

Summer Afternoon



Far off the rook, tired by the mid-day beam,
Caws lazily this summer afternoon;
The butterflies, with wandering up and down
O'er flower-bright marsh and meadow, wearied seem;
With vacant gaze, lost in a waking dream;
We, listless, on the busy insects pore,
In rapid dance uncertain, darting o'er
The smooth-spread surface of the tepid stream;
The air is slothful, and will scarce convey
Soft sounds of idle waters to the ear;
In brightly-dim obscurity appear
The distant hills which skirt the landscape gay;
While restless fancy owns the unnerving sway
In visions often changed, but nothing clear.

Thomas Doubleday (1790-1870)

Weather May 2019

A low-pressure area persisted over us for the first ten days of the month and this resulted in a very welcome 1 inch of rain. Subsequently it remained dry with some very warm days at times and this has given a very rapid growth to hedges and plants. The last few days has again turned unsettled with just a few showers which only resulted in .40 of an inch. The total rainfall for the month came to 1.65 inches giving a total of 6.60 inches for the year. Bearing in mind that the autumn rainfall was also less than normal it is possible that we may soon be in a drought situation.

Russell Ling

*Thank
You*

My family and myself would like to thank all those who have sent us cards of condolence and expressed their sympathy on the recent loss of my son Kevin, your kind remarks are much appreciated.

Russell Ling

Otley & District Gardening Club

So, another month has zipped by and we're all busy in our gardens, greenhouses and houses getting ready for the summer to arrive.

We have a couple of successes to report on this month. Firstly, the Annual Plant Sale held at Otley Village Hall last month took the highest amount we've ever raised. A big thank you to all those that attended and made it so successful. I wanted to thank our members too for their generous donations of plants and cakes that we were able to sell to make some money for our charity.



Our other success was that we came back from our trip to Kew Gardens with the same amount of people as we left with. And all of them thoroughly enjoyed themselves, even if the weather was not the nicest to us. The rain stayed at bay for the first couple of hours we were there, so we were able to enjoy some of the outdoor spectacles before getting too drenched. Thank you all for making my maiden voyage so easy.

Our next Gardening Club meeting is 2nd September from 7:30pm. Everyone is welcome, but if you'd like to become a member, please get in touch for information with myself or our Club Treasurer Issy Lincoln.

The Green Gardener, Phil Pollard

Our Fascinating Language

During the banquets that inevitably followed medieval hunts the Lord of the Manor, and his peers, would be served the finest cuts of venison. The entrails and offal, known at the time as 'umbles, would be baked into a pie and served to those of a lower standing or out of favour. It was common practice for people to be humiliated by finding themselves sat at the wrong end of the table and **'eating umble pie'**. In David Copperfield, the Charles Dickens novel published in 1850,

Uriah Heap said, 'I got to know what umbleness did and I took to it. I ate umble pie with an appetite'. Following this the phrase was popularised in Britain.



THE DOCTORS SURGERY

As it Was

I will tell you what the medical services were like, which I remember from 1904 till well into the first world war.

The Doctor lived near the Church, the waiting room was standing room in the garden but most of the time people would stand in the churchyard. It seems a bit boring today with a nice warm room and a comfortable chair, but to stand in the rain and the snow, you can imagine it and there were some sharp winters in those days.



The Doctor then served several villages. Take a case of someone seriously ill in another village at night; there were no motor cars in those days and one would have to walk 5 or 6 miles to call the Doctor. He would tell him to tell him to go and call his coachman who lived at the far end of the Helmingham road. Perhaps the person didn't know which house the coachman lived in, he carried no torch to find his way, he might just have a candle lantern.



After he managed to get the coachman he had to walk back to the surgery and harness the horse. You can imagine what a person felt like with someone dear to them and dangerously ill.

Today a ring on the telephone and in a few minutes the Doctor is there*. They died in those days and so they do now. The old saying was "you won't go afore your time"

(*How times change)
The Old Timer – June 1970



*"St Swithin's Day if thou dost rain, for forty days it will remain.
St Swithin's Day if thou be fair, for forty days will rain nae mair."*

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

ASHBOCKING

Here we are again and no real improvement in our summer weather. I think we are all probably a little fed up with grey skies, chilly days and rain. Today I heard on the radio that our summer is sitting in the middle of the Atlantic! Not much help when there are so many events going on across the county.

