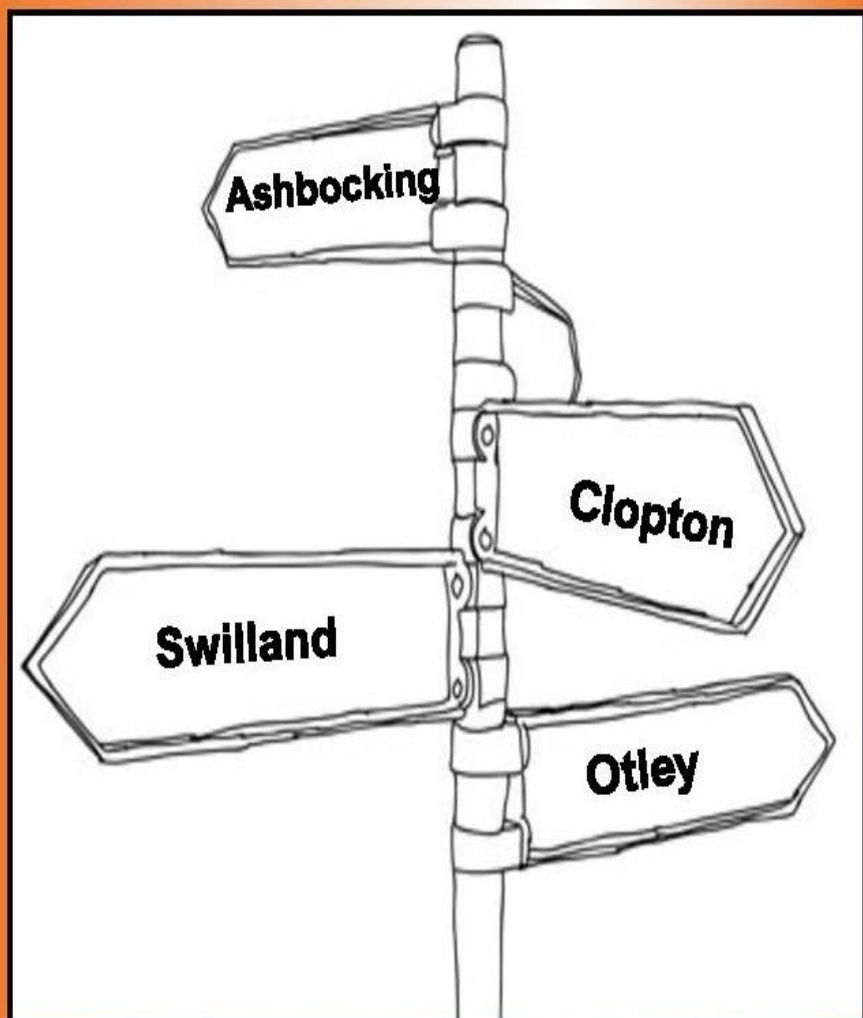


# *The Signpost*



*News from the Parishes*

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



Welcome to the **September Signpost**. I cannot believe that the long summer holiday is nearly over, and we are approaching autumn which holds lots of change in both nature and our lives. This month sees many children starting or returning to schools, colleges and universities. We would like to wish them all well in their studies. The Olympics are over with great success for Team GB, but now is the turn of the Paralympians and we hope that they can do well also. Normally our farmers would be nearing the end of harvest by now, but it has been drawn out this year and very stop start. Fingers crossed they have better weather to gather the remainder of harvest in. Then they will be cutting hedges and preparing for the next year's crops.

We have not changed so have got another big issue for you this month – lets hope the sunshine continues so that you can read this while enjoying your gardens a little longer. 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 **October** issue with a deadline of the 24<sup>th</sup> September.

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

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

***Keep safe and take care***

***Amy and Angela***

## Prayer

**Please pray for Afghanistan and all those impacted by the violence. Pray for women and children whose rights are being abused and ignored. Pray for Christians and ethnic minorities who are being singled out and targeted. Pray for hope, mercy, justice, and healing in Afghanistan:**

Lord, have mercy  
on those who mourn  
who feel numb and crushed  
and are filled with the pain of grief,  
whose strength has given up  
You know all our sighing and longings:  
be near to us and teach us to fix our hope on you  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



## Rainfall for July

The first week of July continued wet and miserable with another inch of rain, but from then on it improved, culminating with some hot summer weather reaching 25c to 28c from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> of the month. The last week was somewhat unpredictable with some areas having torrential downpours causing homes to be flooded. Otley was fortunate in missing this type of weather with only just a few showers. The rainfall amounted to 1.50 inches for the month.

