowfall in Otley with minus 5c of frost at times, this is the first time that we have had any quantity of snow since February 2018. Following this there was a total change when during the last week the temperature reached 11c with a few days of long periods of sunshine. I would point out that this is the records for Otley and there have been some considerable variations in other parts of the country. The total rainfall during this winter between the end of September and the middle of February was 17 inches, in the same period last year it was 17.75 inches.

Russell Ling

19th April: Alphege – the archbishop taken captive by Danes



Alphege is the saint for anyone who refuses to let others suffer on their behalf. His is a tale of courage and self-sacrifice, with some details that are still poignant, even down 1000 years of history.

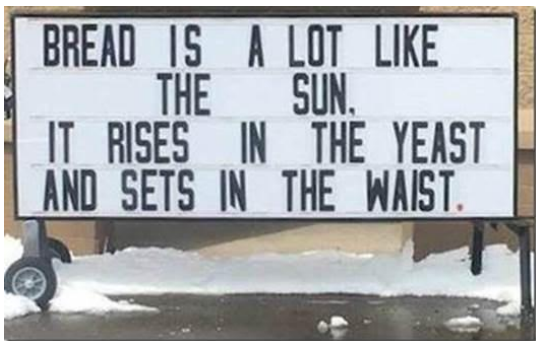
Alphege began like many other leading churchmen of his time; born of a noble family, with a good education, he decided to become a monk. Alphege joined the Benedictine Abbey at Deerhurst in Gloucestershire, and then became a hermit at Bath, before becoming Abbot of Bath. From there, he was appointed to be Bishop of Winchester, where he was loved for his frugal lifestyle and great generosity towards others.

In 954 King Ethelred the Unready sent Alphege as a peace envoy to the Danes, seeking some relief from the constant Viking raids against England. Alphege secured a time of peace, and in 1006 was made the 29th Archbishop of Canterbury.

But the Viking raids increased again, until the south of England was largely overrun. In 1012 they surrounded Canterbury, and with the help of a treacherous archdeacon, Elfmaer, captured and imprisoned Alphege. A vast sum was demanded by his captors, so much that it would have ruined the people of Canterbury. And so Alphege refused to be ransomed.

This infuriated the Danes, who wanted the gold of Canterbury, not the Archbishop. After seven months of ill-treating him, one night they got very drunk and began pelting him with ox-bones from their feast, until in a frenzy they hacked him to death with an axe.

Alphege was mourned as a national hero and venerated as a martyr: he had given his life in order to protect his people from harm.



Recipe for Easter Chocolate cake

Bill Murray tweeted a while ago: ‘Chocolate comes from cocoa, which is a tree. That makes it a plant. Chocolate is salad.’ For many the favourite brown food also has an array of positive effects on our emotions, brain and psyche. Therefore it is recommend to enjoy daily consumption of chocolate and not just for this reason. A good reason to get baking this recipe, topped off with Dark Chocolate coating. Happy Cooking!



Ingredients for a springform cake tin:

(Approx. 10 pieces)

Preparation time: approx. 25 minutes Baking time: approx. 35 minutes

- 150 g dark cooking chocolate
- 100 g butter
- 5 Medium eggs
- 140 g sugar
- Pinch of salt
- 3 tbsp cocoa powder
- 90 g flour
- 1 tbsp baking powder
- 150 g redcurrants
- 1-2 fresh peaches
- 2 tbsp icing sugar for dusting

Step 1: Break cooking chocolate into small pieces and melt with the butter over a pan of boiling water.

Step 2: Separate the eggs. Whip the egg yolks, 60 g sugar and salt to a light and creamy consistency in a food mixer. Mix together the cocoa powder, flour and baking powder. Add the chocolate and butter mixture to the creamy egg mixture and continue beating. Stir in the flour quickly. Beat the egg whites until stiff. Gradually add the remaining sugar and continue beating until the sugar has dissolved. Fold the beaten egg whites into the egg yolk mixture.

Step 3: Pour the cake dough into a greased springform tin (diameter 20-22 cm). Bake in a pre-heated oven at 160°C (140°C fan, Gas 2) for approx. 35 minutes (skewer test). Leave cake in the tin on a wire rack to cool.

Step 4: Wash fruit. Cut the peaches into slices. Distribute the peach slices and red currants evenly over the cake, dust with icing sugar and serve.

