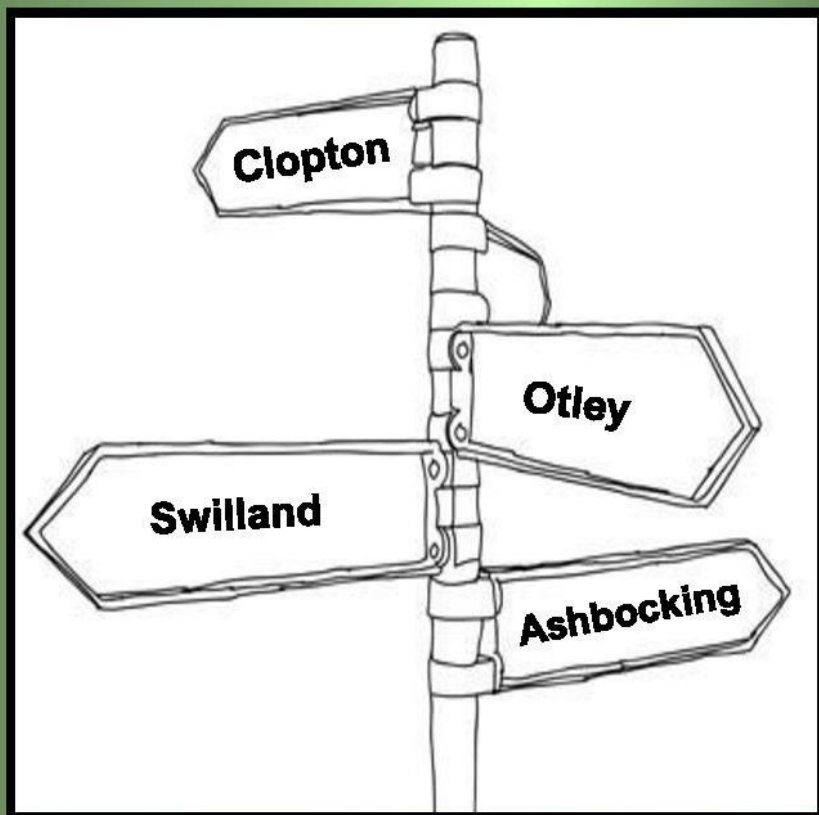


The Signpost



News from the Parishes

A Word from The Editors.....



Welcome to the **October Signpost**. We are now well and truly into Autumn, the fields are turning brown having been ploughed, min-tilled, drilled and so the new cycle begins. The nights are certainly drawing in quickly now with cooler evenings but still some pleasant days, although the forecast for this week is not set fair – a good excuse to sit and take time to read this month's issue!!

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

Our next magazine will be the **November** issue with a deadline **of the 24th October.**

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>. Should you wish to speak with Rev'd Katrina Dykes or a member of the benefice team please telephone 01473 735183.

Keep safe and take care

Amy and Angela

A Harvest Prayer



*For the promise of harvest
contained within a seed
we thank you.
For the oak tree
within an acorn
The bread
within a grain
The apple
within a pip
The mystery of nature
gift wrapped
for us to sow
we thank you.*

*'As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat,
summer and winter, day and night will never cease.'*

(Gen 8:22)

Rainfall for August

August continued to be unsettled for the first ten days but after that, a blocking high settled over the north west of Scotland and this has given us a cold north wind. The result of this was that while it remained dry a considerable amount of cloud was drawn over our area off the North Sea. There were some bright spells of sunny weather but it has been very cool for August and this continued for the rest of the month. It has been recorded as one of the coldest three Augusts since records began. Rainfall was 1.25 inches.

Russell Ling

2nd October - Guardian Angels – Keeping an Eye on Us

The teaching of Jesus encourages us to believe in guardian angels. He once said, ‘See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven.’ (Matthew 18:10) The existence of angels was suggested in various Old Testament texts, Jesus mentioned them explicitly, and the early Christians accepted their existence and work (Acts 12:15).

In England, devotion to the angels, both in Anglo-Saxon times and later, was strong. In modern times, the great American evangelist Billy Graham has written an entire book on the existence and work of angels.

Alcuin described them as intercessors (in the 11th century Leofric Missal); Herbert of Losinga, bishop of Norwich (d 1119) specially praised them, and his contemporary, Reginald of Canterbury, wrote prayers in their honour.

Honorius Augustodunensis (d 1151) clarified the existing belief of the time by asserting that each human soul, when infused into the body, is entrusted to the particular care of a single angel, who protects both body and soul and offers prayers to God.

