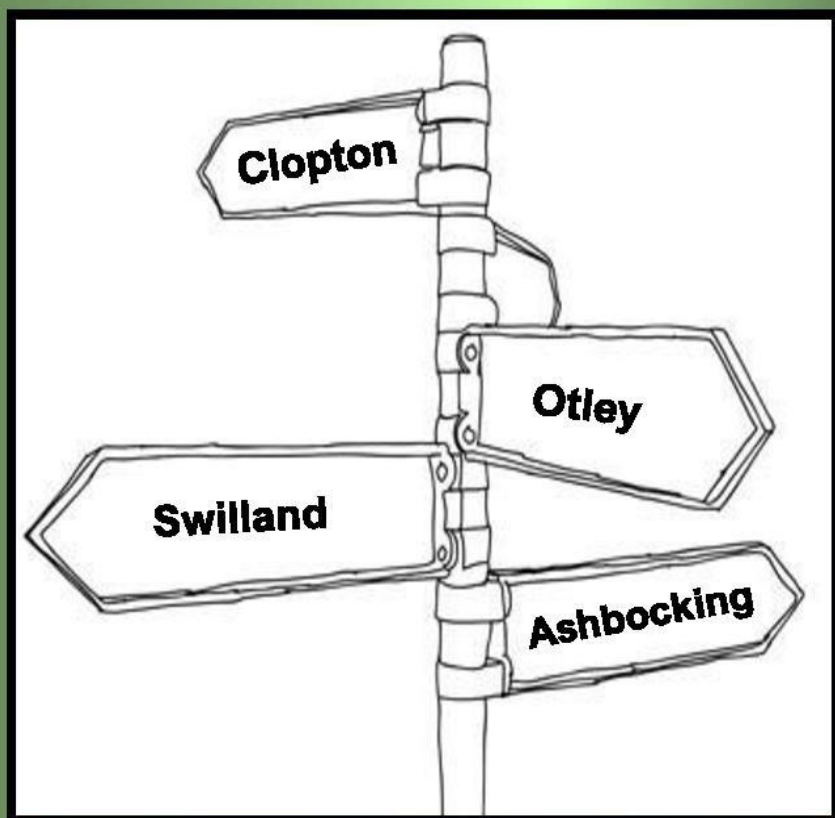


# *The Signpost*



*News from the Parishes*

## A Word from The Editor.....



Welcome to the **April Signpost**. So, another month on but still no white flag as far as Russia and Ukraine are concerned. I have been touched and heartened to read of all the hard work that has gone into raising money for the Ukraine. I have seen our villages pulling together to help – from sending donations in Otley, setting up a pop-up café in Clopton and coffee mornings in Burgh to name just a few. What a lovely supportive community we have, not just supportive for each other but for other countries. Thank you so much for all that you are doing and being such kind and selfless beings. Let us hope that there will soon be an end to war.

How are the Jubilee plans coming on? Do let me know. As I sit here the birds are singing and the sun is shining, giving true hope that Spring is here. Before we know it the cuckoo will be cuckooing!! By the time you read this, it will only be a matter of a few days before the clocks go forward, yes, I know we will lose an hour but on the plus side, we will all be glad to see the lighter evenings.

If you would like to see anything else within the magazine, whatever it may be, I would gratefully receive it for inclusion in upcoming editions. If you would like any family or friends' birthdays or anniversaries celebrated, then please do let me know and I will include in next month's magazine.

The next magazine will be the May issue with a deadline **of 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022.**

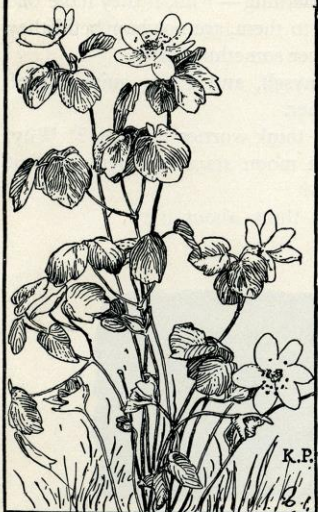
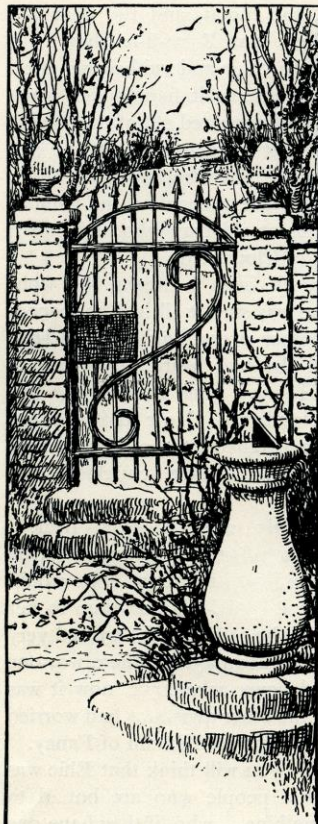
To register to receive The Signpost via email each month,  
please email Amy [bakergirl174@gmail.com](mailto:bakergirl174@gmail.com)

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, enjoy the lighter evenings and take care till next month..***

***"Happy Easter"***

***With best wishes Amy***



April .

They promised me a flower-bed  
That should be truly mine ,  
Out in the garden by the wall  
Beneath the ivy vine .

The box-wood bush would have to stay ;  
The daily rose bush too ;  
But for the rest they'd let me plant  
Just as I chose to do .

Though not a daffodil was up  
The garden smelled of spring ,  
And in the trees beyond the wall  
I heard the blackbirds sing .

I worked there all the afternoon ;  
The sun shone warm and still ;  
I set it thick with flower seeds  
And roots of daffodil .

And all the while I dug I planned ,  
That, when my flowers grew,  
I'd train them in a lovely bower ,  
And cut a window through ;

The visitors who drove from town  
Would come out there to see ;  
Perhaps I'd give them each a bunch ,  
And then how pleased they'd be !

I made my plans- and then for weeks  
Forgot my roots and seeds ,  
So when I came that way again  
They all were choked with weeds .

K.Pyle .

## Rainfall February



The first part of the month continued to be mild and mainly dry with some sunny days. There was a change from the 14th with high winds and some heavy rain which was followed by storm Eunice and Franklin on the 18th & 19th. Fortunately, Otley didn't lose power this time unlike many other parts of the country, also any damage was relatively light compared to the 1987 gales. The rest of the month continued to be very windy, sunny periods with some rain at times. It has been relatively mild for February with very few frosts, the rainfall was 2.95 inches.