Otley and District Gardening Club

To all you gardening enthusiasts,

I hope this finds you all well and busy in your gardens, splitting perennials, planting seeds, thinning seedlings and planting out the last of your bareroot plants in pots or in the ground. We've been busy in our polytunnel, weeding mainly,



but planting out our onion seedling, nurturing the parsley I managed to grow from seed over winter, and removing all the dead foliage around the strawberries we planted there last year. We even managed to grow some lettuces and spring greens over winter. Spring onions, beetroot and some very odd black radishes also adorn our beds in the polytunnel. We didn't dare eat the radishes!



It's the last chance you've got to plant out your garlic too. They need to be planted deep and outside where they'll get the cold. This helps them to split into their cloves. If you plant them somewhere warm and too shallow, all you'll get is one large clove. We talk from previous experience. This year we've planted two varieties in the hope that at least a few works. As you can tell, we're still learning too, so it doesn't matter if you get it wrong, it sometimes creates a strange and wonderful plant that doesn't quite reach its full potential, but you still love it.

It's also time to do the second pruning on your roses. We always prune by around a third in autumn to remove the rose hips and leggier growth and do the final third in spring to stimulate growth.

Dogwoods (Cornus) also need to be pruned this time of year before the new growth starts on the long stems. You can be quite brutal with dogwoods. They like to be cut back nearly to the ground (my dad's favourite style of pruning). Only do this if the plant is already established and in at least its second year of growth.

Please make sure you don't do any hedge cutting though!! This is when the birds are creating their nests in hedgerows and trees. According to DEFRA 2020 rules, you are prevented from cutting or trimming hedges between March 1st and September 1st without a derogation, to protect nesting birds. This is something I wasn't sure of myself until I investigated it. So please be mindful of this information.

I'll write to you next month with some news from Otley and District Gardening Club, but until then, have some fun with your gardening. Plant something you've not tried before and see what happens. Gardening is an experience to be enjoyed, so push those boundaries and let something beautiful grow.

Phil Pollard, The Green Chairman

Swallowing of pride seldom leads to indigestion. - Anon



23rd April: St George and Hiccup and the dragon

Have you seen the film *How to Train your Dragon*? It's set in a Viking village under attack from dragons, who steal livestock and burn down houses. Hiccup, the village Chief's son, invents a machine to capture dragons. However, when he catches one of the most dangerous dragons, he cannot kill it, when he sees that the dragon is just as frightened as he is. Through this friendship, the people and dragons eventually learn to live in harmony.

This month we celebrate St George, the patron saint of England. He is famous for slaying a dragon, a tradition which became popular in the Middle Ages. Whether he killed an actual dragon is open to question! However, we do know that the original George was a Roman soldier at the time of Emperor Diocletian. He refused to renounce his faith, as commanded by the Emperor, resulting in his death on 23 April 303 AD.



The contrast is clear: St George slayed the evil dragon, while Hiccup refused to kill one. However, they also have something important in common. Both acted according to their conscience, defying the popular understanding of those around them and not worrying about the personal cost to themselves. St George was martyred for standing up for his faith in Jesus before a pagan emperor, while Hiccup risked rejection by his father and village because of his compassion.

Today, we are still called to stand for Christ against wrongs and injustice in daily life, whatever the personal cost. However, we also need to be ready to look our enemies in the eye and meet their hostility with love and compassion. This is why we also remember this month that Jesus died and rose again, so that we might have God's power to do this in our lives.



“Those who say they will forgive but can't forget, simply bury the hatchet but leave the handle out for immediate use.”

D L Moody

😊 Census Conundrums 😞

I mentioned the Census last month which I am sure you have all now completed. I was amused to read in a recent article in ‘The Times’ a reference to a survey of answers provided in the 1851 Census:

One householder was confused by the question “children’s place of birth” and put “upstairs” for one child and “the parlour” for the other.

Another desperate man when asked who had slept in his house on the night of March 30th, gave an empty form explaining that his wife had just given birth to their third set of twins “and nobody has ever slept since!”

Witterings from a Wottinger

Subtitled: All we are saying is... Give Grumps a chance!

You’d have to know the Night Garden on Cbeebies (is it still on?!) to know who the Wottingers are.

But whilst they are a fairly peaceable little tribe, I have to admit that this lockdown and home school has been more on the lines of another children’s book I remember very fondly (though of course I can’t find the book in all the clutter in the attic!) Something like this..