*Russell Ling*

## 1<sup>st</sup> September - St Giles of Provence - Helping Those Damaged by Life



St Giles was an immensely popular saint in the Middle Ages, and no wonder: he was the patron saint of cripples. In those days, there were many people who, once injured, were never really whole again. Even today, a serious injury – either physical or mental or emotional, can leave us damaged for months, years or even longer. At such times, we, too, find inspiration in others who, though also damaged by life, have not been overwhelmed. St Giles was probably born in Provence, southern France early in the 7<sup>th</sup> century. The 10<sup>th</sup> century *Legenda Aurea* (Golden

Legend) tells us he lived as a holy hermit deep in the forest of Nimes, near the mouth of the Rhone. A hind, or Red Deer, was his only companion. Then one day, while out hunting, King Wamba spotted the deer, and pursued it. The hind fled back to St Giles for protection. King Wamba shot an arrow which missed the deer but pierced the saint who was protecting it. Thus the king encountered the saint. The saint's acceptance of his injury, and his holiness greatly impressed the king, who conceived a great admiration for St Giles.

In the end, much good came out of the original harm of the encounter, for the king built St Giles a monastery in his valley, Saint-Gilles-du-Gard. The little monastery was put under the Benedictine rule and became a source of blessing for the area roundabout. In later years, St Giles' shrine would become an important pilgrimage centre on the route for both Compostela and the Holy Land, as well as in its own right.



There is a further story connected with St Giles. Another legend tells how an emperor sought forgiveness from him for a sin so terrible he dared not even confess it. While St Giles said Mass, he saw written for him by an angel the nature of the sin in question. But his prayers for the emperor were so efficacious that the letters naming the sin faded away. As Christians, we know that the Bible urges us to pray for others, no matter how hopelessly bad they seem, because Christ's mercy and forgiveness are extended to everyone who truly turns to Him and repents.

St Giles, the crippled saint who helped others find wholeness with God, became patron saint of cripples, lepers and nursing mothers. In England 162 ancient churches are dedicated to him, as well as at least 24 hospitals. The most famous of these are St Giles in Edinburgh and St Giles in Cripplegate, London. In art, St Giles is represented as either a simple abbot with staff, or protecting the hind, or saying the Mass, and thus interceding for the emperor.

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

Dear readers,



I'm so happy to be announcing that our meetings are due to be starting on September 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm at Otley Village Hall. We welcome Ian Seager to our club, who will be talking to us about water in the

landscape and how to introduce water into our gardens. Unfortunately, I won't be there personally as I am away with my parents in the north Norfolk countryside, but the rest of our committed committee will be there to welcome you into the fold.

If you are thinking of joining us for your first time, you'd be most welcome as it's our first meeting of the year and as such, it's time for the subs to be paid. We decided back at our AGM that our annual fee would stay the same, at £10.00, but push the admission fee from £1.50 to £2.00 per meeting. This will enable us to continue to do more charitable event work and provide a top-quality speaker to each meeting. Please feel free to pay the "correct" cash on the night or you can prepay by transferring your membership fee directly into our bank account. Please get in touch with me at [phil@florabundant.co.uk](mailto:phil@florabundant.co.uk) if you would like these details and I will send them to you. I will be sending the details to the current members in our monthly reminder in due course, so please look out for them.



We look forward to seeing you there at the hall on the evening. Please feel free to bring your face mask with you although this isn't mandatory now, we want everyone to feel as comfortable as possible. The raffle will be taking place as usual, so please bring something along for the prizes if you have something gardening related that you no longer need or a plant that would be suitable. We will be providing a seasonal plant for the star prize as we usually get something lovely from Ashbocking Nursery (where members receive 10% off with the membership cards).

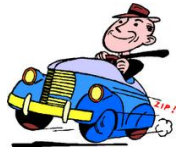
Take care,

*Phil Pollard, The Green Chairman*

### **Interesting facts**

- More human twins are being born now than ever before. The 'Twinning rate' has increased by one-third since the 80's up from 9 to 12 twins per 1,000 deliveries. That adds up to about 1.6 million twins born each year across the world-meaning one out of every 42 babies is a twin. Helping to drive this figure is medically assisted reproduction and the delay in childbearing (twinning increases with a mother's age).





- The first person convicted of speeding in January 1896 was going 8mph, but the speed limit then was 20mph
- ‘New Car Smell’ is the scent of 50+ chemicals, much of which are found in nail polish, auto fuel and petroleum.

• The world wastes about 1 billion metric tons of food every year. 61% comes from domestic homes and 26% comes from restaurants and other food services. Grocery stores make up just 13% of food waste.

• The world’s smallest reptile was first reported this year, 2021. It was a tiny chameleon which was discovered in northern Madagascar and measured just 28.9mm.

• Many bones in feet do not harden until adulthood. Each foot contains 26 bones as well as 33 joints and 19 muscles which work together to allow for a huge range of motion and movements. Most bones remain as cartilage through childhood slowly ossifying into bone as the years go on.