*Russell Ling*

### April Weather Sayings

*"April showers bring may flowers."*

*"If early April is foggy,*

*Rain in June, Will make lanes boggy."*

*"When April blows its horn,*

*Tis good for hay and corn"*

*"April wet – good wheat"*

### 3rd April - Richard of Chichester - More Clearly, Dearly and Nearly

Ever wonder where the prayer ... *'May I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly, day by day'* comes from? Richard of Chichester, a bishop in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, wrote it.

He began life as Richard de Wych of Droitwich, the son of a yeoman farmer. But Richard was a studious boy, and after helping his father on the farm for several years, refused an advantageous





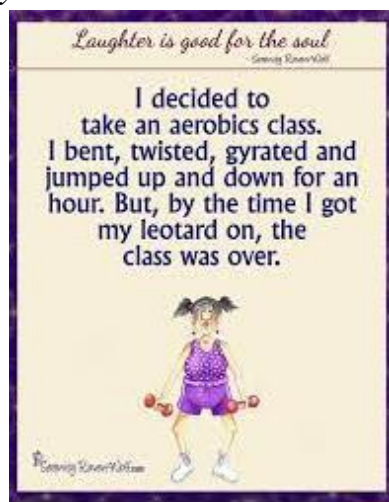
offer of marriage, and instead made his way to Oxford, and later to Paris and Bologna to study canon law.

In 1235 he returned to Oxford, and was soon appointed Chancellor, where he supported Edmund, Archbishop of Canterbury, in his struggles against King Henry III's misuse of Church funds. After further study to become a priest, Richard was in due course made a bishop himself. He was greatly loved. He was charitable and accessible, both stern and merciful to sinners, extraordinarily generous to those stricken by famine, and a brilliant legislator of his diocese. He decreed that the sacraments were to be administered without payment, Mass celebrated in dignified conditions, the clergy to be chaste, to practise residence, and to wear clerical dress. The laity was obliged to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days, and to know by heart the Hail Mary as well as the Lord's Prayer and the Creed.

Richard was also prominent in preaching the Crusade, which he saw as a call to reopen the Holy Land to pilgrims, not as a political expedition. He died at Dover on 3rd April 1253. In art, Richard of Chichester is represented with a chalice at his feet, in memory of his having once dropped the chalice at Mass! One ancient English church is dedicated to him.



And, of course, he is author of that famous prayer, now set to popular music, which runs in full: *"Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ for all the benefits thou hast given me, for all the pains and insults which thou hast borne for me. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly and follow thee more nearly, day by day."*



## ***DID YOU KNOW.....***

- *No one knows for certain how April got its name but it may have come from the Latin word 'Aperire' which means 'to open'. April is, after all the month when in the northern hemisphere buds begin to open and things start to grow again after the winter.*
- *Swallows – make their reappearance during April. Earlier people were mystified by the disappearance of many birds during the winter and at one time thought that the swallow spent the cold months hidden in the mud at the bottom of ponds. Traditionally April 15<sup>th</sup> is “swallow day” in England, the date on which returning swallows were seen again.*
- *1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in April is called daffodil Sunday. In Victorian times families picked daffodils from their gardens and took them to local hospitals to give to the sick.*
- *6<sup>th</sup> April there used to be candle auctions. A candle was lit and a pin stuck in it about two and a half centimetres from the top. Then people would start bidding for a piece of church land to let to the poor for a year. The person bidding when the candle burned down enough to let the pin fall became the owner of the land.*
- *19<sup>th</sup> Primrose day in memory of British prime minister Benjamin Disraeli (lord Beaconsfield) who died on this day in 1881. People were encouraged to pay tribute to the statesman by wearing primroses as they were supposedly his favourite flower. However, it seems there was a misunderstanding and that the flower was not his favourite after all. Queen Victoria sent a wreath of primroses to Disraeli's funeral with a note stating that they were “his favourite flowers; people assumed that the ‘his’ referred to Disraeli but in fact it referred to Victoria's late husband, Prince Albert.*
- *April 1969 – Concorde's maiden flight*
- *1<sup>st</sup> 1973 VAT was introduced in Britain*
- *2<sup>nd</sup> Hans Christian Andersen was born in Denmark. He died 1875*
- *2<sup>nd</sup> April – 14<sup>th</sup> June 1982 – The Falklands War*
- *6<sup>th</sup> Robert Edwin Peary reached the North Pole in 1909*
- *7<sup>th</sup> 1827 – First matches sold*
- *8<sup>th</sup> Pablo Picasso – Spanish painter died 1973 aged 91.*
- *10<sup>th</sup> 1998 The signing of the Good Friday agreement.*
- *12th 1606 Union flag became our national flag*
- *12<sup>th</sup> 1961 Yuri Gagarin made the first flight into space*
- *13<sup>th</sup> 1936 Joe Payne (Luton Town FC) scored ten goals in one match*
- *14<sup>th</sup> 1931 – Highway code first issued*
- *19<sup>th</sup> 1978 Post Marks were introduced in Britain by the post office*
- *23<sup>rd</sup> Shakespeare's birthday 1584 and his death the same day in 1613. He was born in Stratford on Avon.*
- *25<sup>th</sup> – 1953 DNA was discovered by James Watson and Francis Crick.*
- *26<sup>th</sup> 1957 – The sky at night first broadcast*
- *27<sup>th</sup> 1791 Samuel Morse was born, co-developer of the morse code.*

## A word from Rev'd Katrina Dykes



Across the villages of the Carlford benefice, much support is already being provided in the humanitarian effort to help the Ukrainian people in their time of need.



As church communities, we are encouraging people to raise funds through collections, individual gifts, events and activities, to respond to the terrible situation the people of Ukraine are facing - both in country and as refugees.

Within this Diocese, we are very grateful to be in partnership with World Vision, who will receive our donations and handle the gift aid.

<https://content.wvunited.org/en-gb/emergencies/ukraine-crisis-eds-ips-appeal/>

Every pound raised goes directly to people in desperate need to buy what they need where they need it. World Vision is one of a number of charities that form the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), whose appeal is supported and currently matched by the UK Government.

In the coming weeks and months, we will be considering how best to provide further support, especially as refugees arrive in the UK.

If you know of refugee families in the area, or of other initiatives where we might provide assistance during this crisis – please do let us know so that, as communities – villages and churches together, we can support in the best way we can.

Rev'd Katrina

*“The person who does a truly good deed does not remember it as long as does the person for whom it is done.”*

## Statement from Archbishops of Canterbury and York

The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby and Archbishop of York Stephen Cottrell have condemned the Russian attack on Ukraine as “an act of great evil”. They are urging Christians to keep praying for Ukraine, for Russia, and for peace.