“Small was feeling grim and dark...
Playing yell and scream and bang and clatter
Break and fling and bash and batter..”
Though let me hasten to assure you that no –
we haven’t been battering any actual person..!



And whilst last lockdown was more “Oh what a lovely lockdown”, this one has been more ‘oh what a terrible WIFI (always best to blame technology and not our own tetchiness and stressiness!).

I have been reminded of something a friend said when the kids were actually small – you may not like them sometimes but you still love them! This can apply to anybody I reckon, small or large. No matter that the yelling and banging and

clattering takes place on a fairly regular basis – this is often just surface stuff triggered by some really trivial things! And it can pass in an instant. But, the real stuff – the deep love – is always there, even if it feels hidden at times.

“I’m a grim and grumpy little small and nobody loves me at all..”

“Oh Small,” said Large, “grumpy or not,
I’ll always love you no matter what.”

This seems an appropriate encouragement to all the ‘Smalls’ out there feeling grim and dark, to all the grumpy people and those who have been ‘grumped’!

Whether you believe anything at all about the traditional Easter story, or whether you’re undecided, the Great Reality behind it all is, very simply, Love. And whether you call that source of love God/Jesus/ the Universe/ Allah/Large or any other ‘word label’ – I personally don’t think it matters. The truth is that however grumpy you may be feeling, however grumpy those closest to you are, the Great Reality says to you:

I’ll always love you no matter what!

Kate Watson

Brain teaser

A Farmer’s Problem:

A farmer wants to divide his 17 horses among his three sons. According to farmer the oldest son should get half of the horses, the middle son should get one third of the horses and the youngest son should get one ninth of the horses.



When their father died they were not able to divide the horses in even fractions. As the sons were fighting on how to divide the horses a fellow farmer came and heard their problem. He proposed a solution with which all the sons got their share in the property without harming any animal. What was the advice given and how the group of horses were divided?

(Solution on Page 20)

*When we take least notice of our good deeds
ourselves, God takes most notice of them.*

Matthew Henry

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

ASHBOCKING

It is a gloriously sunny afternoon as I write this article and you could be forgiven for thinking it was warm outside. That is until you actually step outside and the cold northerly wind hits you, reminding us it still is only early spring. However, all the lovely bulbs throwing up their spring flowers lifts the spirit and make the gardens and hedgerows come alive.

The change of the clocks and Eastertime all a reminder of the coming season full of hope for a better year this year.



I hope with the easing of lock down we will be emerging from our homes and meeting family and friends once more. I know a lot of people are looking forward to coffee mornings and resumption of social gatherings, also the opening of our churches for worship. Hopefully, this is not too far away but we must all still be vigilant and follow the rules, easy does it.



Ashbocking Church is closed until at least May/June, as the windows and roof are under repair. The interior is covered in plastic and there is scaffolding on the outside.

On-line services have been a fantastic way of worshipping through the Carlford benefice website on a Sunday morning throughout lock down and I think you will agree that our ministry team have done a wonderful job keeping these going.

Just before repairs began, we had the funeral of Dot Ridgeway, sadly on the one of the wettest days we've had.

Dot was born in Scotland in 1925 and as she grew up, worked with her father selling fertilizer to the Scottish farmers. It was this that gave her such a good grounding in retail. Dot was very proud of her heritage, especially her family name Rollo, which was descended from William the Conqueror.

In her late 20's she started her own business growing and selling tomatoes; she was extremely successful.

One thing Dot always said was that she would never marry a farmer or an Englishman. She, of course, did both, when she married John Ridgeway.

They moved to Winston near Debenham and started farming pigs and in 1972 Swiss Farm was opened to sell their own meat. Dot was the main force behind this and made a success of the business whilst John was more of a farmer.

Dot retired in 1989 and in 2001 she & John eventually moved from Swiss Farm into the village at Oban Cottage. In 2012 they moved to Winesham and in this time John died. Dot lived on her own until she was diagnosed with Alzheimer's and had to move into a nursing home in Ipswich. She got to the stage of being unable to recognise family members but was still able to play the piano, and loved to play hymns, a throwback to her religious upbringing. She died at the age of 96yrs. Dot was a very stoic and much loved by her family. We send our prayers to the family at this sad time.

In last month's article I reported the death of Louise Peel. Her cremation has now taken place on 11th March with family and friends present, either in person or via live feed, due to Covid restrictions on numbers allowed.