At least we got it right to have our quiz night completely indoors, those who came to our last one will remember the downpours. Our church was full to capacity and with an army of willing helpers we served over eighty people with hot food and supplied a bar. We had cakes for half time and a raffle for good measure.

Our quiz master, Tony Ruben and his wife Sue kept us thinking and everyone had a great evening.

I would like to thank all who contributed to the event, and the clearing up.

We made a good sum and are now applying to get on with the next stage of our development project.

The July coffee morning is on Friday 5th at 10:30am. This will be at Liz and Steve Stegman's house, Old House Cottage, The Green. It is the first cottage just past Nelson Close where there is a layby for parking.

Knit and Stitch is at Hawthorns, The Green, on Monday 1st and Monday 22nd of July at 10:00am. The 2nd one is one week later than usual due to holidays. Do come and join us for a relaxing morning. We are now concentrating on items for the Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 7th December. I know this seems a bit early to be talking of Christmas but unless we start collecting things early, we do not have enough to sell and we want to have an enjoyable day, as we did last time.

The Bible Group at Hawthorns is on Wednesday 10th and 24th July, at 7:30pm. Do join us if you would like to learn more about the Bible and its message.

Our next service at Ashbocking is on 14th July and is the Pet Service when we invite you to bring your pets which in the past have included horses, rabbits, chickens and Guinea pigs to name but a few. There is usually a good attendance by our doggy friends.



If the weather is kind, we will have the service outside and it is a very enjoyable celebration of our little friends. Please bring a chair or blanket to sit on if this looks likely, otherwise it will be in the church and we will take our chances on any mess. Everyone is welcome even if you do not have a pet to bring.

We do not have anyone down to clean the church this month so John and I will be on cleaning duty.

Flowers as usual by our team of flower arrangers. Hopefully we will have plenty in the garden to use now.

Linda Pollard

CLOPTON



On the weekend of 24th to 26th August there will be a 'Festival of Hobbies, Craft and Skills' in Clopton Church. We hope to raise funds for the upkeep of the church and churchyard. Full details are in this month's Grapevine. If you are interested in exhibiting please phone Jenny Schurr on 01473 738357 or email cloptonschurrs@gmail.com. Please try to support us.

The July Hobbies morning is on Wednesday 3rd July from 10am until noon in the Village Hall. Everyone is very welcome to join us.

On Wednesday 17th July Beryl Birchmore will be hosting the monthly Coffee Morning. Please come and join us any time between 10am and noon in the Village Hall.

Doris Main

OTLEY

The big event of this month will be the annual Fete, held at the playing field on 6th July. There will be the dog show, which is always good fun, Samba dancing, tug o' war, a barbecue, teas, stalls and sideshows. It is a great family occasion so do support it and we hope for good weather.



39 people took part in the progressive dinner and much enjoyed the evening, moving to a different house between courses, with the surprise element of not knowing who your fellow guests will be. They eventually all met up for coffee at the home of Nick and Jane Betteridge. It was a great success and thank you, Vanessa, for the complex organisation of this event, and to everybody for raising funds for the church.

The gardens at Otley Hall were open for The Blossom Appeal on a lovely sunny afternoon and raised the amazing amount of £1,062-48. Lots of people came, many from outside the village, and a big Thank You to Ian Beaumont for allowing the use of the really beautiful gardens, at their best in June. The afternoon was organised by Alyson Chilvers and her team - Penny Sunaway who was instrumental in drumming up support, Issy Lincoln who provided the plant stall with the Gardening Club, and Ruthie Bullock who masterminded the teas, all with other helpers. Congratulations to them on a lovely occasion and thank you to everybody who supported it.



The next monthly coffee morning will be held on Thursday 11th July at the home of Janet Brooker-Smith and Peter Judge, Helmingham Cottage, Helmingham Road. They have another lovely garden so come to enjoy that one too. There will be no coffee morning in August.