For many centuries Christendom was satisfied with the feast of St Michael (and all Angels), but the special feast of the Guardian Angels was introduced in Austria, Spain and Portugal in the 15th – 16th centuries. Guardian Angels were then seen as guardians of particular towns or regions, or of each individual. Pope Clement X made the feast day universal in 1670, fixing its date to 2nd October.



Otley and District Gardening Club

Good day lovely readers,

What a month for gardening!! It's been a great time for warm weather to ripen any tomatoes left on the vines and to have a second flush on the roses. Our garden is looking gorgeous at the moment due to the hard work put in by our gardener and us here at Hawthorns. (It sounds like an introduction on Gardeners World doesn't it??!!) We've been very lucky to have had Jill Hempstead (ODGC

Secretary) as our gardener for the past two years but unfortunately for us she's moved on to pastures new. We couldn't have done it without her! Thank you Jill!!

Our last meeting was a great success with new members joining and previous members coming back, to listen to Ian Seager talk about water in the landscape and how to introduce water into our gardens. From what I heard it was a very interesting discussion. We might even book him again for a talk about different types of water plants. Watch this space.

Otley and District Gardening Club's next meeting is on Monday 4th October at 19:30 at Otley Village Hall with the marvellous Geoff Hodge talking about Gardening with the Changing Climate. Something that's dear to my heart. I



always worry about the number of plastics that are used within the gardening industry. Just in plastic pots and seed trays alone, over 500 million are sold every year in the UK, but how many are recycled or reused? Nearly two thirds end up in refuse landfill or incinerators. A shocking statistic. I hope this snippet of information gives us all some food for thought about what

we can do to reduce that number. I know many companies are trying recycled plastics in their pots and using biodegradable materials like coconut fibres to make suitable sustainable containers for selling plants in, but what about the pots that are in our own greenhouses or sheds? Do we reuse the old pots enough? What are the alternatives? The best advice I can give is make your own out of newspaper or toilet rolls. I'm looking forward to hearing what Geoff has to say at our next meeting.

Please feel free to come along to the next meeting, even if you've never been before. We're a very friendly lot and will warmly welcome you. You might like to try our club out for a meeting or two, which you can do for £4.00 a meeting or you could join for £10.00 a year and pay £2.00 per meeting entrance fee. We arrange a selection of yearly charitable events, go on one local and one not so

local trip every year and hold members socials, usually at the White Hart. You also get 10% off at Ashbocking Nursery with your membership card, which I should have printed for next meeting. Please get in touch with me if you would like any further information about Otley and District Gardening Club at phil@florabundant.co.uk

I look forward to seeing as many new and previous members at our next meeting.

Phil Pollard, The Green Chairman

October – The things you didn't know....

It probably comes as no surprise that October was, in the old Roman calendars, known as the eight month of the year. That is why it is called October – ‘Octo’ meaning eight!

Whereas the Saxons would call it the Wyn Monath – meaning the season of wine making.



It is the most autumnal month of Autumn when the leaves change colour, transforming England's landscape into an array of gold, rust & yellow our renowned autumnal colours.

The 7th of October in Hampshire, during the eighteenth century, became a very prominent day for Mr William Davis who was riding home when a heavy fog rapidly descended him and in no time, he found that he had lost his way. He heard his local church bells start to ring which enabled him to follow the sound and arrive home safely. When Mr Davis tracked where it was, he became lost, it was only a few yards from the chalk pits, where the ground had been dug deeply. Had he gone any further, he would never have returned home alive. When he died in 1754, he had left, in his will, some money. The money was meant to pay the bellringers of his local church to ring the church bells at 6.30am and 7pm on the 7th day of October every year to aid travellers to find their direction should they also get lost on the same night he had been lost.

After the reform of the calendar in 1752, some traditional activities associated with Michaelmas Day (29th September) was moved forward 11 days to 10th October. Sometimes it is called ‘Old Michaelmas Day’.

Mop Fairs or Hiring Fairs was a time during Michaelmas where servants and farm labourers would work from October to October and they would go to the centre of the village or town to hire themselves out again for the next year. People would go dressed in their best clothes and to let people know what work it was they wanted, they used to wear or carry a sign of their work. Maids would carry a mop; hence the name Mop Fairs! A shepherd would take wool, flowers would be taken by gardeners.



The new masters and mistresses would walk around the fair talking to people. When an agreement had been met, they would give the servant a modest token – something like 5pence. The servant would then remove the sign of their job and replace with a bunch of brightly coloured ribbons which would let others know he had been hired.