It was a lovely personal service led by a friend of Louise and Marcus, the Rev Anna Write who conducted the service with love and feeling.

The eulogy, read by her devoted husband Marcus, talked of Louise as full of love, fun and devotion, with immense inner strength and wisdom. Her sixty years were cut cruelly short, and these qualities were her strength in the two years up until her death. She was a proud, loving mother and was cheated of her role as an interactive and loving Grandmother.

In the earlier years Louise had been a remedial Gymnast and also a Matron and Housemistress at Orwell Park school. She ran the boarding there as well as being classroom assistant, librarian, and home economics teacher. She also made numerous costumes for school plays and productions. She was a wise and resourceful help to Marcus providing the provisions and running the adventure trips and activities.

Louise had a great brightness, humour and frankness which continued in her disability.

After this she was the Headmasters wife and head of boarding at Malsis school and was loved by everyone.

Hundreds of children over twenty- five years, in two schools, were lucky enough to have been cared for and guided by her.

More recently Louise had been working as an Imaging Assistant at the Ipswich Hospital. She was a born carer.

The last two years of her life had been tough, born without complaint and with immense bravery.

She communicated via an eye gaze machine and remained mentally sharp, until the end, managing to communicate loving messages for the family and finally “a lot of fun”. She knew it was time!

Louise will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

Rest in Peace ‘Weezie’


Linda Pollard
(linda.pollard3@btinternet.com)

CLOPTON

As I write this it is nearly the end of March. The verges of the lanes around Clopton are covered in primroses and violets. The fields are still very muddy but are starting to dry out and people are enjoying getting out to enjoy the countryside.



We decided, as a PCC, that we would not have a service on Easter Sunday. We are being very cautious and want to wait a while longer before we start mixing with others in the church. There will be a Livestream service from Grundisburgh and other churches in the Benefice will be holding services, details of which are in this magazine. Hopefully, things will be getting back to nearly normal soon.

 Our first service this year will be on Sunday 23rd May, Pentecost at 9.30 am. The service of Holy Communion will be taken by our new incumbent, the Reverend Katrina Dykes. This will be her first service in Clopton, and it would be great to see as many people as possible. You don't need to be a communicant; you can have a blessing instead. I don't know if singing of hymns will be allowed by then, we shall have to listen to the latest guidelines! Please come and join us.

Later this year we hope to have the church roof repaired and work on the organ is planned, more about this next month.

Happy Easter and keep safe,

Doris Main

OTLEY



Spring and Eastertide is a time of renewal... a time of hope, love and rebirth.

We have seen signs of this with the coronavirus vaccines taking hold of the pandemic and hopefully they will continue to do so in the months ahead.

For most of us the world looks brighter, but we still have our dark places.

We pray for all those taken from us in the past year and for those families left behind we pray that they find some peace in the year ahead.

We thank all those that have helped us during these dark times.

I have been re-reading the “The Velveteen Rabbit” a book written in 1922 by Margery Williams Bianco which is a wonderful book for both adults and children and has always inspired me.

I quote from the book (a story about a stuffed rabbit’s desire to become real through the love of his owner)

“You become Real. It takes a long time. That’s why it doesn’t happen often to people who break easily, or have sharp edges, or who have to be carefully kept. Generally, by the time you are Real, most of your hair has been loved off, and your eyes drop out and you get loose in your joints and very shabby. But these things don’t matter at all, because once you are Real you can’t be ugly, except to people who don’t understand.”

When I look in the mirror lately, I see an old lady in her 70’s with straggly hair (oh for liberation on the 12th when hairdressers re-open) and stress lines. I am lifted when my grandchildren and my husband tell me I look beautiful!! I then feel contented, happy and loved. We all need a little more happiness and love lately.

Take hope from these words and please find time to read the book, you can find it on the internet.

Looking out into the garden the other day, I spied a female blackbird busily gathering nesting material. It took her numerous attempts before she found the desired items. She then flew off into the shrubbery to continue making her nest. Meanwhile, her mate was idly rummaging about in the background and followed her later empty handed...nothing changes!

I wish you all a Happy Easter.

Angela Treloar

Church Services



Most of our churches in the Carlford benefice remain closed until Easter but are pleased to be able to announce a programme of services for Holy Week and Easter. With the current pandemic these services will be a mixture of online and in person services. It will be a really important time to make that journey once again from the praise of Palm Sunday, through the tragedy of Good Friday to the joy of Easter.