Annabelle Chamberlain was baptised here at the end of May so we sent best wishes to her and her parents, Bertie and Catherina. And we send our deepest sympathy to Russell and Anthony Ling and all the family on the loss of Kevin and, of course, to his widow Jane. They are all very much in our thoughts.

Rose Rogerson

Village diary

4th July Friendship Club - cream tea at 10 Newlands
6th July Otley Fete - the Community Council
18th July Friendship Club - outing to Langham Glass in Fakenham
28th July Community Lunch at The White Hart

Church flowers: Valerie Pitchers

SWILLAND

WITNESHAM AND SWILLAND VILLAGE SHOW - 13th July - Witnesham Village Hall.

There are usually very few entries from Swilland. Do please enter and swell our numbers. There is a class for everyone, vegetables and fruit, flowers, flower arranging, cookery, handcrafts, art, photography and a children's section. Schedules have been delivered to every house, but if you need more please contact me or Liz Farrow, Venlo, Jubys Hill, Witnesham. Not everyone is a winner but do come and join in.

The next coffee morning is on 6th July which will be hosted by Gill Reidy at No. 1 Church Lane. All welcome.

Ann Kent

Flower Rota

30th June, 7th & 14th July Ann Kent

21st July Margo Barker

28th July – 4th August Gill Reidy

Strawberry Marshmallow Mousse *(a lovely simple summer recipe)*

EASY SERVES 4

PREP: 10 MINS

COOK: 3 MINS plus cooling and setting

Ingredients

250g fresh strawberries

halved if large

25g caster sugar

140g mini marshmallow

200ml double cream



Method:

Put all but 2 strawberries into a pan along with 100ml water and the sugar. Over a medium heat, cook strawberries until soft enough to mash, about 3 mins. Take off the heat and squash the berries, using a fork, until pulpy. Add the marshmallows, then stir them into the hot strawberries until they dissolve. Leave to cool.

Whip the cream until it holds its shape. Fold the cream into the cooled strawberry mix, then spoon into one bowl or separate pots and chill for about 2 hrs, or until set. Cut the reserved strawberries in half and use to decorate.



A NOTICE SEEN IN A FRENCH CHURCH

It is possible that on entering this church you may hear the Call of God
On the other hand, it is not likely that He will call you by phone
Thank you for turning off your phone
If you would like to talk to God please come in, choose a quiet place and talk to Him
If you would like to meet him, send Him a text when driving home

Otley Parish Council

Otley Parish Council held their Annual General Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting on 20th May 2019. Over the past year, the Parish Council have been involved in the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan and the future of housing in Otley. They have remained in close contact with EDF regarding the Sizewell C project and communication continues with the developers of the new housing development on the old Hubbards site, behind the houses on Church Road. The Helmingham Road footpath continues to be investigated and discussed.

Two new grit bins have been purchased for Ipswich Road and Suffolk County Council will continue to fill them with grit. The Parish Council would like to thank all the volunteers who during the cold winter months spread the grit to help keep our roads less icy and safer. Your help is much appreciated.



The flowers and plants around the war memorial have been maintained by Mrs Jayne Vaughan and Mrs Issy Lincoln and continue to be a feature in the heart of the village. This year saw the addition of daffodils blooming and huge thanks goes to Fred Yule for donating the bulbs and helping to plant them. There were many positive comments when they all appeared in the Spring.

The Parish Council continue to be part of Suffolk County Council's Grass Cutting Scheme which helps towards the cost and maintenance of the footpaths around the Parish. Dog walkers may have noticed some of the footpaths have been cut by our Contractor and the rest will be cut in the very near future. The Contractor will be back again at the end of August to do the second cut. Thanks must go to all the volunteers who take their own mowers to the footpaths and cut them in between. Having the opportunity to walk and appreciate the beautiful scenery we have locally is certainly enhanced when the footpaths are maintained.