• The heads on Easter Island have bodies. The iconic stone heads which protrude from the ground on Easter Island are familiar to most but not many people realise that below the surface, after two of the figures were excavated, revealing full torsos which measure as high as 33 feet.



• The moon has moonquakes. Less common and less intense than the shakes that happen on earth but occur due to tidal stresses connected to the distance between the Earth and the moon.

• Goosebumps are meant to ward off predators. Small muscles attached to individual body hairs contract which leads the hair to stand on end. This ability has been inherited from our ancestors as a way for our then coat of body hair to capture the air beneath it and in that way retain heat. A physiologist said it also caused our ancestors to appear bigger than they were, helping to ward off predators when they were frightened or on the defence.

• There is no such thing as “pear cider”. Many of you will think “I had a pear cider last week”. Actually, cider is an alcoholic beverage made from fermented apples and only apples. Alcoholic drinks can be made from pears but that is known as “Perry”. It fell out of favour in the second half of the twentieth century but was turned around in the 90’s when it was rebranded as pear cider!



- Pineapple is a natural meat tenderizer. The fruit is packed with enzymes which breaks down protein chains, making it an ideal marinade for meats when you don't have a lot of time. But for the same reason, pineapple does not work for jams or jellies, since the enzyme breaks down gelatin as well.

- The feeling of getting lost inside a shopping center is known as the Gruen transfer. In much the same way as a casino is deliberately designed for visitors to become disorientated causing them to lose track of time and where exactly they are. Victor Gruen identified how an intentionally confusing layout could lead to consumers spending more time and money in a shopping venue.

- The wood frog can hold its pee for up to eight months! The frogs based in Alaska have been known to stick it through the region's long winters before relieving themselves only when the temperatures have increased. The urine actually helps to keep the animal alive while it hibernates with its special microbes in their gut that recycle the urea (urine's main waste) into nitrogen.



- The hottest spot on the planet is in Libya where a temperature of 136 degrees Fahrenheit was recorded on September 13<sup>th</sup> 1922. While hotter spots have likely occurred in other parts of the planet at other times, this is the most scorching temperature ever formally recorded by a weather station.

- You lose up to 30 % of your taste buds during flight. This may help to explain why airplane food gets such a bad reputation. The elevation in an airplane can have a detrimental effect on our ability to taste things. According to a study conducted by Germany's Fraunhofer Institute for Building Physics, the dryness experienced at a high elevation as well as low pressure reduces the sensitivity of a person's taste buds to sweet and salty foods by about 30%. Add the dry cabin air affects our ability to smell and our ability to taste is further reduced



LIFE IS LIKE A COIN. YOU CAN SPEND IT ANY WAY YOU WISH, BUT YOU ONLY  
*Spend it Once.*

PEOPLE WILL NEVER TRULY UNDERSTAND SOMETHING UNTIL IT HAPPENS TO THEM.

## Brain teasers

- A. First, I threw away the outside and cooked the inside, then I ate the outside and threw away the inside, what did I eat?
- B. Which travels faster? Hot or Cold?
- C. Arnold Schwarzenegger has a long one. Michael J.Fox has a short one. Madonna doesn't use hers. Bill Clinton always uses his. The Pope never uses his. What is it?
- D. What makes more as you take them?



(Solutions on Page 19)

## Warned

The sands of time have rendered fear  
Blue skies on high no longer clear  
Stars were bright whence they came  
Now dimmed, obscured, pollution's haze

Crystal clear our waters gleamed  
Fish abundant, rivers streamed  
Ocean floors sandy white  
Now littered, brown, pollution's plight

Trees towered high above  
Trunks baring professed love  
Birds chirping from sites unseen  
Gone, paper joined pollution's team

One can't blame pollution alone  
As they say, you reap what you've sown  
So let us plant a better seed  
Tear out old roots, cultivate, weed

Protect what has been given for free  
Our waters, skies, wildlife and trees  
For once they're gone, don't you say  
Consider yourself warned of that fatal day



*Sylvia Stults*



## The Nutshell Pub: Bury St Edmunds



Located on a picture perfect English street corner, the self-proclaimed “smallest pub in Britain” is a cosy little watering hole that was once home to museum of sorts that showcased all manner of trinket and oddity, the legacy of which can still be seen today. Like many English pubs, the building that houses the historic bar dates back over a century. The pub itself likely dates back to 1867 when the former owner, a fruit seller, sold the space. After that the little storefront officially became The Nutshell in 1873. At first, they called themselves a “museum of art and curiosities,” displaying everything from rare musical instruments to war relics. They also held a collection of models of local

buildings and landmarks all made of cork. The space quickly moved into being primarily a bar, despite its cramped size.