For in person services these will be limited in what we can do.

We will need to wear a mask, use hand sanitiser and 'book in'. It is important that we also maintain social distancing and singing is not yet permitted. Please have a look at our '[What to expect in church](#)' document. To book a place in Otley please contact Karin Upson on **01473 890539**.

The services are:

Palm Sunday, 29th March

9.30am Online Family Worship with Sermon & Hymns ([YouTube](#))

11am Holy Communion (a quiet & reflective said service) (Grundisburgh)

Monday of Holy Week

7.30pm Holy Week in Visual Art - followed by Night Prayer (Zoom)

Tuesday of Holy Week

7.30pm Holy Week in Poetry - followed by Night Prayer (Zoom)

Wednesday of Holy Week

7.30pm LiveLent Group (Using existing Zoom details)

Maundy Thursday

7.30pm Service for Maundy Thursday (Zoom)

Good Friday (2nd April)

2pm An hour at the Cross (Grundisburgh)

Easter Day (4th April) (Communion Services)

- 8am Grundisburgh BCP
- 9.30am Hasketon, Burgh, **Otley**
- 11am Boulge, Swilland, Grundisburgh*

* The Grundisburgh service will be Livestreamed ([YouTube](#)) for all other parishes that don't have services like Culpho, Clopton and Ashbocking and for those that can't come to church.

To get the Zoom details for Holy Week Monday, Tues & Thursday - please email Mark: Mark@Carlfordchurches.org

A Chat with Reverend Katrina Dykes

As announced last month our new Rector, the *Reverend Katrina Dykes*, will be installed in May. Some of you may have seen Mark's live chat with Katrina which has been broadcast on the YouTube channel and was also in The Grapevine. If you have missed it, please click on the link below.



News from Otley Primary School



Unfortunately, the start of the spring term after Christmas started in the now all too familiar fashion of remote education for all except for the children of key workers (KW) and vulnerable children (VC). There was a lot of confusion on the very first day of term when the message from government was that children should return, and schools should open for all. However, the school took the difficult, and as it proved, the right decision not to open on that day with the government changing its message later that same day ordering schools to immediately recommence remote education!

Yet again, during this period, all staff were superb in combining virtual education and maintaining provision for KW and VC at Witnesham. It is not easy. Lessons were learnt from the first lockdown and the remote offer was greatly improved. For example, using Google Classroom all year groups received two live lessons a day, a daily whole school assembly as well as home based tasks. It is not easy for parents to combine home working and home education and they also need to be congratulated for their resilience during this time. The headteacher and staff made regular welfare calls to those families that were known to be struggling.

March 8th when school reopened could not come soon enough for all concerned! The school has come alive again and life is slowly returning to normal. Everyone is looking forward to a near a normal summer term as possible, but the bubble system will probably have to continue for sometime. Sadly, the usual yr5/yr6 residential to Derbyshire has had to be cancelled for this year.

Mrs Baker-Daniels, after 9 years at the school, left at Christmas and we thank her for all that she achieved during that time. We welcomed Mr Gordon Leathers at the February half term to teach Class 3. We wish him a successful and happy time at the school.

Work is about to commence on an outdoor classroom as well as a trike track on the old swimming pool site and where the sheds are now. This will greatly improve that area of the school as well as giving further options for the pupils' education.

If you are interested in knowing more about the school, please email ad.otley@owfed.co.uk or 01473 890302 or visit the new website at www.owfed.co.uk.

Ian Liddell, Chair of Governors

Otley Scout News



Our Scout Group has continued to meet during the pandemic and each section has met on Zoom.

We've completed badges, done treasure hunts, quizzes, had Zoom visits from different people and taken part in competitions over the past few months.

Numbers have fallen – we are not surprised by this- but we hope to be returning to Face to Face Scouting in April/May. If anyone would like to join or re-join the Group, adult or young person, please contact Martyn Osborn on the above e-mail address.

We have been very fortunate to receive a grant from Councillor Tony Fryatt which has enabled new sinks and a 15lt point of use water heater, temperature controlled, to be fitted. This will make sure hygiene levels are a priority, and once our risk assessments have been passed by the District Commissioner, we can all meet again at the hut.