In a joint statement they said: “The horrific and unprovoked attack on Ukraine is an act of great evil. Placing our trust in Jesus Christ, the author of peace, we pray for an urgent ceasefire and a withdrawal of Russian forces. We call for a public decision to choose the way of peace and an international conference to secure long term agreements for stability and lasting peace.”

### **Cuckoo Facts & Fairs**

An old traditional rhyme about cuckoo’s summer life cycle:



In April I open my bill  
In May I sing night and day  
In June I change my tune  
In July far far I fly  
In august away I must

- The cuckoo – the arrival of the cuckoo is the signal that spring has come. It arrives sometime in mid-April. The cuckoo sings from St. Tiburtius’ Day (14<sup>th</sup> April) to St John’s Day 24<sup>th</sup> June. However, in Worcestershire there is a saying that the cuckoo is never heard before Tenbury Fair (April 21<sup>st</sup>) or after Pershore Fair (June 26<sup>th</sup>). The difference in dates is because traditionally the bird arrives in different parts of the country during April. Various April dates are called ‘Cuckoo Day’ and some places hold Cuckoo Fairs.
- If you should hear the cuckoo sing on 14<sup>th</sup> April, you should turn over all the money in your pockets, spit and not look at the ground! If you do this and are standing on soft ground when you do it, you will have loads of good luck. However, if you are standing on hard ground – the cuckoos call means bad luck.





- Marsden cuckoo day in west Yorkshire is an annual traditional festival that celebrates the arrival of spring. According to local legend Marsdeners used to try to prolong the cuckoo's stay by building a wall around its nest.
- Heathfield Cuckoo Fair in East Sussex is an annual tradition of releasing a cuckoo to mark the beginning of summer. A tale of Heathfield fair depicts an old woman releasing the cuckoo from her basket, whereupon he flies up England carrying warmer days with him.
- Downton cuckoo fair is an annual traditional event held on the greens of the picturesque village of Downton south of Salisbury, Wiltshire. The fair marks the opening the gate to let the cuckoo through.



*"The first of April, some do say, is set apart for All Fools Day;  
But why the people call it so, Not I, nor they themselves do know."*

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

Hello there readers,

It's been glorious these past few days. Making it perfect weather for being out in the garden doing the last bits of cutting back and clearing before the plants start growing properly this year. We've been planting paeony in the new border that mum and dad established last year. We've also been adding some hybrid tea roses to the plot to help give the border more height. I love this type of rose. They produce long straight stems, usually with a single large rose bud at the end, perfect for flower arranging. They are different to floribunda roses which produce clusters of large headed roses and climbers and ramblers which do exactly what is says on the tin, climbing and rambling over obelisks or even up trees and hedges. We've also got some David Austin standard tree roses which are over a metre tall. They were stunning last year and should put on quite a display this time round too.



You should always prune roses to the lowest outside shoot on a stem. This encourages an open, “goblet” shaped base to the rose, which gives you more air to circulate around the leaves and therefore give you a healthy plant. If you’re watering your roses, try to avoid watering the leaves as this can encourage black spot. Black spot in itself won’t harm the plant, it’s a fungal disease which effects the leaves. It stops the plant photosynthesising properly and can affect its vigour. If you get black spot, remove the leaves that have it on and burn them. Don’t put them on your compost heap though. The spores will thrive in warm dark conditions.



On to Otley and District Gardening Club news now. It’s our AGM at this month’s meeting, where I will be holding court. I’m still happy to stand as chairman so it should be a relatively easy one. I’ve only ever done one AGM and I’m not sure if I did it correctly, but we all had a chuckle, nonetheless. Our speaker this month is David Coop who will be talking about “Feeding, weeding and other garden secrets”. I’m really looking forward to this talk, I love useful and useless facts.

Our Annual Charity Plant Sale will be happening again this year where we will be collecting for Dementia UK, a charity very close to my heart. We’ll only have two stalls this year though. One in Otley at Issy Lincolns house, and another in Ashbocking at Liz Stegeman’s. I will let you know their addresses nearer the time. If you are in the garden or potting shed or greenhouse, please consider us for any surplus seedling or anything you’ve divided. I’ve already split some Centaurea “Amethyst in the Snow” which I bought last year from Perfect Perennials.



Speaking of Perfect Perennials, our evening trip has changed from the tomato greenhouses at Great Blakenham, to going to the wonderful independent nursery at Forward Green that is Perfect Perennials. If you’re interested in joining us, please let me know and I can see if there’s space as parking is extremely limited.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our next meeting. Here’s hoping we have a good AGM.

*Phil Pollard, The Green Chairman,  
Otley and District Gardening Club.*

## What about Maundy Money?

Every year the Queen distributes silver coins at a special service on Maundy



Thursday. It is part of a tradition dating back many centuries, where the Royal Family took part in ceremonies washing the feet of poor people and giving gifts.

The Royal Maundy Service itself began in 1662, when Charles II gave out coins. The ones that the Queen gives out each year bear

the portrait of Her Majesty designed for her coronation in 1953, even though the image on ordinary circulating coinage has since been changed four times.

According to the royal.uk website, the Queen decided early on in her reign that Maundy money should not just be distributed to the people of London. And so, for many years she has visited various cathedrals or abbeys to give gifts to local people. Recipients of Maundy money are nominated by their local dioceses for contributions to their local church and community.

During the service, the Queen distributes gifts according to the number of years she has lived: for example, when she turned 80 she distributed 80 pence worth of Maundy money to 80 men and 80 women in recognition for their contribution to community and to the church.

Last year, in 2021, the service was cancelled because of Covid. Instead, the Maundy money was blessed at the Chapel Royal, St James's Palace, before being posted to recipients alongside a letter from The Queen.

“Poetry is when an emotion has found its thought  
and the thought has found words” *Robert Frost*

## Brain teasers

- 1) On each row place a five-letter word that will link the two given words (i.e. LUNCH – BREAK – THROUGH). When completed, the second letters of the added words will give another word reading downwards. What is it?

ROYAL \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ SUGAR      LUCKY \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ BRACELET  
CUP \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ROOM      LIME \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ HOUSE  
HAIR \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ STROKE



- 2) Replace each set of dashes with a four letter word.  
A chain will then be formed, with each word suffixing the previous word and prefixing the following word. What are the missing words?  
TOY \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ HALL \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ UP \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ BOX
- 3) A car covers its outward journey at 66 mph. It returns, over exactly the same distance, at 33 mph. What is the car's average speed over the entire journey?
- 4) One fish and three portions of chips costs £4.10.  
Two sausages and two portions of chips costs £3.60.  
One fish, two portions of chips and a sausage costs £4.30.  
How much is does each item cost?
- 5) Rearrange the letters of “**THE SHOE WON**” to give the name of a television programme. What is it?

