

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, we praise and thank you for the lush greens of Suffolk in June and for the long days of midsummer. Use us to bless those whose lives are dry or dark.

Renewed by Spring, nature gives you praise in the songs, and scents, colours, tastes and touch of Summer. After our renewal in the special times of Easter and Pentecost, may we continue to praise you in the ordinary days of this month, and to serve the ordinary people with whom we live and work.

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

ASHBOCKING

The coffee-morning at Otley Hall in May was well-attended and several people enjoyed the private tour of the house with anecdotes from Catherine about what it is like to live there with her family. The **next coffee-morning will be on Friday 5 June** at Jan and Jon Bates at 10.30am at 4 The Cottages, Ashley Grange, off The Green, Ashbocking. The Pollards have offered us parking at Hawthorns.

There will be a **churchyard working-party at All Saints Ashbocking on Sunday 7 June** from 10am coordinated by John Pollard and Kev Balaam. Please bring hand protection and stout shoes, plus a picnic for lunchtime. Any questions, ask John on 890836 or Kev on 07917 024030.

At the communion service on **Sunday 14 June** at 11am the theme will be '**Understanding God's grace**' when Catherine will talk about God's generosity and grace.

The **Confirmation service will be on Sunday 21 June at 4pm** at the church. Please come and support Liz Stegman, Steve and Sarah Wilson, John and Linda Pollard, Adine Schrankel, Stephanie Andrews Pearce and Shirley and Sarah Coady as they affirm their

faith in public. No-one knows when the last confirmation service was held at our church – certainly not within living memory - so it is an historic occasion! After the service there will be a bring-and-share supper (finger-food only) at Otley Hall. Please can you sign up in the church to let us know what you will bring, or call me on 890836. You can drop food off at Otley Hall before the service, from 3pm.

Linda Pollard

NEW ASHBOCKING HOMEGROUP

Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 10.00am till 12.00

We meet to study scripture, to pray & to discover together “that for which Christ Jesus has taken hold of us”. (Philippians 3:12)

At 4 The Cottages, Ashley Grange, Ashbocking IP6 9JH

Call Jan or Jon Bates for more information: 01473 892605

CLOPTON

June is a busy month in Clopton. Everyone is very welcome to join us at any of our planned events. We would love to see you!

Wednesday 3rd

Crafts and a chat in the village hall from 10am until 1 o'clock

Sunday 14th

Holy Communion - Clare Sanders

Wednesday 17th

Coffee-morning at the village hall from 10am until noon hosted by June Hughes.

Sunday 21st

Family Service - Jane Hall

Clopton Midsummer Fete from noon until 5pm at the village hall. This promises to be even better than the great one last year.

Saturday 27th

Strawberry tea at Thamaniya, Shop Road from 2.30pm Come and enjoy strawberries, cream and lots of lovely cakes! Plenty of shelter IF it rains!

Frances Lilian Priestnall 1914-2015

Frances was born, the eldest of four children, in Ipswich just before the start of the First World War. She was brought up in a Christian family and was a member of St Margaret's Church. Aged eleven she won a scholarship to Central School in Ipswich. She was a Girl Guide and then a Ranger and continued to help and go on camps until her daughter was born. After leaving school she trained in book keeping and accounts. When she was nineteen she went to work as a dental nurse for dentist William Priestnall, a widower, and as she said 'love blossomed over the spittoon'. When they married in 1936 she gained a stepdaughter only seven years younger than herself, but they were very happy together.

In 1939, with war imminent and their daughter Roseanne expected, they decided to move to 'quiet' Clopton, but by 1942 the Americans had arrived and Snipe Farm Road, where they lived, was part of the camp. In 1955 they moved to Church Leas in Clopton. They sold their dental practices in Felixstowe and Ipswich and set up in Clopton. They saw patients in the evenings so that farm-workers could come after work and after the war they treated many of the displaced persons living in the village.

Sadly her husband died in 1966, but Frances lived in Clopton for another twenty years before moving to the almshouses in Levington near her daughter. She lived there for 25 years before spending her final four years in a nursing home.

Frances had a really full life. She was in the Mothers Union for 60 years, collected stamps for the Leprosy Mission, overcame breast-cancer and then helped others coping with it. She travelled to South Africa many times to visit her stepdaughter. Her great joy was singing and she was still doing so when she reached 100. She always dressed up for church and always wore one of her famous hats. She was a lovely lady who will be remembered with fondness by all who knew her.