The 18th of October – also known as St Luke’s Day was a day when girls could have some insight into their future marriage prospects. Before going to be they had to put a face mask on containing a mixture of spices, honey and vinegar – then once they had climbed into bed, they had to recite the following rhyme:

‘St Luke, St Luke, be kind to me,
In dreams let me my true love see’

The other significant event that would take place on St Luke’s Day was all stray dogs roaming the streets had to be whipped out of town – it was also then known as Dog Whipping Day.

Weather-Lore and sayings

Rain in October means wind in December.

When birds and badgers are fat in October, expect a cold winter



When berries are many in October, beware a hard winter

In October dung your fields, and your land its wealth shall yield.

Always there will be twenty-nine fine days in October.

If the October moon comes without frost, expect no frost till the moon of November

Traditions:-

1st – This was the known traditional date on which the English pudding season started. These were filled with steak, leaks, mushrooms, spices and some were cooked for as long as 16 hours.



4th St Francis Day – Swallows are supposed to fly to the bottom of ponds and hibernate through the winter. Before migration was understood, this seemed a reasonable explanation for their sudden disappearance. The fact that swallows skim the surface of ponds for insects may be where this folklore began.

21st Apple Day – 2010 saw the 21st anniversary of this special day – it is now celebrated by thousands at events run by local people. Common Ground initiated it with the hope it would become a calendar custom open to all to celebrate nature and culture.

Punky Night – This day falls on the last Thursday in October and is a Somerset tradition. It began in the Middle Ages, all the men of Hinton St George went off to a fair. When they failed to return that evening, the woman went in each of them by the light of Punkies. Punky now known as a pumpkin which was been hollowed out and had a candle standing inside it.

Traditionally on this night, children in the South of England would carve their ‘Punkies’ into Jack O’Lanterns. Once carved children would go out in groups to march the streets, singing traditional punky songs, calling at friends’ houses and competing for the best lantern with rival groups they meet.



To this day, Punky Night in Hinton St George, Somerset is celebrated with local children joining a procession through the village streets, swinging their homemade lanterns, going house to house singing traditional ‘punky songs’ and sometimes getting a few pennies at the door.

Anniversary Dates:

1st 1908 – The first Model T Ford was introduced by Henry Ford

1st 1974 – American fast-food chain, McDonald’s had to its first outlet in UK.

1st 2000 – The last commercial hover craft flight across the English Channel.

3rd 1906 – S.O.S. was established as an international distress signal.

3rd 1916 – James Herriot (famous vet) was born



4th 1905 – Orville Wright became the first to fly an aircraft for over 33 minutes
6th 1769 – British explorer Captain James Cook, on board his ship Endeavour discovered New Zealand.

10th 1886 – First Dinner jacket worn.

11th 1881 – In London, The Savoy Theatre, Britain's first public building to be lit by electricity, opens with a performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's 'Patience'

13th 1884 – Greenwich Mean Time started

14th 1979 – Sony invents the first Walkman, over 3 billion of them were sold in the first 20 years.

16th 1834 – The original Houses of Parliament in London are almost destroyed by fire.

20th 1966 – The first message was sent between two computers in California, USA

25th – St Crispin's Day, Patron Saint of Shoemakers



Branteasers

1. A murderer is condemned to death. He has to choose between three rooms. The first is full of raging fires, the second is full of assassins with loaded guns and the third is full of lions that haven't eaten in 3 years. Which room is safest for him?
2. A woman shoots her husband. Then she holds him under water for over 5 minutes. Finally, she hangs him. But 5 minutes later they both go out together and enjoy dinner together. How can this be?
3. What is black when you buy it, red when you use it, and gray when you throw it away?
4. Can you name three consecutive days without using the words Wednesday, Friday, or Sunday?
5. This is an unusual paragraph. I'm curious as to just how quickly you can find out what is so unusual about it. It looks so ordinary and plain that you would think nothing was wrong with it. In fact, nothing is wrong with it! It is highly unusual though. Study it and think about it, but you still may not find anything odd. If you work at it a bit, you might find out.