However, even though the Scout Group was unable to meet our Scout Hut wasn't without its visitors!!! Unfortunately, mice and squirrels have taken advantage of the building and have had several "sleepovers" and parties! We have sustained damage and, once we can, we will be getting together a working party to "put right" their shenanigans. If anyone would like to come and give us a hand – please contact Martyn.

The annual "Pig Roast", we hope, will return in the summer – we're just waiting to see what happens with lockdown restrictions so keep your fingers crossed!



SWILLAND

It will be wonderful to have a service in Church for Easter. May I wish everyone a Happy Easter. Hopefully, everything will get easier as we go into summer.

I would like to thank Mark and the Ministry Team for the excellent online services and the Lent zoom meetings. What would we have done without modern technology and Mark's expertise. I have also really enjoyed Sandra's talks for the children. I sent one of the books she read to my grandchildren.

We are looking forward to welcoming Katrina Dykes in May and getting to know her and her family (including the dogs!)



I am enjoying the lighter evenings and next week we shall benefit from the clocks going forward.

Our APCM will be held by zoom on 20th April at 7 p.m. If you would like to join us, please contact Brian Williams or Gill Reidy.

Ann Kent

It's easier to fight for one's principles than to live up to them. - Anon

The Tiny Frogs



Once upon a time there was a bunch of tiny frogs.... who arranged a climbing competition?

The goal was to reach the top of a very high tower. So, a big crowd gathered around the tower to see the race and cheer on all the contestants.

The race began....

Quite honestly no one in the crowd really believed that such tiny frogs would reach the top of the tower. They were saying “It’s way too difficult!!, they will never make it to the top,” and “Not a chance that they will succeed. The tower is too high!”

The tiny frogs began collapsing. One by one....Except for those who were a bit stronger and kept climbing higher and higher.

The crowd continued to yell, “It is too difficult!!! No one will make it!” More tiny frogs got tired and gave up....

But one continued higher and higher and higher long after all of the others had given up and dropped back down to the bottom and he, after a big effort, actually made it to the top!

All the other tiny frogs naturally wanted to know how this one frog managed to do it.

One contestant asked the tiny frog how he had found the strength to succeed and reach his goal! But he did not hear him, and he shouted the question again, but he still didn’t hear, so he shouted at the top of his voice, which was really loud for such a tiny frog. But he still could not hear him... he was deaf!

How much more could we do if we like the frog, turned a deaf ear to all those who say we can’t ?

Author Unknown



Lambs to the left of me. Mutton to the right. Here I am. Stuck in the middle with ewe. 🐑🐑🐑

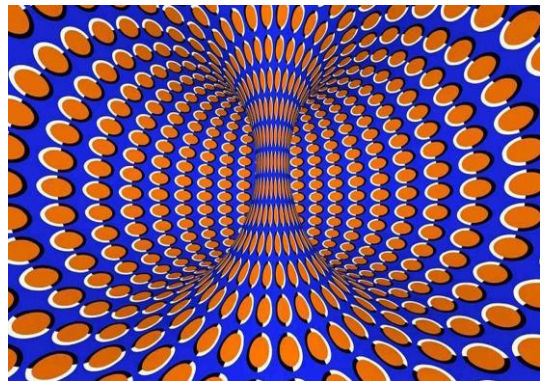
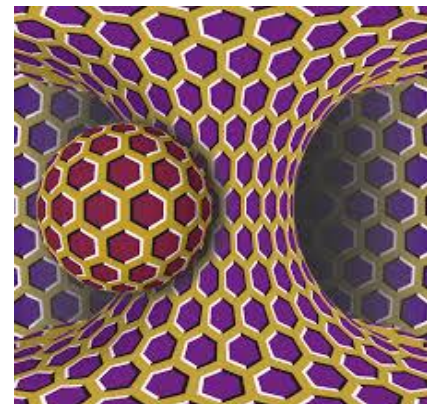
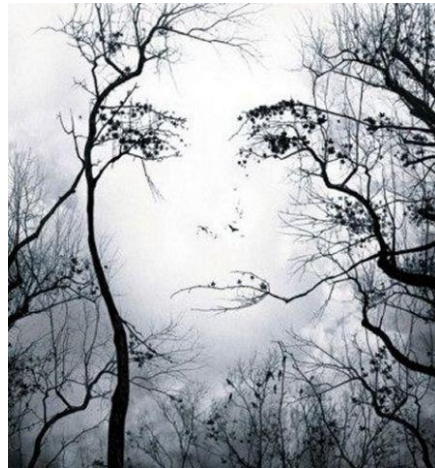


Optical Illusions: pictures to make you wonder!