The full tribute to Frances, written and read at her funeral by granddaughter Alison, can be seen on Clopton Church website www.cloptonchurch.org.uk under Heritage, Memories of Local People.

Doris Main

Church cleaning
Church flowers

Beryl Birchmore
Sue Emmerson

OTLEY

At the annual church meeting in April, Richard Treloar retired as churchwarden. Clare thanked him for the sterling work he has done during two spells in the post, and Nigel Crowley presented him with a jasmine shrub and a garden voucher as a thank-you from the PCC. Nigel is now the only churchwarden. Penny Clark was re-elected as secretary and Tessa Brown as treasurer, having succeeded Ian Liddell during the year. The rest of the church council was re-elected, without Richard but with the addition of Phil Sweet.

Nigel presented the churchwardens' report, giving highlights of the past year, among them the pets' service on the playing field, the harvest supper, and the many food contributions to FIND. There had been four weddings and one baptism, Jane Woods is progressing with her training as a lay reader, work with the children is continuing, and the men's group is well supported. There will be substantial building works to be carried out at the church later this year. He thanked the many people who helped in the smooth running of the church.

The church has been given a brand new carpet, ruby red, which enhances the woodwork of the choir stalls and pews and brightens up the interior. It is a very generous gift and looks super.

Will everyone who holds any keys for the key-box or anything else in the church please let Nigel know - tel. no. 890546.

On 9th May at 11 o'clock, together with many others across the country, our bellringers rang the church bells to celebrate the 70th anniversary of V.E. Day. It was moving to think that we were part of a nationwide event when bells in large cathedrals and small parish churches were being rung simultaneously.

On Sunday 14th June, 6.30 - 7.30pm, John Finlinson will be coming to the village hall. In the past he was caught up in crime and served time in prison, but now he is a singer/songwriter who has turned his life around, and he will be talking about this and playing his music. Catherine says it is an amazing story. Entrance is free and the evening is supported by FFY and St Mary's, Otley.

Otley is again entering the Suffolk Coastal Village of the Year competition and Vanessa Osbourne, the Parish Clerk, is hard at work compiling the written entry. Many of the village groups have given information about events and outings throughout the year and this will be good for the section on community spirit. As part of the Suffolk Coastal "love where you live" initiative, there will be a litter-pick led by members of FFY on 18th June, ending up at the White Hart. The start time and place will be announced (watch the blackboard), but please feel free to join in as this will take place prior to the judging. Volunteers to mow the grass are also required. Penny Sunaway is leading the way on this one and she says 'Good luck, fingers crossed, and let's see how we get on'.

The next coffee-morning will be held on Thursday 25th June at Pheasant Cottage, Otley Green, the home of Tessa and Chris Brown.

Finally, congratulations to Nellie Sunaway in completing the London Marathon and raising so much money for Age UK.

Rose Rogerson

The London Marathon

Nellie took part in the London Marathon on behalf of Age UK Suffolk and we all had an amazing day watching her go round, managing to

see her three times, at the 9, 13 and 25 mile marks. She was cheered on by many supporters from the village - George and Alyson Chilvers and Ruthie Bullock, to name a few who had made the journey and lifted her spirits as she raced round the 26 mile course in 3 hours 43 minutes. This gives her entry into next year's marathon under the 'good for age' system.

We would all like to thank everyone in the village who took part in all the competitions, games and events throughout the fundraising, which brought her to the amazing total of £2,454-14. We couldn't have done it without you!

Nellie is in the middle of her final exams at the University of East Anglia and, sadly, had to have an emergency appendectomy at the beginning of May, so we still haven't managed to celebrate her wonderful success yet. She is well on the way to recovery and now back at uni.

Penny Sunaway

Casino Night

This was a very enjoyable evening and well-supported by the community. We raised a fantastic £760 towards our school 'science investigation area', which is our next project. The evening was so successful that we plan to hold another one next year. Watch this space.....