Talking of footpaths brings me to my next 'thank you'...Councillor Russell Ling. After 72 years of being connected to the Parish Council, first starting out as Clerk and then becoming a Councillor, Russell, at almost 90 years has decided to step down from his Councillor duties. Russell had been a key stone to the Parish Council. It was Russell who spent many hours studying maps and connecting all the footpaths in the Parish together so we can have the pleasure and enjoyment of an amazing network of walks. Russell is a fountain of knowledge who shared his expertise in many ways for the good of the local residents. **THANK YOU RUSSELL!** We will miss you being part of the Parish Council team.



There were also other goodbyes at the AGM/APM. Mrs Issy Lincoln has stepped down from her position as Vice Chair and Councillor after nearly 10 years of service. Mrs Vanessa Osborne has also stepped down as Councillor to pursue other opportunities. Both will be sadly missed and we thank them both for all their hard work over the years.

The Parish Council remains with Anthony Ling continuing to be Chairman. We welcomed Martin Liddell as he became appointed the new Vice Chair. Martin Liddell is also the leader of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee which includes other volunteers from the village who are not Parish Councillors. The other Councillors are: Mrs Sandra Grant, Mrs Jayne Vaughan, Mrs Abby Lord and Mr

David Hook. There are Councillor positions available to join the Parish Council. If you are interested in joining a great team of volunteers and want to represent the local people then please contact the Clerk: rag.designs@hotmail.co.uk or 01473 892109. You would be made very welcome. Our next meeting is 8th July 2019, Otley Village Hall in the back room at 7:30pm.

The accounts for year end 2018/19 have been audited and received back with no issues. Documentation will be available to view on the Parish Council website by 1st July 2019 as part of complying with the Transparency Code. Alternatively, if you would like to see a paper version please contact the Clerk on the above details.

Rachel Green (Clerk for Otley Parish Council)

RUSSELL LING REPORTS



After the spring drilling of the cereal crop has been completed some of the fields would be under sown with red clover or grass mixtures. Horses of course had to be fed and it was cheaper to grow your own feed rather than buy it. Red clover was widely grown for this purpose in order firstly to make it

into hay which was called Stover and then hopefully get a seed crop off it after harvest. Most farmers made Stover so there was always a market for the clover seed and it depended on the weather during the summer as to how good a crop you would get. Once the Stover had been cleared the clover would be left to produce seed heads and for the best results a warm and dry time was required as you didn't want much growth but plenty of sun to enable the bees to pollinate the flower head.

The harvesting of the crop was critical. The clover was cut with either a grass clipper which had a reciprocating knife or a sail machine, the forerunner of the binder had the advantage of moving the cut clover to one side. The cut clover was left to dry and then carted and made into a loose stack ready for threshing. The threshing drum was called a Huller and was different to a corn threshing drum as it had two drums one behind the other. The reason for having two drums was that one drum wouldn't thresh all the seed out of the head in one go. Today the modern combine is able to return all unthreshed heads back through the drum. In a good year clover seed would be a very profitable crop to produce.

Russell Ling

*“Nothing is impossible,
the word itself says
‘I’m possible!’”*

Audrey Hepburn



Smile Lines

The Spell Checker - Sores Unknown.

*Eye halve a spelling cheque,
It came with my pea sea.
It plainly marques four my revue,
Miss steaks eye kin knot sea.*

*Eye strike a quay and type a word,
And weight for it to say,
Weather eye am wrong or write,
It shows me strait away.*

*As soon as a mist ache is maid,
It nose bee four two long,
And eye can put the error rite,
It's rare lea ever wrong.*

*Eye have run this poem threw it,
I'm shore you're pleased to no,
It's letter perfect awl the weigh,
My chequer tolled me sew.*

“Chopsticks are one of the
reasons the Chinese never
invented custard”

Spike Milligan



CHILDREN'S CORNER



Summer Search

D R P S U N T A N I C E C R E A M
Z F C H U S U N B U R N F N J E N
Y I A H G H B O A T C O U S U G B
W R U E F F I S H I N G O I N L E
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B K N S V O Q W J V X X R D W E B

August

beach

bikini

boat

camping

fan

fishing



hat

hot

ice cream

July

June

lotion

mosquito

shorts

sunburn

sunglasses

suntan

swimming

tent

vacation



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Wednesday 9am – 5pm
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Friday 9am – 5pm
Saturday 9am – 12 Noon

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