(Solutions on Page 22)

The Harvest Moon



It is the Harvest Moon! On gilded vanes
And roofs of villages, on woodland crests
And their aerial neighborhoods of nests
Deserted, on the curtained window-panes
Of rooms where children sleep, on country lanes
And harvest-fields, its mystic splendor rests!
Gone are the birds that were our summer guests,
With the last sheaves return the laboring wains!
All things are symbols: the external shows
Of Nature have their image in the mind,
As flowers and fruits and falling of the leaves;
The song-birds leave us at the summer's close,
Only the empty nests are left behind,
And pipings of the quail among the sheaves.
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

FASCINATING SUFFOLK DIALECT



Dawdle – idling “*Don’t dawdle – help me moor up the boat.*”

Duzzy Woop – silly fool “*You duzzy woop – I said South, not North!*”

Rigmarole – long winded story “*Skip the rigmarole and just put the kettle on*”

Wurrygut – someone who always worries “*You great big worrygut, It won’t rain, so hurry up and hang your washing out on the line!*”

Woolgathering – absent minded “*Stop your woolgathering and pay attention to the speed limit.*”

Thasa Rum Un – that’s strange “*Thasa rum un, I swore we left the car parked here.*”

The Statue of Cardinal Wolsey Ipswich

As a cardinal and statesman in the government of King Henry VIII, he was almost as powerful as the king himself. So, when a new statue was unveiled of Wolsey in his hometown of Ipswich, it was something of a surprise to see this towering character represented in a more approachable manner, presenting Wolsey as an enlightened teacher rather than a titan of Tudor England.

Peering out from the side of Wolsey's seat is an attentive-looking cat, a reference to the Cardinal's supposed love for feline companions.

Thomas Wolsey was born in Ipswich around 1472. Though he was the son of a butcher rather than a nobleman, he received a good education at Oxford University and was ordained a priest in 1498. He served as a chaplain to Henry VII, but his rise to prominence began during the reign of Henry VIII.



In December 1515, Wolsey became Lord Chancellor of England, serving as the King's chief advisor. His power grew, and with it the jealousy and rivalry of many nobles. For 14 years Wolsey served as Lord Chancellor, using his intelligence, shrewdness, and experience to cement his position as the most powerful man in Britain. But his desire for wealth, his penchant for scandal and his lowborn background earned him even more enemies.

His fall from power was swift. When Henry sought an annulment of his marriage to Catherine of Aragon, he tasked Wolsey with carrying out the act. But when Wolsey failed to persuade Pope Clement VII to annul the marriage, his rivals pounced. They turned Henry against him, and Wolsey was stripped of all but one of his offices. In 1530 he was accused of treason and ordered to return to London. He set out for the capital but died during the journey.

The statue of Cardinal Wolsey is located at the junction of Silent Street and St. Peter's Street in Ipswich town centre. It is near the spot where Wolsey is believed to have grown up.

More on Ipswich next month..... AMT

9th October - Denys of Paris – why losing your head is not always a bad thing



Have you ever held your head in your hands and felt that events were against you?

Then Denys is the saint for you. This Christian martyr knew all about holding his head in his hands when times got rough.

According to Gregory of Tours, Denys was an Italian bishop who became the first bishop of Paris. Along with five other bishops, he had been sent by the Pope to convert all of Gaul. Denys reached Paris, where the common people welcomed him, and his preaching was met with great popular success. In time he even went on to establish a Christian centre on an island in the Seine. That was the beginning of Christianity in Paris.

However, Gaul was still under Roman rule, and trouble began for Denys when in the year 250 the Emperor Decius issued an unusual Roman imperial edict. All the citizens of the empire were required to sacrifice to the Emperor in order to prove their loyalty to the old ways. Once they had sacrificed, they could obtain a libellous (certificate) to prove they had complied. This sacrifice was of course out of the question for any Christian, and Denys and several leading Christians in Paris refused. Soon Denys, along with a priest called Rusticus and a deacon called Eleutherius, were imprisoned and beheaded.

So loved had Denys been by the people that stories soon sprang up about how he had then picked up his head and carried it for ten kilometres, preaching a sermon as he walked. Today you can see a statue commemorating this unusual (!) event in the crypt of the Roman Catholic Basilica of Denys in Paris.

“Life is *full* of
happiness and
tears; be *strong*
and have
faith.”

KAREENA KAPOOR KHAN

thegoodtimes.com

**Winston, if you were
my husband, I'd put poison
in your coffee.**

**If you were my wife,
I'd drink it.**

One Pan Fish Stew

Whip up this delicious one-pan fish stew for family or friends.