(Solutions on Page 22)



## TREE HOUSES

Have you ever wanted to build your own tree house or one for your children? A misconception is that they are just for children to play in – well they are not and there are people of all generations, backgrounds and various countries that live in them, run a business from them or have them as an exciting man cave. Why do we love Tree houses so much? Where did the concept come from? What better way in this very busy changing world to re-connect with nature.

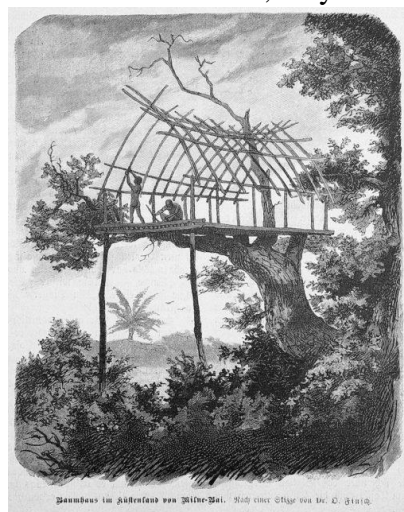
Tree houses have been used for living in for thousands of years. They were first built in areas which was not suitable for building on due to possible flooding on ground level. The underneath part of the Canopy was often used for shade in hot climates. Could you imagine using a pulley system to lift yourself and belongings in and out of your home every day? How things have changed for all of us. There were four distinctive periods for building tree houses: Renaissance period, Roman Era, the Romantic late eighteenth century and the early twenty first century.

The first known tree house to ever be built was a platform style, but the closed in around the trunks style shortly followed. Very quickly tree houses became popular in gardens for children to play in. There have also been homes built for animals such as possums and birds to encourage them into our gardens and provide a shelter for them. Another new mini-tree house which has successfully been built is a Bee Hotels to host bee's and little creatures.

One very important thing to consider when building a tree house or creating a home amongst the trees is to not impact the existing tree or trees you are building in.

Although history has no evidence of when the first tree house was built, they can be traced back to the ancient civilization, more than 40,000 years ago. (See the Illustration of an old treehouse (*Die Gartenlaube*, 1887))

Long before they were a thing of fun and pleasure the tree house was used for living accommodation, a home. They were built worldwide, wherever trees grow. Tree houses were used as shelters with a great view, practical for keeping families and their food safe from animals and floods.





## A treehouse in Marayur, Kerala, India



The majority of Indonesian tribes Korowai and Papua still live in tree houses. They are between 10 and 40 meters high in the canopy of the Banyan trees, big enough to hold up to 10 members of a family and protect them from threatening tribes and wild animals.

Franciscan and Hindu Monks in the Middle Ages used tree houses for living in and for their meditation.

During the Renaissance period tree houses became very popular in Europe, especially in Italy. Many gardens and particularly the famous Italian Banking family adorned theirs with tree houses – The House of *Medici* had a tree house in one of their villas which was admired by all their visitors. It was built in an oak tree, had its own spiral staircase and a fountain near it.

A French commune, Le Plessis-Robinson, located in the suburbs of Paris, became very popular in the 19th and early 20th Century for its chestnut tree house restaurants and taverns covered with roses. Close to the river, it was a place where chic Parisians gladly went to relax, enjoy nature, food, drinks and cheerful music in the middle of the leaves, away from crowded streets.

In Tudor England tree houses became a significant part of the culture. One of the oldest tree houses in England, constructed in the 16th Century, still exists in its original Tudor style. This house is known for its most famous guest Queen Victoria in 1832, while she was a young Princess. It was built in a lime tree at Pitchford Hall in Shropshire. Queen Elizabeth I also had her tree house, mostly used for dinners.

Many years ago, living in a tree house was a necessity. Today, it's a matter of choice and tree houses are present in every part of the world in every form of the imagination. There are countless private ones but there are now also a lot of public tree houses like restaurants, teahouses, playgrounds for children (see picture above) or even hotels. As a symbol of life in symbiosis with nature tree houses will probably never lose their charm.



Tree houses are designed to help bring us closer to wildlife, often taking us back to the times when people were constantly surrounded by wildlife, hunting for food, and living in harmony with nature.

Looking at them can fill you with sweet sorrow and such inspiration. Have a look at some of the most striking tree houses around the world.



bad weather for a wide variety of forest animals.

**A Woodland Condo, Tennessee** - This huge building belongs to a commune in the woods of Tennessee, USA. The house is more than 50 years old, and 90% of it is made of wood.



**The Seven Dwarfs' Hut, British Columbia** - These three huts are among the highest tree houses in the world. Though they look like the Seven Dwarfs' dwelling and lack electricity, they are fit for habitation.



**A Monument to Happy Memories, Belgium -** This house was designed by Benjamin Verdonck for the local design festival in Belgium. It is situated in the backyard of a nursing home in Ghent. It was designed to look like part of the facility and remind the elderly of their childhoods.

**The Spaceship Tree House, Sweden -** This house looks like an alien spaceship that had an emergency landing in the forest. In reality, it is one of the most innovative architectural projects of our time. This unusual building is part of the hotel complex that includes the Mirror Cube tree house.



**The Human's Nest Tree House, Sweden -** This giant nest is located among the trees of a Swedish forest. The interior is the perfect copy of a bird's nest, and it is a fully equipped modern room ideal for having a good time and listening to birdsong.

**A House in Blossom, Japan -** This amazing tree house was designed by Terunobu Fujimori and built in a cherry garden. In the spring, you can take a seat next to the window, and try the best teas while marvelling at the enchanting landscape.



**Farmhouse in the Air, California -** This building consists of several small houses put together. It is home to Californian farmers and is one of the largest tree houses in the world.

Have you been inspired by these amazing creations and fancy building your very own tree house gin bar, a man-cave, a creative play area for the children or even a space for quiet prayer and meditation? You really could build whatever your heart desires so long as you ensure that you work with nature, not against it. Have fun and most of all make happy memories. If you build your very own tree house this summer– do send in pictures.

## NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

### ASHBOCKING

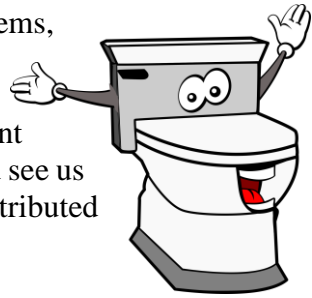
Hello everyone, April has arrived and with some lovely spring weather for us to enjoy. I have enjoyed being outside weeding the garden and tidying up. The real bonus was seeing all those tender shoots pushing through and the promise of a new season beginning and what that may bring. I hope the ever-present Covid has not caused too much trouble, it does seem to be doing the rounds still. Our household all had it, which delayed coffee morning and knit and stitch, but luckily, we fitted it in later in the month. In fact, we all sat outside in the sun for our coffee morning, which was glorious.



We are about to have our first fundraiser for 2 years. This is a last-minute plug for our **Jumble Sale on Saturday April 2<sup>nd</sup> between 10am and 3pm.**

There is an admission charge of 50p which will be donated to DEC Ukraine.

The jumble we have on offer contains some very good items, and some of which are new and nearly new. We are only able to take cash so please come prepared. Refreshments are available. Proceeds are going towards the new permanent loo and kitchenette at the back of the church. Do come and see us and pick up a bargain. Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far.



April is a busy month in the church due to Easter. Our Knit and Stitch morning will be on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 10am to midday. This is a lovely social morning whilst doing our preferred activity. Mostly knitting or crocheting but you are welcome to bring whatever you wish to work on. New members are always welcome. We meet at Hawthorns, The Green, Ashbocking.

Coffee morning is on the 8<sup>th</sup> April 10:30 to midday, hopefully we can be outside again to enjoy coffee and cake and a good chat. It's also an opportunity to catch up with what is going on in the village and the church. This is also held at Hawthorns, The Green.



*"People, like nails, lose their usefulness  
when they lose direction and begin to bend."  
Walter Savage*



The services in the church this month start on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April with Compline at 7pm.

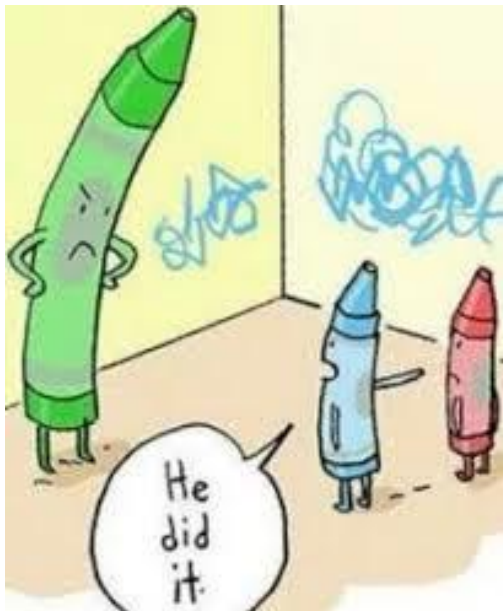
The Easter day service is a communion service which starts at 11am, coffee will be available afterwards, so please stay for a chat.

Then there is the Lay led shared service on 24<sup>th</sup> April at 11am. This is a service led by me as Lay

Elder of Ashbocking church and Brian Williams who is Lay Elder at Swilland. We are planning to give a lay led service once a month on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month, alternating between Ashbocking and Swilland. Everyone is more than welcome to join us, and tea and coffee will be available afterwards. This month we are at Ashbocking and next month it will be at Swilland on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

I hope to see some of you at one or more of these events and wish you all a very Happy and Healthy Easter.

*Linda Pollard*  
Tel: 07887 537152





## CLOPTON



### **Plant a tree for the Jubilee**

The tree planting at the Village Hall was on Saturday 5th March. There were fifteen trees, donated by the Woodland Trust - 5 rowan, 5 crab apple and 5 hazels. It was a rainy morning but lots of children turned up to help plant the trees. Each child was given a certificate of planting and an information sheet about the tree they had planted.

*(Photo -Emilia Vince and her grandma at the tree planting).*

On Saturday 19th March Jenny and Katie Schurr held a fundraising day from 10am until 5pm in the Village Hall - called 'bakes4ukraine. They had spent hours baking loads of cakes and biscuits.

Local people also supported the event and arrived with cakes, jam, eggs and plants. There was a steady stream of visitors all day who all enjoyed tea and cakes and the chance to buy and take home some of the delicious food. the wonderful total at the end of the day was £600 for Ukraine!

**Well done** Jenny and Katie and thanks to everyone who helped and supported them in any way.



Hobbies morning will be on Wednesday 6th April and the Coffee morning is on Wednesday 20th April. Both events are held in the Village Hall from 10am until noon. New people are always made very welcome. Come along and join us.

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on Sunday 10th April after our 11am service. Everyone is welcome to come and join us.

*Doris Main*

## OTLEY

While I am writing this the war in Ukraine is still going on and pictures of refugees fill the screens. Much help is needed. In Otley you can donate money for the Disaster Emergencies Committee at the Post Office. Donations of clothing are collected at the Village Hall on Mondays between 5pm and 6.30pm. Storage and sorting can be a problem so do think of smaller items like toiletries as well. Items

of clothing will have to be sorted so please pack and label them. Our service on 6<sup>th</sup> March ended with Judy thoughtfully playing a Ukrainian folk song and a piece by Tchaikovsky - a reminder that there are victims of the hostilities on both sides.



St Mary's church has a long-standing connection with the Leprosy Mission and at the March service our once yearly collection was for the Leprosy Mission. It amounted to an amazing £440. Thanks to all who contributed and particular thanks to one very generous donation. At our Easter service we will be collecting for the Ukrainian refugees. Let's all be generous then as well.

The preparations for the Queen's jubilee are taking shape. 7 oak trees have been delivered to the church. Our monthly service on June 5<sup>th</sup> will be held on the playing field followed by a Big Lunch. There are Jubilee events every day from June 2<sup>nd</sup> to June 5<sup>th</sup> including the lighting of a beacon on the playing field, treasure hunt and a traditional fete. More details will be available soon. If you would like to help in any way contact: [otleynewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:otleynewsletter@gmail.com)

The crafting group is going to produce lots of bunting for the festivities. Our monthly coffee mornings are going again and after a slow start attendance has picked up. We enjoyed a good get together at 16 Spring Park. There will be no coffee morning in April because it is too close to Easter. So, the next one is on May 12<sup>th</sup> at the Gables, the Treloar's house.

Our next church service is on April 3<sup>rd</sup> which is also the date of our APCM. Everyone is welcome to the service. So come and find out what has been happening during the last year. The PCC is meeting after the service.