The little bar consists solely of a single short bar that takes up a large portion of the central room. The rest of the small room has just enough room for patrons to stand or sit in the window wells. The bar still gets packed near to bursting on busy nights with the small crowd threatening to spill out into the street. One of the few remnants of the bar’s former life as a curio museum is the desiccated corpse of what seems to be a cat that clings to the light fixture overhead.



Bottoms up! 😊

## 28<sup>th</sup> September - St Lioba - A Memorable Woman

What really gets a woman remembered? Loved? Respected? Lioba the abbess of Bischofsheim is the patron saint for any woman who wants to make the most of her life.

Lioba was born in Wessex early in the 8<sup>th</sup> century. Her family was noble, her mother was a relative of the monk Boniface (the Billy Graham of the day, in that he was the apostle and then archbishop of Germany).

Lioba was educated first at the nunnery of Minster-in-Thamet and then at Wimborne, Dorset. She became a nun. After some years of correspondence with Boniface, he invited her to Germany to help him evangelise the people by establishing convents. Convents were sort of the ‘Fresh Expressions’ of church in those days.

And so Lioba left Dorset with 30 nuns and went to Tauberbischofsheim, where she established a convent. She was a wonderful ‘ambassador’ of Christianity, for people found her both beautiful and accessible, intelligent and patiently kind. She became so highly esteemed that soon her advice was sought by magnates of both Church and State.

Lioba’s convents followed the Rule of St Benedict: all her nuns learned Latin as well as manual work in scriptorium, kitchen, bakery, brewery, and garden. Above all, the regular public prayer of the Church was upheld.

Learning, hard work, and love of God: those were the factors that made Lioba who she was. Her walk with God was evident in her inner strength and dignity, her goodness and kindness. No wonder that even 50 years after her death in 782, the local people were still talking of her with great affection.

## Pear & Blackberry Crumble With Bay Leaf Custard

**Prep: 15 mins**

**Cook: 45 mins plus standing**

**Easy - Serves 6**

Celebrate autumn with a comforting pear and blackberry crumble. A crunchy oat and nut topping and bay-infused custard make for a stunning dessert

### **For the filling**

knob of butter, plus extra for the dish

6 large pears (Williams, Conference or Comice), peeled, cored and each sliced into 6 thick wedges

100g light muscovado sugar  
1/2 lemon, juiced  
pinch of ground cinnamon  
100g blackberries

### **For the custard (makes 500ml)**

2 egg yolks  
225ml whole milk, plus a splash  
1½ tbsp golden caster sugar  
3 fresh bay leaves

### **For the crumble topping**

120g plain or spelt flour  
140g light muscovado sugar  
100g jumbo oats  
50g pumpkin seeds  
40g flaked almonds  
40g skinless blanched hazelnuts, chopped  
1/2 tsp ground cardamom  
1/2 tsp ground ginger  
150g unsalted butter, melted



### **Method**

1. First, make the custard. Whisk the egg yolks in a bowl until just broken up – they shouldn't be frothy. Pour the milk and sugar into a saucepan and warm over a low heat, stirring to dissolve the sugar, until almost boiling. Add the bay leaves, remove from the heat, and leave to infuse for 10 mins. If the milk mixture has cooled after this time, briefly warm it up again until just steaming, then remove from the heat. Discard the bay leaves and pour a little of the mixture into the whisked egg yolks. Whisk in the splash of milk, then pour the yolk mixture into the milk pan, whisking continuously to combine. Cook over a low-medium heat, stirring constantly, until the mixture is thick enough to coat the back of a spoon, and silky smooth. Strain through a sieve and set aside. The custard can be served warm or cold – you can chill it at this stage or set aside to reheat later.
2. For the crumble topping, combine the flour, sugar, oats, pumpkin seeds, almonds, hazelnuts, spices and a pinch of salt in a bowl, then pour over the butter. Mix well. Heat the oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6.

3. Butter a large ceramic baking dish. Combine the pears, sugar, lemon juice, cinnamon and knob of butter in a medium pan, then set over a low heat. Cook for 4-5 mins, gently stirring, until the pears have released some juice and are slightly softened, but not falling apart. Remove from the heat and tip into the dish along with half the cooking juices released into the pan. Dot the blackberries among the filling.
4. Scatter the crumble topping all over the filling, then bake for 25-30 mins until golden, crisp and bubbling at the edges. Leave to stand for 10 mins before serving with the custard, alongside the remaining pan juices.

## FASCINATING LANGUAGE



### Basket Case

Originally, this term was used by the US military after WWI, referring to soldiers who had lost arms and legs and had to be carried by others.

### For All Intents and Purposes

Meaning in a practical sense, or in every important respect.