Ingredients

- olive oil 1 tbsp
- fennel 1 bulb, thinly sliced
- garlic 3 cloves, thinly sliced
- fennel seeds 1 tbsp
- sweet smoked paprika 1 tbsp
- tomato purée 1 tbsp
- white wine 150ml
- cherry tomatoes 400g tin
- butter beans 400g tin, rinsed and drained
- kale 100g, chopped, tough stalks discarded
- raw prawns 180g
- skinless white fish (such as cod, coley or haddock) 300g, cut into 4cm pieces
- feta 50g, crumbled
- flat-leaf parsley a small bunch, chopped
- crusty bread to serve

Method

1. Heat the olive oil in a large, lidded, non-stick frying pan over a medium-high heat and cook the fennel for 4-5 minutes or until caramelised. Turn down the heat and add the garlic, fennel seeds, paprika and tomato purée, and cook for 1 minute. Pour in the wine and bubble for a minute before adding the tomatoes, beans and half a tin of water. Season lightly and simmer for 15 minutes.
2. Season the sauce again, if needed, and stir through the kale. Nestle in the prawns and fish pieces, put on the lid and simmer gently for 5 minutes until the fish is just cooked through. Sprinkle over the feta and parsley and serve with crusty bread.

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

ASHBOCKING

Another month gone by. We have just come back from two weeks away in Norfolk. We left in summer clothes enjoying lovely sunshine, visits to the beach and even a swim. After torrential rain at the beginning of the second week, the weather whilst still very warm at times, had changed to the mellow days of autumn. There was a different smell in the air and the evenings were cool. Quite a change it seemed in such a short space of time. We really hope that the fine weather continues into October, as the autumn colours become more prolific. It is often a very beautiful time of year and I feel ready to start bedding down the flower borders and harvesting the crops grown over the summer months.

We were fortunate in Ashbocking to be able to have the Bible group at Manor Farm sat outside. The other Bible group, normally held at Hawthorns and led by James Hall, remains by zoom in the evening. Covid is still very much uppermost in our minds when arranging these things, but we hope it will soon be possible to meet as we did before. If you would like information about either of the Bible Groups, please contact me. My phone number is at the foot of this article.

The Knit and Stitch group are meeting on Monday 4th October at 10am -12midday, at Hawthorns the Green. We are located at the end of Ashley Grange and have plenty of parking. New members very welcome.

We are a friendly group with varying interests and abilities and enjoy meeting for a chat over a cup of tea or coffee.

The next coffee morning in Ashbocking is on Friday 1st October, 10:30-12:00 by kind invitation of Sarah and Steve Wilson at Eastbrook House, The Green, and everyone is welcome. Its an ideal opportunity to meet together, to chat and catch up on local news. There will be a bring and buy stall, mainly with books, which have proved very popular.

It is hoped to reinstate our book exchange in the church very soon. We have to make sure the books are protected from mice and bats!

The next service at Ashbocking Church is a service to celebrate the **Harvest on October 10th at 11am.**



Everyone is very welcome to join us in this special service. We love to decorate the church with Harvest Produce (packeted items are accepted), so if you have anything to spare, please bring it along to the church on the Friday or Saturday morning so that we can display them. All produce will be taken to FIND, Families in Need, afterwards or to a local care home.

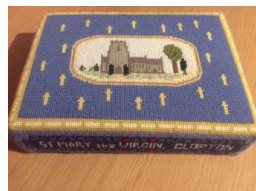
Please join us to celebrate this lovely time for thanksgiving.

Linda Pollard, 07887537152

CLOPTON

We have another new kneeler in Clopton. This one was worked by Jacqui Collier (her fourth one) and she has dedicated it to the NHS for all their work during Covid. Thank you, Jacqui.

We were sorry to hear of the death of Bob Tye in September. We send our condolences to his widow Linda and their family. There will be a tribute to Bob in next month's magazine.



Paul Carroll of Manor House, Clopton died in September. We send our sympathy to his widow Judy and their family.

Our Coffee mornings are being held in the village hall once again, with care being taken to keep one another safe. Do join us on the **third Wednesday of each month from 10am until noon.**

The Hobbies morning has also resumed in the hall on the first Wednesday of each month, please come along and see what everyone is making, or perhaps they are just chatting and drinking coffee! From 10am until noon. We have enjoyed our Zoom meetings so much that we are still meeting on the Wednesdays when we are not in the hall. Please contact us if you would like to join us.

Doris Main

*Never report what may hurt another,
unless it be a great hurt to conceal it. – William Penn*

OTLEY

Our very first coffee morning benefitted from lovely sunny weather...