During Holy Week we are having a Maundy Thursday communion service in Otley at 7.30pm. Please join us for that and for our Easter celebration with a communion service at 9.30am.

Other news: Otley has got a tree warden. It is Amanda Marks. She is hoping that lots of people might get involved by offering stories, photos and anything nature related. She has created a website for the Otley community. Contact <https://naturefriendlyotley.co.uk>.



The 'Horn Factory' a jazz band (including Jonathan Farnhill on the saxophone) are holding an open rehearsal in Otley Village Hall on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April from 8pm- 10pm. Free entry! Free tickets are available from the Village Shop.

*Karin Upson*

## COLLECTIONS IN OTLEY FOR THE UKRAINE

You may already know (or have read in Karin Upson's piece above) about the collecting of various items and clothing organised by David Bingham which are sorted on Monday evenings between 5pm – 6.30pm, at Otley Village Hall and then sent to the Ukraine. If you would like to donate any items, please see below a list of essential items which would be very gratefully received. *(If you would like to help sort & pack– just turn up at Otley Village Hall, Mondays 5pm-6.30pm – you would be very welcome!)*



### Essential items list

Paracetamol	Protein bars	Torches
Ibuprofen	3 in 1 coffee sachets	Waterproof ground sheets
Antiseptic cream	Small packets nuts/raisins	AA batteries
Bandages	Crunchy peanut butter - plastic containers not glass	Basic £1 reading glasses
Surgical Tape	Cup a soups	Mini gas stoves
Multi-vitamins		Socks
First aid kits	Spanners	Thermals
Barrier cream	Sockets Sets	Gloves
Cough syrup	Tow Ropes	
Toothbrushes	Screwdrivers	
Toothpaste	Jump Leads	
Wet wipes	Pliers	
Deodorant	Spare Fuses	
Sanitary towels		
Tampons		
Nappies		
Shower gel		

## SWILLAND

Spring has now arrived! All the bulbs and blossom are looking wonderful and the birds are beginning to sing. I'm sure we shall have some more cold weather but we can enjoy the sunshine while it lasts.



### Village Coffee mornings

26th March - 10.00am at Ann Kent's, Red Court

23rd April - 10.00am at Gill Reidy's, 1 Church Lane

Do join us for our Easter Day church service on 17th April.

There will be a report on our APCM in next month's magazine.

*Ann Kent*

We have now got a Swillande's WhatsApp group set up by Sam Salter, for everyone living in Swilland. If you haven't already joined this group but would like to, please notify Sam so that he can add you to the group. It has proven quite a success in just the short time that we have had it. It is a great way to link us all, enabling us to send alerts of any issues in the village and any lost pets etc. It has also been so lovely to read the comments of thanks and appreciation for the beautiful daffodils that were planted and now line the High Road in all their glory!



## WhatsApp

*Amy Waspe*

### **Solutions to the Brainteasers on Page 12**

1. Choir. The added words are ICING, CHARM, BOARD, LIGHT and BRUSH.
2. Town, mark and beat.
3. 44mph
4. Fish – £1.70, Sausage - £1.00, Chips – 80p.
5. The One Show



How did you do?

## **28<sup>th</sup> April Peter Chanel, Missionary, and Martyr in the South Pacific 1841**



Many of us can show great dedication in pursuit of a career that will bring us a good salary or position. Peter Chanel should be the patron saint of anyone who shows quiet determination in doing what they believe to be God's call upon their life, regardless of the harsh personal consequences.

Chanel was born at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century in mid-eastern France. He'd heard stories of the foreign missions as a youngster and wanted to be a missionary. His first step was seminary training and ordination in 1827.

But then Chanel hit a blank wall. Though eager to go abroad, his bishop sent him to a run-down local parish instead. Obedient, Chanel went – and revitalised the parish within three years. But he also joined the then still forming Society of Mary (Marists) who had a heart for foreign missionary work. But then – another blank wall – as even the Marists kept him in France, as the spiritual director at the Seminary of Belley.

It was not until 1836, that Chanel finally was allowed to join a mission to the South West Pacific. He set out with a band of Marist missionaries for Tahiti and Tonga, and finally reaching the neighbouring island of Futuna, in November 1837.

Chanel and the other missionaries were initially well received by the island's king, Niuliki. But when they began preaching to the people, the king grew restive. He feared Christianity would threaten his supreme powers. When the king's son, Meitala, sought baptism, the king decided to take action. His favoured warrior, Musumusu went to Chanel feigning need of medical attention. While Chanel tended him, Musumusu took an axe and clubbed Chanel on the head. Chanel died that day, 28<sup>th</sup> April 1841.



Chanel had only three and a half years on the mission field, but he did not die in vain: his work had laid the base for a future mission there. Within a very few years the people of Futuna converted, and even the warrior, Musumusu converted. As Musumusu lay dying he asked to be buried outside the church at Poi, so that those who came to revere Peter Chanel in the Church would walk over his grave to get to it. Chanel had achieved his life's goal: a mission that took Jesus Christ to people in a far-flung corner of the world.



## Recipe for Wild Garlic Butter

### Ingredients

- 250g pack of softened unsalted butter
- 1 tsp sea salt flakes
- 50g chopped wild garlic leaves

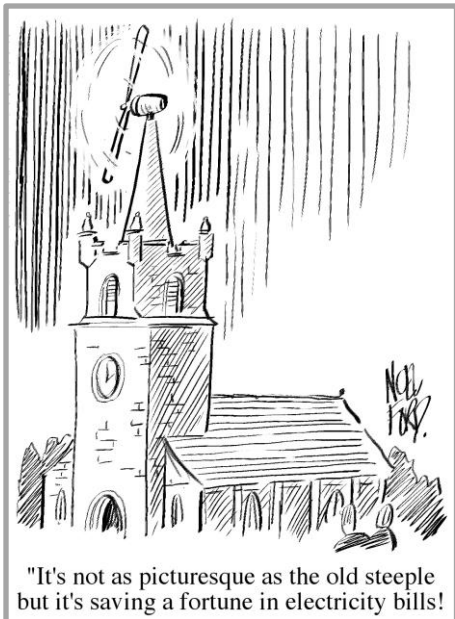
### Method

Combine the butter, salt flakes and wild garlic in a bowl, then shape into a log and wrap well. Slice into rounds to melt into pasta or rice, or to top grilled meat such as steak or chicken, or pan-fried salmon fillets.