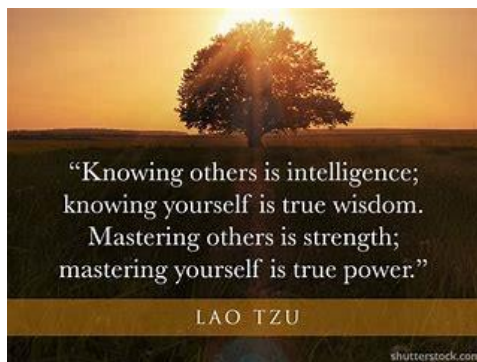
Originating from English Law, it first appeared in an act adopted under Henry VIII in 1547.

*‘To all intents, constructions, and purposes’*



It is often misheard as “for all intensive purposes”, an example of which appeared as far back as 1870 in the Indiana newspaper *The Fort Wayne Daily Gazette*:

*He has never had a representative in Congress nor in the State Legislature nor in any municipal office, and to all intensive purposes, politically speaking, he might have well have been dead.*



## NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

### ASHBOCKING

I hope you have been enjoying the summer days despite the rather cloudy and cool weather. It is unfortunate that the children on summer holidays from school have not had better weather for getting out and about. Gardeners too have been somewhat frustrated with some plants growing in the garden doing well, and others failing completely. I for one, have not experienced good crops this year, simple things like tomatoes took an age to germinate and lettuces bolted before we could eat them. Seems everyone has their story.

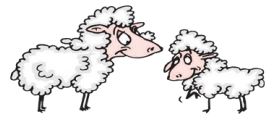


We have resumed normal services in the church but up until now, have not been singing. We were extremely grateful to Marcus Peel who played the organ for us last month. This made a terrific difference from listening to CD's. Hopefully we will be singing again shortly.

Our next service at Ashbocking is on September 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

This service is the day after the annual Ride and Stride which starts at 10am on the 11<sup>th</sup>, when people are asked to get sponsorship to ride or walk to as many churches as possible to raise funds for the 'Suffolk Churches Heritage Fund'. Each participating church will benefit from the funds raised for restoration of our ancient churches. Sponsorship forms can be found in the porch of Ashbocking church.

The Knit and Stitch club is meeting next at Hawthorns, The Green, on Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 10:00am. New members are always welcome. We usually meet on a Mondays but have been more flexible this time due to Bank holidays and other commitments. The following meeting is also at Hawthorns, at the same time, on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September. Please join us and bring your latest project or start a new one. Most of all come and have a coffee and a chat with other people over a cuppa.



Knit and Stitch boutique

*Kind: someone who could tell you all*

*about his operation - but doesn't.*

Our next coffee morning is on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 10:30am until 12:00noon. Everyone is welcome to join us for chat and to find out what is going on over a coffee and cake. It is at Hawthorns, The Green, Ashbocking, at the end of Ashley Grange.

It was lovely to see those who came to our last one and it felt as if a little normality was at last returning. Covid has not gone away but with double vaccinations and maintaining sensible precautions, such as good ventilation, we can once more enjoy each other's company. We look forward to seeing you.

*Linda Pollard*

## CLOPTON

Now that the church is open each day, we are starting to have visitors again. There has been several visiting over the last two weeks. Most of them are coming to look at the records and trying to find out more about their ancestors.

We had one person who came to bring greetings from Clopton in Northamptonshire!



Ride and Stride will take place on 11th September from 9am until 5pm. It would be great to have some riders/walkers from Clopton or someone to sit in the church for an hour to welcome the riders and register their details. Please contact me on 07927115888 if you are able to help.

We had our first Coffee Morning back in the Village Hall last week. Everyone brought their own coffee and biscuits and we made sure that we kept a distance between chairs. It was great to meet 'in the flesh' after such a long time.

Our September Hobbies Morning is on Wednesday 1st from 10am until noon.

The Coffee Morning will be on Wednesday 15th September, also from 10am until noon. Everyone will be made very welcome.

During Lockdown we met weekly on Zoom, and everyone has decided that they would like to continue these meetings on the Wednesdays that we are not meeting in the hall. Do let us know if you would like to join the 40-minute Zoom meeting.



We send our best wishes to all the children starting school this month, to those returning to a new class, those leaving to start at university and all those who will be starting out in the world of work. Work hard and be happy!

*Doris Main*

## OTLEY

The monthly family service, with Communion, was held on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> August. The Celebrant was the Revd. Katrina Dykes.

The church was wonderfully light and airy with summer floral displays at the altar and war memorial.

A good attendance of twenty adults and young people enjoyed the service, which was based upon the Gospel reading of Jesus the Bread of Life.



The congregation were encouraged to wear masks, unless reading a lesson. Hymns were quietly hummed, accompanied by a ‘pop up choir’ of James Hall, Penny Clark and Brian Williams. The organist was Helen Jay. The final hymn was sung outside, with gusto – no masks but socially distanced! We are gradually moving towards a more normal pattern of worship, but still without the freedoms enjoyed pre-pandemic. No doubt they will come in time.