Sam Salter arrived at the back gate with his 'chariot' after having practiced the day before to see whether it was possible to get through. He asked for permission to go on the 'lawn' and having been told that he could go anywhere on our grass, he positioned himself on the sunny side of the garden and all followed suit! It was lovely to see Katrina also. Everyone was happy and enjoying themselves. It was good to be back.



The next coffee morning is on **Thursday 14th of October 10am – 12 noon at my house, 16 Spring Park** and in November we will hold it in the church on the 11th. There will be no coffee morning in December.

Looking ahead to next year, all coffee mornings will be on the 2nd Thursday of the month as before. We would like to make a rota for the year, Rose is starting us off in January. If you would like to host a coffee morning, please let me know by December and choose your preferred month.

Annual Bike Ride

The first two riders of the annual bike ride arrived before 9am when we had just about set up for the day. They came from Butley and had an ambitious program. Overall fifteen riders and striders visited Otley Church including Katrina's team of striders who walked to all the churches in our Benefice, well done! Rose Rogerson and Chris Barker covered the morning when most of the riders came. In the afternoon I had only three visitors, the last one of them arriving at 4.40 pm and wanting to get to Helmingham before 5pm. Thanks go to Phil and Tig Sweet who rode for Otley Church.

The next service at St Marys church will be our **"Harvest Festival"** on **Sunday 3rd of October at 9.30am**. We look forward to seeing you.



Karin Upson

SWILLAND

We were all so sad to hear that Christopher Stennett has died. He had been unwell for quite a long time but was not expected to go so soon. Christopher was born in Swilland and after his retirement came back to live with his mother, Margaret. He looked after her in her failing years with great dedication. I know Amy is writing a tribute to Christopher, so I will just say how much he will be missed, especially by his brother Richard and all his family. He was a very valuable member of our PCC and we too will miss him greatly and are very grateful to all he did for the church and the village generally.



Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride - this was very well supported this year. We recorded 25 people who visited us, but I think there were a few more people who didn't sign the sheet. This was swelled by Katrina's supporters. As I am sure it will be mentioned elsewhere, Katrina walked to all the nine churches in the Benefice covering about 21 miles. This was a magnificent achievement and raised almost £1000 in sponsorship. We would like to thank and congratulate her. Gill Reidy cycled for Swilland and visited an impressive 38 churches raising £100 in sponsorship. Thank you, Gill.

Our Harvest Festival service was well supported. It was really good to welcome two families with six children between them. Thank you to those who brought gifts. These were taken to Witnesham Nursing Home where they were very well received.

On 13th November from 9 - 12 a.m there will be a working party to tidy the churchyard and polish the brasses. All help will be much appreciated. Do come and join in.

Ann Kent

Christopher Ian Stennett 16.04.1953 – 30.08.2021

Christopher was the eldest son of the Late Ralph and Margaret Stennett, born and raised in Swilland. Starting off in one of the cottages on High Road, before moving into Swilland Hall and then Rosedale,



Church Lane, Swiland which is where he later retired to, having moved to Great Bentley for work.

Chris studied Art and Photography at Lowestoft college and enrolled at Colchester Institute afterwards to progress in the world of photography. Chris used the Utility room at Rosedale, as a dark room to develop his negatives in there. Aged 18 Chris took a career as a photographer on cruise ships which saw him travel the world before later settling down into an office role that he continued until he took early retirement about 10 years ago. Chris was highly successful in all that he did in his career.

At heart, he was a devoted family man and liked to help his younger brother, Richard, to work the farm. Chris would help where he could at weekends or for a week so Richard could go on holiday. His main role during harvest was baling the straw, and he would often be seen helping Richard pulling the land down ready for drilling in Autumn and again in Spring.

After his retirement, he had a few issues with his health but he dedicated his life to looking after his mother, Margaret who had Dementia. He would take her away on holiday which saw them going to South Africa on Safari, exploring the Dominican Republic and cruising the Norwegian Fjords. They also travelled the length and breadth of England, often holidaying with their good friends Adrian and June.

Chris was a keen organist and would often go, with family and friends, to the local organ club for live concerts. Chris loved his woodwork and often built things for his nephew, Daniel, and niece, Amy, such as a go-kart and a wooden castle. He would also take them for days out when they were younger. Chris restored an old vintage Rover which he thoroughly enjoyed and was proud of the good job that he did.