Man running or a Dog?



Faces



Solution to Farmer's Problem on Page 9:

Well, this puzzle is interesting. You have to think such that with the solution everybody is happy and no body will suffer a loss.

Let's see the problem first.

we have 17 horses to be divided among three sons with the ratio as given.

1st son — half of the horses $(17/2)=8.5$

2nd son — one third of horses $(17/3)=5.66$

3rd son — one ninth of horses $(17/9)=1.88$

Now all the results are in fractions, so the horses cannot be distributed like this. What will the fellow farmer do to solve it.

It's simple. He will add **his** horse to the group of horses. So, in total we have 18 horses now. Now let's see the scenario again.

1st son — half of the horses $(18/2)=9$

2nd son — one third of horses $(18/3)=6$

3rd son — one ninth of horses $(18/9)=2$

Therefore, in total 17 horses will get distributed among the three sons and the fellow farmer will take his horse and leave. 😊

RUSSELL LING REPORTS



Following on from my description of rearing day old chicks before WW2, these birds would be moved to their final destination at eighteen weeks old or younger if they outgrew the building that they were reared in. There were two different types of laying sheds, the first a permanent structure which could be near the existing farm buildings or alternatively in a meadow. Laying hens were almost all on free range and the exit from the building

for the bird was by a pop hole just large enough for them to go through. This would have a shutter which was held up by a chain so that it could be dropped down at night if there were foxes about. Another deterrent for foxes was to have a loose chain hung over the centre of the pop hole, the hen would be able to go through it but foxes are suspicious of metal so would avoid trying to go past. If the hens were not shut up at night the most likely time to lose one to a fox was in the early morning when the hens first went outside.



The inside of the shed would have perches and a row of open wooden boxes to lay their eggs in. Straw would be on the floor of the shed and this would be cleaned out by hand as and when necessary. Ad lib feeders were not around at that time and it was usual to give them meal in the form of a mash in the morning in a wooden trough. At night time a scratch feed of wheat was fed on the ground and during the day the birds would look around for other things to eat.

The other form of housing would have been a shed on wheels with two strong axles underneath and one foot diameter cast iron wheels at each end. The shed would have been approx. 6 feet long and 5 feet wide with a door at the front with a pop hole next to it. There were perches for the birds and nesting boxes at the rear which was accessed from a hinged lid outside. The advantage of this type of shed was that it could be moved on to fresh ground and after harvest taken down to one of the cleared fields of wheat for the hens to eat up any spilt grain. There were rings at the ends of the front axle and trace chains with hooks would be attached to them, the other ends of the chains would be fastened to the horse's collar and the shed could then be pulled down to the fields. A tub of water was placed next to the shed and this was used to fill a pig's trough for the hens to drink from.

An American in Otley: Driving Experiences

I had been driving for 20 years before arriving in the U.K. The day after my plane touched down at Heathrow I began my motoring adventure in England - and no, I did not find it difficult, frightening, or even unfamiliar.

I had already driven in "foreign" climates. I cut my teeth on roads in Taiwan where I shared its one-lane streets with oxen, one-cylinder lawn mowers that had been converted into lorries,



bicycles, and pedestrians. From Taiwan, Pete was assigned to Japan and I drove there for three years. Japan drives on the left, has wickedly crowded roads, and exasperated drivers. All in all, my prior driving experiences prepared me for England in most respects.

I greatly appreciated the favor that the U.K. granted American forces and their dependents by allowing them to drive without requiring them to take the Driving Examination, which I understood was difficult. To be able to drive was a privilege which I jealously guarded, and I did not abuse it. I do know there have been tragic accidents caused by American family members stationed in the U.K. and I am most sorry for the damage my fellow citizens caused.

I did have to adjust to the quirks and customs of the Suffolk roads and its English drivers. First let me speak of the cautionary signage I encountered. I was mystified by some of the terms – “cementation ahead” or “subsidence of road works.” I had never encountered either multi-syllabic word on American roads. Then there were the cautionary signs “Slow through works” and “Slow plant turning onto carriage way.” While I understood the vocabulary and the need to go slowly, I was uncertain as to what I was about to encounter. I wondered if the plant was flowering or just in bud!