### Tips:

1. Wrap well and freeze for up to 3 months, or chill for several days.
2. **Foraging for wild garlic:** Wild garlic grows between March and June. You'll probably smell it as you get near, especially if you're walking through a patch. Look for clusters of broad, pure green spearhead-shaped leaves growing in damp areas of deciduous woodland, often close to water – and often near bluebells. If it's flowering, you'll see pretty white petalled flower heads sitting on a single stem shooting up from connected leaves. If you're at all unsure, rub a leaf between finger and thumb to release the garlicky aroma.



## RUSSELL LING REPORTS

### The 16th October 1987 Gale



The Otley Parish Council had an emergency Committee consisting of myself and Christopher Clark to deal with this type of problem taking place in the village. Although I knew that there was a high wind during the night I had no idea that it was so strong. Going out of my back door I was

confronted with the sight of my apple trees blown over and the greenhouse totally demolished. The driveway was covered with tree branches and most of the tiles had been blown off my barn. As I am a farmer this was not good news as I milled and mixed all my feed in it.

The first requirement was to open up the highway for traffic, Chris and I got out our chainsaws and by 11am had cleared the roads up to the village boundaries. The roads to the town were completely blocked by fallen trees and branches so no one could get to work. The village residents were wandering about the roads discussing how to overcome the problem of being without electricity and also not being able to contact the outside world as the telephone lines were also down, "mobiles were generally not available then".

There was no delivery of milk but fortunately Robin Jack, who lived at Bastings Hall Framsdon, had a milking herd but the milk lorry couldn't collect his morning milking due to the blocked roads. Robin however put some milk in churns and brought it to Otley Post Office on a trailer over the fields where it was gratefully received.



The next problem was heating and cooking for households who relied on electricity only. I had a number of paraffin heaters that I had bought in a sale and these I handed out to those who required them, fortunately we had a garage in the village which stocked paraffin. As regards meals and hot water neighbours who had solid fuel heating systems helped out, at that time there were fewer households who totally relied on electricity only. Those who had deep freezers regretfully lost all their contents except a few who had access to a generator.

As regards to the farm it took me the best part of a week to clear all the branches from the field edges before I could carry on with ploughing and drilling. The electricity was cut off for a whole week and I was becoming desperate for feed for the pigs and cattle when much to my relief power was reconnected. One of the reasons there were so many fallen trees and branches broken off in the 1987 gale was the fact that the trees were still in full leaf and so had a greater wind resistance, Rendlesham forest was almost flattened due to this. I think that the force of the gale that we had in 1987 was greater than the one that occurred in February 2022.

### **An American in Otley: Gather Your Spring Flowers While You May**



When I decided to write about daffodils, I thought first of my mother-in-law and then I turned to Google. In my searches, I encountered subjects as diverse as Greek mythology, the Roman Legions, medieval folk medicine, and Alzheimer's. All of this because of my memories of the beautiful daffodils naturalizing in the front garden at Foxgloves in March and April.

I asked my mother-in-law, what her favourite flower was. She replied "Narcissus." I said that I liked daffodils too. Louisa took exception immediately and told me she preferred narcissus. My mistake – I thought that they were synonymous. She did not, and because she grew flowers to support a cottage industry, I wasn't going to argue with her. For years, I worried and wondered what exactly the differences were between the two.

Google directed me to the American Daffodil Society, and it offered this opinion, "Narcissus is the Latin name or botanical name for daffodils, and daffodil is the common name for all members that fall under the genus *Narcissus*. The American Daffodil Society recommends the name daffodil except for scientific writing." I have no idea if this opinion is widely shared across the Pond, but I shall rest easy knowing that I am safe using the common name since mine is not "scientific writing."

Daffodils belong to the *Amaryllis* family and were originally found throughout southern Europe and North Africa. The greatest number of naturally occurring varieties grew in Spain. They were introduced into Mediterranean gardens in the

3<sup>rd</sup> century B.C. and described by the Greek botanist Theophrastus. Linnaeus classified them in 1753 in his Species of Plants. The name ‘Narcissus’ harks back to Greek mythology. The nymph Echo fell in love with a vain young mortal, Narcissus. When he spurned her, she departed to live a solitary life until nothing remained of her but her echo. He, enchanted with his own appearance, spent hours gazing at his reflection in a pool. As he leaned over to see himself better, he fell in, drowned and, in his place on the bank, the flower grew.

The derivations for the names ‘Narcissus’ and ‘Daffodil’ likewise go back “into the mists.” Romans gave the flower its Latin name from the Greek ‘narkissos.’ In that ancient language ‘narke’ referred to ‘numbing’ or ‘narcotic’ and may refer to the numbing effects of the sap in daffodils. Scholars differ in their opinions on the origins of ‘daffodil’. One theory is that it is a misspelling of ‘asphodel’, which is a variant of Middle English ‘affodill.’ Perhaps daffodils were compared to the beauty of asphodels. Another theory is that the word derives from the Dutch who called it ‘affo dyle,’ meaning ‘that which comes early.’

The Roman Legions first brought the flower to Britain. Physicians and priests tucked bulbs into their baggage and planted them wherever armies were garrisoned. When its sap or water-based extracts were applied to a soldier’s open wounds or burns, the area became numb. The extract would also cause nausea and was a reliable emetic.



Western folk medicine has turned to the daffodil for centuries. All parts of the plant were used – leaves, bulbs, and flowers. People obtained an extract of plant material and took it for whooping cough, colds, asthma and to cause vomiting. The bulbs were ground, mixed with water, and the resulting paste was spread on a cloth and applied as a plaster to treat wounds, burns, sprains and joint pain.

Lest you are tempted to try these remedies – **DON’ T**. The alkaloids contained in daffodils and all other members of the amaryllis family cause unpleasant side effects – vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhoea, hallucinations, convulsions, and heart irregularities. Merely chewing on the flower’s stem can cause chills, shivering, and fainting as well as irritation of the mouth and tongue. In extreme instances sensitive individuals can experience brain and nerve disorders, lung collapse and even death. “Daffodil pickers’ rash” was a documented health hazard

of people working in the bulb and floral industry in Britain. An eczema-like rash could develop on the hands and arms.

Given how biologically active the alkaloids in daffodils are, it is no surprise that they have been studied by pharmacologists. The same alkaloids which cause negative side effects have yielded tumour-fighting substances for some cancers of the brain and they are now in clinical trials. The saps' ability to numb skin surfaces may result in new analgesic creams. Most remarkable, the alkaloid galanthamine has been shown to be effective in restoring function to people in the early stages of Alzheimer's dementia. Reminyl is a patented medicine available in the UK for patients with early to moderate dementia. Read about its development by the son of Welsh farmer, Kevin Stephens, and biologist, Trevor Walker at their website: [www.agroceutical.com](http://www.agroceutical.com).