Margaret unfortunately died just over twelve months ago and it was hoped that Chris would be able to do things that perhaps he could not have done whilst looking after Margaret, but it did not work out that way. In December 2019, Chris found out he had an aggressive Stage 4 cancer in his leg, he had two operations to remove this and then a year's immunotherapy treatment at home during the pandemic. Earlier this year, in April, Chris was given the all clear from the cancer, "not a trace" in his body. The immunotherapy treatment finished and it was not until June this year that Chris complained of back pain. This worsened as the weeks went by. It was self-diagnosed as sciatica and the doctors treated him over the phone and not a face-to-face appointment. By the time it had severely affected Chris, he was admitted into hospital and a couple

of days later found out the cancer had returned with a vengeance all over his body and that there was not any treatment that could successfully alter the outcome. He spent just over two weeks in hospital but his wish was to get home to be amongst his family and friends. This was made possible by the hospice, family, and friends. A live-in carer was brought in and he was fantastic with Chris. Family would sit with Chris in the afternoons to relieve the carer for a break and unfortunately, within two weeks, Chris passed away, peacefully in his home with his family around him on 30th August. The family are very grateful for the support and love that has been shown for Chris.

Chris will be remembered with great respect and admiration by his family and many friends. He was a true, loyal, and honest gentleman who loved everything about country life. He will be sadly missed, but fondly remembered. His funeral took place on Monday 27th September and was very well attended.

Amy Waspe



Happy Halloween!!!



“Progress is a tide. If we stand still, we will surely be drowned.”

H Mayfield

The Sense of a Goose

When you see geese on their annual migrations flying in a "V" formation, you might consider what science has discovered as to why they fly that way. As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds at least 71 percent greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own.



People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going more quickly and easily, because they are travelling on the thrust of one another.

When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to go it alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird in front.

If we have the sense of a goose, we will stay in formation with those people who are heading the same way we are.

When the head goose gets tired, it rotates back in the wing and another goose flies point.

It is sensible to take turns doing demanding jobs, whether with people or with geese flying south.

Geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

What message do we give when we honk from behind?

Finally - and this is important - when a goose gets sick or injured and falls out of the formation, two other geese fall out with that goose and follow it down to lend help and protection.

They stay with the fallen goose until it is able to fly or until it dies; and only then do they launch out on their own or with another formation to catch up with their own group.

If we have the sense of a goose, we will stand by each other like that.

RUSSELL LING REPORTS



Livestock markets were held in all the major towns, and this is where animals were bought and sold.

In the past there no livestock Lorries to deliver them to market, pigs could be loaded onto horse drawn waggons with a net over them to keep them in, but this was not possible with cattle. The advent of railways was a huge benefit where they were easily accessible for loading animals and there were many branch lines devoted for this purpose as well as passengers. The Mid Suffolk railway was to have come through Otley in 1904 from Kenton to link up with the main line at Westerfield, there was to

have been a station in the field next to the Helmingham Road at the beginning of the 30 mile limit sign. This would have been a huge benefit to farmers in this area and to foot passengers as well but unfortunately the Company's plans were dropped due to Mr F. S. Stevenson MP who financed the Company becoming bankrupt.

The only remaining method of taking cattle to market was by driving them on the roads which at that time were all stoned, (this was before any tarmacking took place). On the day that the cattle were to be sent to market they would be allowed out to run around. Having been kept in a closed yard to

be fattened up they would have been somewhat lively! Once they had settled down, they would have been driven onto the road, with the help of the farmhands, and two men would then drive them the rest of the way to market.



I would point out that at that time all roadside fields had gates, as would all entrances to the gardens of cottages and houses. If someone had left their gate open and livestock had entered causing damage to the property, they would not have been given any sympathy!

Sheep would have also been driven to market and at one time geese would have been taken to London for the Christmas trade in the same way from as far away as Norfolk. The method used to drive geese was first to dip their feet in tar and then bind them with sacking, this was to prevent them being cut by the stones on the roads. It was a slow process. At night the geese would have been put in a wayside meadow to graze and recover from the exertions of walking, they may also have been given a feed as well. Once the railways came, turkeys were far more easily transported to markets. These then became the staple Christmas dinner as there was far more meat on them.

Solutions to the Brainteasers on Page 9



1. The third room. Lions that haven't eaten in three years are dead. That one was easy, right?
2. The woman was a photographer. She shot a picture of her husband, developed it, and hung it up to dry (shot; held under water; and hung).
3. Charcoal, as it is used in barbecuing.
4. Sure you can name three consecutive days, yesterday, today, and tomorrow!
5. The letter "e" which is the most common letter used in the English language does not appear even once in the paragraph.

How did you do?

An American in Otley: A Gooseberry Fool!