The next service at Otley will be a Benefice service on **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August**. We look forward to welcoming as many worshippers as possible from all of our churches.

*Nigel Crowley*

### **More News from Otley....**

**Coffee Mornings** We would like to start our monthly coffee mornings again in September. They used to be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month, we will stick to that for our first meeting. Please join us on the **9<sup>th</sup> of September 10 am – 12 noon** in our house at **16 Spring Park**. Our rooms will be well ventilated, and we can spread out into the garden as well - weather permitting! It has been a long time since we had coffee mornings and people’s circumstances and preferences may have changed. Some may prefer a different day of the week in future for example. This first meeting will give us a chance to find out people’s opinions.

**Annual Bike Ride** The annual bike ride takes place on **Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of September**; it would be good if we could have a few riders from Otley.

Sponsorship forms are available from me at 16 Spring Park. I have also left some forms and information in the church. Half the money raised goes to the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust and half is benefiting our church. I am looking for helpers to man the church for an hour or two on the day between 9am and 5pm. Please let me know if you are able to assist. Tel: 01473 890539

*Karin Upson*

## Otley Crafting Group Update

Thank you to everyone who has been attending the Tuesday afternoon Crafting Group at Otley Village Hall. We hope you are enjoying coming along to share all your crafting makes and ideas.

While Caroline Manning and myself have set up this group, we do not see ourselves as in charge, rather as facilitators, to encourage people to get together, enjoy each other's company while they are doing a Craft at whatever level or for people to just pop along for a chat and cuppa. All welcome.

The group is next due to meet on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> August** between 2 to 4pm. There is a small charge of £2.50 per session to cover the cost of hiring the village hall, heating and refreshments etc.

There will be no session on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August as its bank holiday week but will be meeting again from **7<sup>th</sup> September 2021**.

Dates for the rest of the year are as follows -

7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> September 2021.

5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021.



Happy Crafting!

Mary Hunt and Caroline Manning

### SWILLAND

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride - this will take place on Saturday 11th September. I have sponsorship forms for anyone wishing to take part. Half the money raised will go to SHCT and half to the church of your choice. If you don't feel able to do it, please sponsor someone who is. Please contact me for further information. Katrina is planning to walk to every church in the



Benefice. I hope Swiland Church will be manned for most of the day. If you are able to do a stint, please contact me.



Harvest Festival - this will be on Sunday 19th Sunday at 11 a.m. The church is now open during the day.

The wall at the gate has now been beautifully repaired and the gate rehung thanks to Nigel and Jack Pryke (Jack is Nigel's son). We were able to claim the majority of the cost on the insurance.

*Ann Kent*

# The Starfish

Once a man was walking along a beach. The sun was shining and it was a beautiful day. Off in the distance he could see a person going back and forth between the surf's edge and the beach. Back and forth this person went. As the man approached, he could see that there were hundreds of starfish stranded on the sand as the result of the natural action of the tide.

The man was stuck by the the apparent futility of the task. There were far too many starfish. Many of them were sure to perish. As he approached, the person continued the task of picking up starfish one by one and throwing them into the surf.

As he came up to the person, he said: "You must be crazy. There are thousands of miles of beach covered with starfish. You can't possibly make a difference." The person looked at the man. He then stooped down and pick up one more starfish and threw it back into the ocean. He turned back to the man and said: "It sure made a difference to that one!"

*"Our eyes are placed in front because it is more important to look ahead than to look back."*



## RUSSELL LING REPORTS



When a cow from a registered herd calves and it produces a heifer calf, it can be reared as a replacement or sold for a profitable sum of money, if however, it is a bull calf it has much less value. In the past bull calves were often reared for veal this meant keeping them in a crate and feeding them on milk only, this gave an exceptionally light and succulent meat. This method has now been banned due to a perceived cruelty to the animal as it was unable to walk about. Sometimes the bull calf was sent to slaughter as rearing it would not be cost effective because it was not a good enough quality for beef production. The alternative solution was to have a dual-purpose cow which gave a reasonable amount of milk but was also good enough to be reared for beef, one such breed is the Red Poll.

While the Red Poll was not a high yielding cow for milk, it does not cost so much to keep and would live quite well on grass only with a small supplement of concentrate feed in the initial stages of milk production. The calves from this breed after weaning could be kept on grass for the first year before being housed to be finished for beef during the winter.



In the past feed for fattening cattle would be grown and milled on the farm and consisted of barley and beans with chopped fodder beet and sometimes sugar beet pulp. Linseed could also be included, this would be crushed with a roller mill and given in small quantities in the feed, which would also improve the animal's coat. Chopped barley straw was put into the mangers before the other ingredients were added and this was cut with a chaff cutter. The smaller machines were turned by hand, but larger ones were driven by a flat belt from an oil engine or electric motor when they became available. The chaff cutter drive pulley shaft had three blades attached, these were fixed to an outer ring. The straw was placed into a box trough by hand and a trace chain conveyed it to the cutting mechanism. The cut straw was pulled away by a man with a rake and piled up into a heap, this would then be put into beet pulp sacks by hand using a wicker basket. Later, long straw was put into a hay rack for the cattle to eat, which saved a considerable amount of time in cutting it with a chaff cutter.