### **Daffodil Trivia**

1. Resist the urge to mix other flowers in a bouquet with daffodils until the daffs have soaked in water for 24 hours. The alkaloids in the sap can damage other flowers.
2. Offer daffodils to others in a bunch. A single daffodil is thought to portend a bad luck.
3. For generations, poultry farmers were convinced that this flower was unlucky and that planting daffodils would stop their hens from laying eggs.
4. Victorian gentlemen often presented their ladies a bunch of daffodils in the spring; in the language of flowers, they represented chivalry.
5. Daffodils are the flower designated for 10<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversaries.
6. The daffodil is the national flower of Wales.

Cheers. Happy spring. Let the yellow of the daffodil and the blue of Suffolk's sky remind you of Ukraine.

Mary Miner, [susiespinner36@msn.com](mailto:susiespinner36@msn.com)





## SMILE LINES

A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.

A penny saved is a government oversight.

The government not only has the bad habit of living beyond its income, but also beyond ours.



### **What a hoot**

One evening a bird-loving vicar strolled over to his huge country churchyard, and just for fun, hooted softly, like an owl. To his delight, an owl hooted softly back. The next night the same thing happened, and again, the night after that. Soon it became a regular habit, and every night for the following year, no matter what the weather, the vicar would go to the churchyard and hoot back and forth with his feathered friend. The hoots became longer and more complicated, and the vicar kept a careful log of the ‘conversation’.

Just as he thought he was on the verge of a real breakthrough in interspecies communication, his wife had a chat with the neighbour who lived in a big house and garden next door to the church. “My husband comes here each night,” she said, to “hoot to the owl in the churchyard.” “That’s odd,” the neighbour replied, “so does my husband.”

### **The Italian pasta diet that really works**

You walka pasta da bakery  
You walks pasta da sweet shop  
You walka pasta da ice cream shop  
You walks pasta da table and fridge  
You gonna lose da weight!



This is not my bald patch; it’s a solar panel for brain power. – *Anon*

### **True, but odd**

The Bible is among the topmost shoplifted books in the world, according to several sources, including CNN and the New York Times.

## Big and Little Things

I cannot do the big things  
That I should like to do,  
To make the earth forever fair,  
The sky forever blue.

But I can do the small things  
That helps to make it sweet,  
Though clouds arise and fill the skies,  
And tempests beat.

I cannot help father plant his seed  
And fix the poles into the land;  
But I can cheer him up  
With coffee and love so grand.

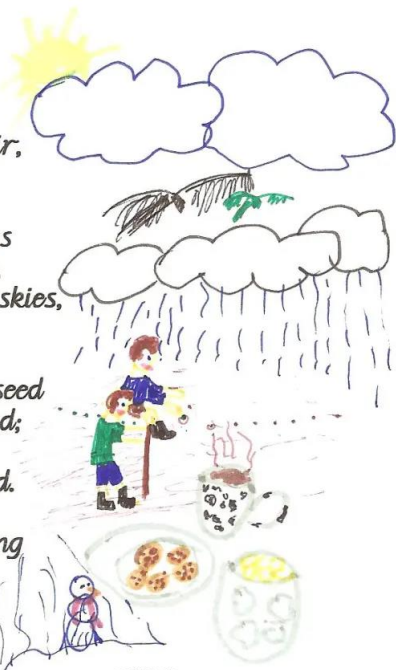
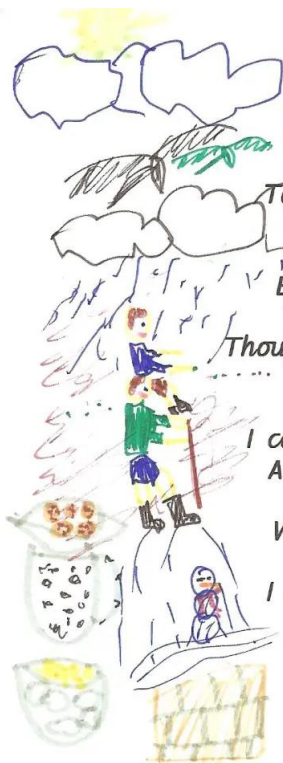
I cannot stop snow from falling  
And icy winds that beat;  
But I can make popcorn  
And cocoa very sweet.

I cannot lay heavy bricks  
Or build a tall, strong wall;  
But I can sing the men a song  
And love them even more.

I cannot fix the AGA stove  
Or stop the toilet leak;  
But I can help mom with cooking  
And bake every day of the week.

I cannot do the big things  
That I should like to do,  
To make the earth forever fair,  
The sky forever blue.

But I can do the small things  
That helps to make it sweet,  
Though clouds arise and fill the skies,  
And tempests beat.

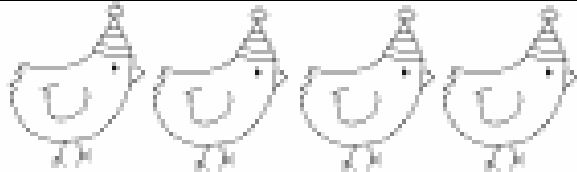


## CHILDREN'S CORNER

# Easter Count and Colour

Count and colour the number of Easter objects shown in the boxes.

Colour 3  
Chicks



Colour 5  
Eggs



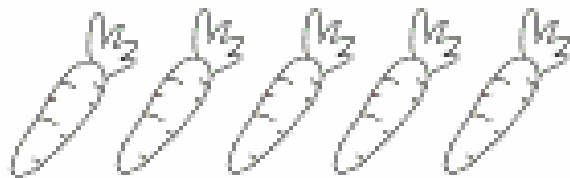
Colour 4  
Bunnies



Colour 2  
Hats



Colour 1  
Carrot



Easter Bunny say when he burps?

A: Eggs-cuse me!

What happens when you tell an egg a joke?



It cracks Up!!



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Find us at Unit 21 Lewis Farm, Pettaugh Road, Stonham Aspal, Stowmarket

We are just up the road from Stonham Barns on the A1120 or put IP14 6AU in your SAT NAV.



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## TOM LYON TREE SERVICES



'NO JOB TOO SMALL, NO TREE TOO TALL'

NPTC/ND Certified Arborist/Public Liability Insured



City & Guilds

NPTC

Environment Agency

Crown Thinning/ Crown Lifting

Reductions

Planting

Sectional Dismantling

Stump Grinding

Hedge Trimming

Horticulture

For full details please visit my website  
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