Amy Cranfield - Otley School PTA

Village diary:

4th June	Friendship Club - coffee-morning at Wendy Marshall's home 10.0 am
7th June	Scouts 40th anniversary celebration at the 11 am family service, followed by a barbecue
18th June	Friendship Club - outing to Anglesey Abbey, Stoke-cum-Quy
4th July	Otley Fete at 2pm followed by OtleyFest from 5.30 to 10

Church Flowers Vanessa Ling/Valerie Pitchers

Church cleaning: Brian and Karin Upson

Sidepersons' Rota:

7 th June	11.00am Scout Service	Ruthie Bullock
21 st June	9.30am Holy Communion	Sue Wilkins
28 th June	6.30pm Evensong	Peter Rogerson

**You are invited to join us at Otley Church on Sunday 7th June
TO CELEBRATE 40 Years OF SCOUTING IN OTLEY**

There will be a service of thanksgiving at 11am

This will be followed by a parish picnic & BBQ in the Churchyard –

Bring your own drink

There will be a treasure hunt, parachuting teddies & a campfire

Everyone is welcome to join the fun – more details from Jayne

Vaughan (890057) or Jane Hall (785251)

Otley under 5's

With our older children having now received confirmation of their primary school, we are familiarising them with the general idea of what school will involve. Alongside organised settling-in sessions with Mrs Tomany and the reception class, all our 3 and 4 year olds join Otley Primary School on Thursday mornings for assembly and during some break times they all have fun together in the playground mixing with prospective classmates. We incorporate all of this into our usual timetable of fun and learning and the children continue to be busy in our outdoor play area, painting the playhouse, watering the vegetables, flowers and herbs and using the ride-ons to manoeuvre around obstacle courses. We are now open five days a week, so come and have a look and book a free trial session, or see our stands and find out more at the Easton & Otley College open day on 14th June and at the Otley Village Fete on 4th July. Tel. Michelle on **07789 468853**.

Village fete and OtleyFest – 4th July

The fete will start at 2pm and include the usual stalls, refreshments, bar, tombola, draw, dog-show, displays by the Scouts, games, and a

childrens' fancy-dress competition for super-heroes. The afternoon will end with races, tug-o'-war and egg-throwing before a barbecue and OtleyFest, with live music from local musicians, begin at 5.30, continuing until 10. If you would like to have a stall, please contact otleyfete@gmail.com and if you would like to perform in OtleyFest, please contact otleyfest@gmail.com. Alternatively, ring Nathan Cant on 07979 185270.

Otley Village Show returns...!

The Otley Village Show will return on Saturday 12th September 2015. Please make a note in your diaries and come along to support this popular event. Schedules and entry forms will shortly be available from Otley Village Stores or you can download copies from: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/407019442798994/>

For further details or if you would like to help, please contact Helen Quilliam on 890594.

Calling all book readers

We would love some new members for our small and friendly local book club. On the Second Wednesday of every month we meet at the White Hart Otley as a warm and friendly venue. Join us at 7pm if you would like to eat or otherwise at 8. We usually finish around 9.30.

Our next book is "The Secret Life of Bees" by Sue Monk Kidd on 10th June

Please come along and even if you haven't read the book, it doesn't matter, as we are a small and friendly bunch. A lot of us don't finish every book and just come along for a chat, so we are very relaxed. We have a Facebook group so feel free to join that to see what we are up to or just please come on any second Wednesday of every month. Otley White Hart Book Group is our Facebook group so feel free to join that or please email me at info@asjdl.com or pop into the pub if you need more details.

Otley Bridge Club

Fancy learning or improving your bridge? We would love some new members for our small and friendly local novice Bridge club.

Meetings are on the first and third Wednesdays of every month at the White Hart starting at 7pm for those who want supper or and otherwise at 8, and finishing around 9.30pm.

Please come along to meet us even if you have no experience of Bridge. Otley Games club is our Facebook group so feel free to join that or please email me at info@asjdl.com or pop into the pub if you need more details.

Otley & District Gardening Club - 24th June daytrip

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SWILLAND

What a wonderful time of the year! The blossom has been magnificent and I always marvel at all the different shades of green. The oak has definitely come out before the ash, so we should only have a splash.

Two Swilland entrants in the Hadleigh Show did very well in the livestock classes. John Waspe had a first and several other rosettes with his sheep. Pauline Byam had a first and several other rosettes with her cattle. Well done to both of them. They will also be competing at the Suffolk Show, so we wish them the best of luck.