On the other hand, the directional signage was superb. When I came to a crossroad, the white arrows told me where I could go. I might not know how to get to my ultimate destination from the intersection where I found myself, but I did know what villages lay ahead. Of course, I did not always know how to pronounce the names once I arrived at the villages. For instance, it took a year for me to say “Burgh” correctly.



Then there were the roundabouts. In 1980, traffic circles were not commonly found in America. In general, the idea of going in circles at an intersection in order to make a turn or to go straight over was a curious concept to most Yanks. However, once I accepted the idea, I came to love traffic circles. When in doubt about where to go, I could just drive round and round until I made up my mind! I can't tell you how many times we drove around a circle in Coventry looking for the route we wanted. As it was, we still got it wrong.

Interestingly, Utah has begun constructing roundabouts to enhance traffic flow and eliminate four-way stops. There are two new traffic circles within a mile of

where we live. The only difficulty is that Utah drivers don't understand the rules! They figure if they speed up, they can just pull out into traffic already on the circle. Rarely do they use turn signals to indicate their intent to go either a quarter or three quarters round the circle.

The width of roads in rural Suffolk immediately captured my attention. Most country roads where I grew up were about 7 to 8 meters wide and had flat verges on either side measuring from 1 ½ to 2 meters. There were exceptions, but in theory it was possible to pull over and stop safely on a country road without fear of falling into a ditch, running into a dike, or driving into a thick hedgerow. Not so around Otley. I quickly came to understand the width of my car. I learned to give way to, back up from, or just squeeze past lorries, combine harvesters, and milk floats. I memorized the locations of the numerous blind spots created by the hedgerows that bordered the narrow lanes and byroads and drove with caution when approaching them.

Because the village was surrounded by farms, I feared coming upon unsuspecting barnyard critters. The sheep and bullocks were normally under human control. They may have moved at their own pace down a public road, but at least they were supervised. It was wandering poultry I came to fear. They would run across the road without regard. Normally I could avoid them, but one day I did not. After dispatching a mallard hen, I went to look for its owner. I had heard that if one killed a farm animal, the driver was supposed to notify the farmer. When I finally found someone in the farmyard up the road, the poor man looked baffled. He did not even know he had ducks nor, I think, care.



I was surprised at the number of travelers, presumably English, who stopped for mid-afternoon tea along the side of the road. More correctly, I should say “in the road.” Because there were precious few spots where one could safely pull off the road, many people didn't bother. I came upon a fair number of tea drinkers sipping their cuppas in a lane of traffic. Some even brought portable tables, folding chairs and proper crockery. It was an endearing habit, but it struck me as risky, especially when families occasionally stopped on the apex of a curve.

The greatest danger for any driver navigating on the opposite side (notice I do not say “wrong” side) of the road is one's habituated response, as I am sure all UK,

drivers have discovered when motoring on the Continent. If there are other cars about, it is fairly easy to remember which lane of travel is the correct one. However, on an empty road, habit can take over and you can feel irresistibly drawn astray. Even worse, when turning, drivers naturally move into their old, accustomed side of the road as opposed to the correct side. Finally, the time when many drivers make fatal mistakes and end up traveling in the wrong lanes is when they have been driving for months and feel too comfortable. You are lured into a false sense of confidence.

Once again let me say thank you to all those unsuspecting drivers who tolerated my presence on their roads. Thank you to the appropriate authorities who permitted me to drive. I enjoyed it.

Mary Miner, Susiespinner36@msn.com

SMILE LINES

Marathon runners with bad footwear suffer the agony of defeat.

If you think nobody cares whether you're alive or dead, try missing a couple of mortgage payments.

In order to keep a true perspective of one's importance, everyone should have a dog to worship him and a cat to ignore him.



The trouble with doing something right the first time is that nobody appreciates how difficult it was.

The most effective way to remember your wife's birthday is to forget it once.

The nice thing about becoming forgetful is that you can hide your own Easter eggs.



A vicar was planning an Easter pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and was aghast when she found it would cost her £50 an hour to rent a boat on the Sea of Galilee. She protested to the travel agent that the cost was ridiculous. 'That might be true,' replied the travel agent, 'but you have to take into account that the Sea of Galilee is water on which our Lord himself walked.'

'Well, at £50 an hour for a boat,' she replied, 'I am not surprised!'

CHILDREN'S CORNER



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