One glance at me and you would know I love to eat, not to excess, but regularly. England presented a new opportunity to sample foods, many familiar but often prepared differently and some unknown or previously underappreciated. I gained my knowledge of British cuisine largely from reading the frothy English Regency novels of Georgette Heyer - well researched and often filled with glorious details of upper-class dining. For example, my mouth watered at the prospects of gooseberry fool, gooseberry jam, and gooseberry pie.



Prior to our residence in Otley, I had never met a gooseberry nor eaten one. From the early 1900s to 1966 it was illegal to grow them in the States because they had been identified as an intermediary host for the White Pine Blister Rust Fungi (genus *Cronartium*). The fungi, not surprisingly, attacks White Pine trees (*Pinus Strobus*) and has destroyed vast swathes of conifer forests. The growing of gooseberries and black currants was feared in states whose economies were dependent on the production of timber products derived from the white pine which has been a dominant species in the forests of the East Coast of Canada and the U. S. Historically the white pine has provided the lumber to build homes, the straight trunks for ships' masts, the pitch and resin for naval stores, and the wood chips used in paper production. Captain George Weymouth, an early British explorer to Maine, found that specie of tree so desirable that he imported it into Britain in 1620 where it still bears his name.

In 1966, the ban on growing gooseberries and black currants was lifted in most states although some such as Maine still restrict their growth. To ensure that the White Pine Blister Rust fungus does not find a home in the fruit, new species have been developed that do not harbor it.

Most of my food education occurred before 1966 and I had never seen a gooseberry before arriving in England, let alone tasted one. I had read about them however, and they sounded delicious – large, plump, sweet, and served with custard. What could be better? As I discovered, any number of things could be better.

My impressions of the gooseberry were less than stellar. The first one I sampled was in the Mason's vegetable garden. These oval, spiny, green, tailed fruits dangled appealingly from a bush and looked rather like green grapes. Tom Whitehead told me they were gooseberries. I picked one and trustingly popped it into my mouth. It was not a happy experience. He laughed and then told me most people liked them better cooked with sugar. I could see why. Sour, bitter, spiny, squishy!

My next experience was with the cooked version, and I was still optimistic. A gooseberry compote with custard was to be served for "afters" at a residential course I was taking. Filled with hope, I lowered my spoon into a delicate glass goblet filled with pudding and waited for the wonderful taste of a true English treat. What I tasted was the same fruit only it was semi-cooked, slightly slimy, and only somewhat less sour due to a meagre amount of sugar that had been added to the syrup. The berries weren't just sour. There was an indefinable after taste that lingered on the tongue once I crunched through them. I must say, however, that the custard was lovely.

All I can say is that the gooseberry was to this unsuspecting American what the cranberry must have been to the English colonists. What looked plump and promising nestled in the forest bog was really sour and unpleasant on the tongue. Only a large amount of sugar can make either of them palatable. Or, at least, that is my story!



Mary Miner, Susiespinner36@msn.com

"Sometimes, you will never know the VALUE of a moment, until it becomes a MEMORY"

Dr Seuss

24



SMILE LINES

Suffolk Humour

A young couple had walked a mile or two without saying a word.

She : Bain't you a goin to spake John Bor.

He : I hain't northan to say.

She : You might say you love me John.

He : I a said that ariddy.

She : Well, you might kiss me John Bor.

He : That'll do when we're married.



A man suffered a serious heart attack while shopping in a store. The store clerks called 911 when they saw him collapse to the floor.

The paramedics rushed the man to the nearest hospital where he had emergency open heart bypass surgery...

He awakened from the surgery to find himself in the care of nuns at the Catholic Hospital. A nun was seated next to his bed holding a clipboard loaded with several forms, and a pen. She asked him how he was going to pay for his treatment.

"Do you have health insurance?" she asked. He replied in a raspy voice, "No health insurance."

The nun asked, "Do you have money in the bank?" He replied, "No money in the bank."

Do you have a relative who could help you with the payments?" asked the irritated nun. He said, "I only have a spinster sister, and she is a nun"

The nun became agitated and announced loudly, "Nuns are not spinsters!

Nuns are married to God."

The patient replied, "Perfect. Send the bill to my brother-in-law."



CHILDREN'S CORNER

SPOT THE 15 DIFFERENCES



KNOCK, KNOCK.

Who's there?

ANITA.

Anita who?

**Anita to borrow
a pencil!**



KNOCK, KNOCK.

Who's there?

OWLS SAY.

Owls say who?

Yes, they do.



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