Another reminder for the Illuminati Concert on Sunday afternoon 12th

July. Tickets (£10 to include an excellent afternoon-tea) are available from Gill Reidy or me.

Ann Kent

Flower Rota:

7th June	Gill Reidy
14th - 21st June	Ann Kent
28th June - 5th July	Jackie Williams

RAINFALL – APRIL

April is the month that should give showers to produce May flowers, but apart from a few at the beginning and some at the end, the month remained dry with a total of only 1.0 inch of rain. The nights were still quite cold and didn't warm up until the beginning of May, but now the hedges and garden plants have put on a spurt of growth. Spring has at last arrived and our swallows are back and are busy building nests. However, the one bird that hasn't returned is the cuckoo - has any one heard it this year? We have now had four months with a total of 6.0 inches of rain which is about average, although it has given the impression of being a dry time.

Russell Ling

Claire Weston Recital

Local mezzo-soprano Claire Weston, will be giving a recital in St. Michael's Church, Framlingham on Saturday 20th June. She will be accompanied by John Hutchings and the programme includes Bernstein, Brahms, Britten, Puccini and Strauss. The evening starts at 7.00pm and tickets, which are £10 and include refreshments, are available by phoning 01473 624587 or direct from Rosher Stationers and Hall Farm Butchers, both in Framlingham.

SMILE LINES

Techie trouble

A vicar experienced some technical problems with the sound system in church one Sunday. Instead of starting the service as usual with 'The Lord be with you', she said: "There's something wrong with the microphone."

Not hearing this, the congregation responded: "And also with you."

With clergy ordinations in mind...

First friend: 'It took me forty years to discover I didn't have the gifts for a priest in holy orders.'

Second friend: 'Goodness, whatever did you do when you found out?'

First friend: 'It was too late to do anything. By then I was a bishop!'

Advice on preaching

"Consider the postage stamp. Its usefulness consists in its ability to stick to one thing until it gets there."

"Remember: the longer the spoke the greater the tyre."

Descriptions

Dust: mud with the juice squeezed out.

Inflation: cutting money in half without damaging the paper.

Raisin: grape with a sunburn.

Mosquito: an insect that makes you like flies better.

Beauty salon: where women curl up and dye.

Cannibal: one who is fed up with people

Committee: a body that keeps minutes and wastes hours.

Ecclesiastic: material used to fasten the clergy's robes.

Gesticulation: any movement made by a foreigner.

Fashion: A form of ugliness so intolerable that we have to alter it every six months.

College: the land of the midnight sons.

Father: a banker provided by nature.

The world: God's first Bible.

Nature: the art of God.



DADDY?

You know how sometimes we mishear things? A little boy that I know said that they had sung 'Away in a Manger' in the Nativity play at his preschool. He was convinced from singing this carol that Jesus had another name because he had heard it as 'little George Jesus asleep in the hay'.

In the same way a little girl said that she knew God's name because every time people said the Lord's Prayer she heard it as 'Harold be thy name'.

When Jesus gave us the prayer we call The Lord's Prayer he told us what to call God – you can read about it in Matthew's Gospel, chapter 6, verses 5-15.

The word that Jesus used for 'Our Father' was 'Abba' which is the way that children then spoke

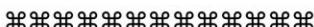
to their father, like we use the word Daddy now. Every time we say the prayer we remember that God is our loving father.



FOUR OF A KIND



Can you find a common English word of 8 letters which contains 4 Gs? Here is a clue... it's a laughing matter. Answer at the bottom of the page.



What do they call ministers in Germany?

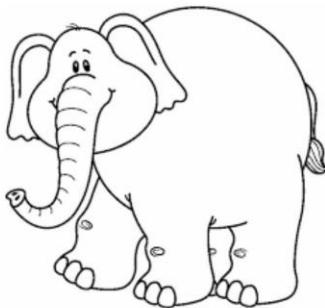
German Shepherds.

Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?

Samson. He brought the house down.

Who was the first person in the Bible?

Chap One.

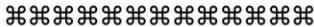


Why does an elephant use his trunk as a bookmark?

That way he always nose where he stopped reading.

What do you call someone with an elephant on their head?

Squashed!



Answer: giggling

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