## Solutions to the Brainteasers on Page 8

- A) *Corn on the cob*
- B) *Hot is faster 'coz you can catch a cold*
- C) *Surname*
- D) *Footsteps*



### An American in Otley: Summer in Utah: Suffolk was Never This Dry!

I am writing in early August, remembering with great fondness the Suffolk weather we enjoyed. It was described as a “moderate marine climate” with warm summers and cool to cold winters and, on average, “drier.” I remember rain, mist, persistent winds, and everchanging cloud banks streaming across the sky.

Imagine then the summer of 2021 in western North America. Heat and drought are gripping Utah and the other western states. It has been two months without measurable rain at our home. A heat dome has blanketed the much of the west. The daily high temperatures have exceeded 90 degrees (32 C) and over 15 days have peaked above 100 (37 C). Our hottest day was 107 degrees (41 C), a temperature that has only been recorded once before. Our nighttime temperatures rarely fall below 70 (21 C). Our lawns have dried up, perennials are sun scorched, trees are dropping their leaves, and tomatoes won't set fruit because of the heat. The Great Salt Lake is drying up. 98% of Utah is in extreme drought; 52% is in exceptional drought.



Utah is a dry state, the second driest after Nevada. At best it is semi-arid and, at worst, a desert. Our water comes from two sources: what is in the ground (springs and wells) and what lies or flows on the surface (rivers, lakes, and reservoirs). The primary source of the surface water is winter's snow. Most of our moisture falls during the cooler months from November to April. In November, rain usually arrives and refreshes the moisture levels in the ground. Then over 500 inches of snow (50 inches of moisture) can fall in our high mountains in a good year while upwards of 14 inches can fall in the valleys. As the snow melts slowly in the spring and early summer, much of the released water flows into streams and rivers and is trapped in reservoirs behind more than 300 dams, large and small, dotted around the state.



This is the water we live with, that our farmers use to grow crops, and that fire fighters use to extinguish the many wildfires that flare up in the summer. Farmers use 87% of the water while homeowners and industries the remainder. Household water is delivered through water treatment facilities, untreated water flows through irrigation canals and pipes to farmers and even to householders who water lawns with it.

Normally, reservoirs draw down to 50% of their capacity by the end of the irrigation season in October. The reserved water is carried over in reservoirs for the following year to be added to and refreshed by that new year's snow melt. Our drought has its origins in the 1990s but has accelerated lately as reservoirs failed to fill completely. 2020 was a hot and dry year with poor snow runoff and the normal cycle of use and renewal did not occur. Therefore, Utah began with lower-than-normal water reserves. It is estimated that we are drinking the melted snow that fell in 2018 and 2019! The average of our lakes and reservoirs in July stands at 58%, the normal percentage found in October. We are now drinking and irrigating with next year's water!

Farmers have already seen their water allocations cut by 70%. Given the heat, their crops desperately need water just as there is little available. For some farmers hay yields are down to 20% of normal. Herds are being culled or sold off. Next year if snow totals are poor, agricultural irrigation water may be unavailable. What water there is will be reserved for drinking, sanitation, and firefighting.



There are predictable climate cycles that have been written across Utah's history and noted in its archeological records. Catastrophic megadroughts occurred in the 1100s and the 1500s and made human habitation in the southwest problematic. Climate scientists now believe the west has entered another period of megadrought which is being exacerbated by global climate change.

This cycle seems different to many. The population in the southwestern states has grown, perhaps beyond water resources. Utah and the desert southwest are among the fastest growing regions. Forty million people now depend on the water from one river that rises in Colorado and flows through Utah, gathering the water from melted snow. It cascades down the Colorado's 1,450-mile length and is captured in the many reservoirs that impede its flow from Colorado to Mexico. That river is at its lowest flow point ever recorded. The waters that are held in in Lake Mead, Lake Powell, and Lake Havasu are at their lowest points since they began filling. The federal government is expected to issue a water shortage declaration which will limit the water resources available to 40,000, 000 residents that depend on the Colorado's waters.

What has changed? Grudgingly many conservative westerners are whispering "Global Climate Change." While cycles of drought are known, new climate circumstances are impacting our current situation. Rising temperatures in the Pacific Ocean and changes to the path and speed of the jet stream have affected the weather patterns flowing over Utah.

Meanwhile, average summer temperatures have risen by several degrees and are predicted to rise from the low 90s to the low 100s by 2050. A similar rise of 3 degrees will occur in winter. Not only is the temperature hotter in summer but it is warmer in winter meaning that less precipitation will fall as snow and more as rain which isn't easily captured in reservoirs as they are currently structured and managed. As temperatures rise and soil dries out, forests and grass lands become tinder dry. They are subject to more and larger forest fires. These fires have raged across the inner mountain west and the west coast relentlessly for the last five years. Not only have they become a common fixture of summer, but also



of spring and autumn. The fire season now stretches for seven months in Utah, from May through November.

A new normal will force us to manage water resources, population growth, and wild lands differently. My husband and I are planning on re-landscaping our front and back gardens so that river rocks, gravel, and mulch cover much of what had been water-thirsty grass and islands of drought tolerant trees, shrubs and annuals dot the area. We will install a drip irrigation system and limit grassy spaces. Our water district will provide rebates for such renovation. Some cities in Utah are beginning to talk about limiting growth and the state may invest in a new system of reservoirs. This is a time for creativity and forward thinking.

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

## SMILE LINES

### Seafood Surprise “Yorkshire humour”

Dave goes to see his mate Harry and notices he has a new door knocker shaped like a lobster.

“Hey oop Harry” he says, “Thas gorra a reight funny door knocker theer, old lad”

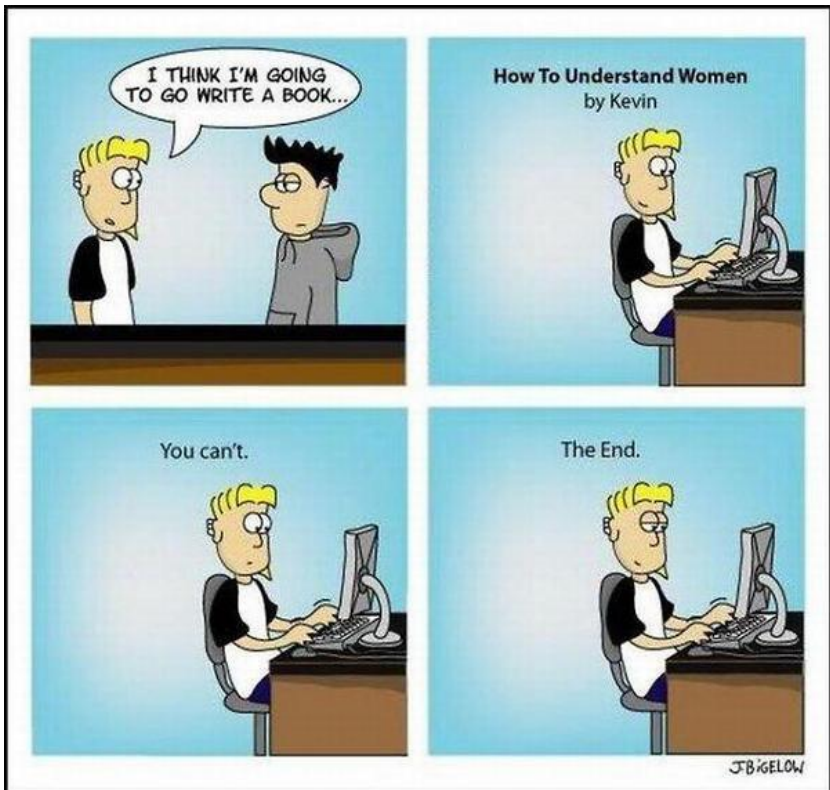
Dave said, “Aye, it wor wife’s idea; I asked her wot she wanted fer her birthday.

“She replied, Tha nos, Harry, I would just love a lobster fer mi door!”

- I needed a password eight characters long, so I picked Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.
- Alcohol is a perfect solvent: It dissolves marriages, families, and careers.
- Only a genius can say these four words out loud four times without stuttering:  
Eye, Yam, Stew, Peed.  
Congratulations, you are now a genius!!
- I got an odd-job man in. He was useless. Gave him a list of eight things to do and he only did numbers one, three, five and seven.
- If people from Poland are called Poles, then why aren’t people from Holland called Holes?



- Men don't want to see what's on television. They want to see WHAT ELSE is on television.
- Online meetings: Not muting your mic is the new Reply To All.
- Just so everyone's clear, I'm going to put my glasses on.
- Why is it that everyone can remember their childhood phone number, but can't remember the password they set up yesterday?
- Overall, chickens have probably flown further as an airline meal than they have as a species.
- The sentence, 'Are you as bored as I am?', can be read backwards and still make sense.
- It was our Harvest Festival Sunday. My husband had cut his ear while shaving. We arrived at the church just in time to sing: 'First the blade and then the ear'.



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I M A M D E Z H U D O R L  
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**Doctor, there's an invisible man in  
the waiting room!**



**Tell him I can't  
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**KNOCK, KNOCK...  
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