

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Forgive me, Lord, for a mind that turns so readily to weigh my troubles, so seldom to count my blessings.

Teach me the practice of reflection, the habit of thankfulness, and the art of praise.

May I deal as generously with others as you deal with me, for Jesus Christ's sake.

Timothy Dudley Smith

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

ASHBOCKING

Ashbocking held its inaugural produce, arts and crafts show on Saturday 6th September. As well as many competition classes, there were cream teas, a barbeque, raffle, bowls, clay pigeon shooting and archery! Thank you to everyone who contributed; to the organising committee who put so much time and energy into planning the event; and particularly to Liz Stegman for her vision and drive! It was a tremendous afternoon, enjoyed by many in our village and visitors from the surrounding villages. Personally, I was thrilled with my third prize in the hard-boiled egg class and am already thinking about next year's entry (although the eggs won't go in just yet!!!).

Our next service will be our **Harvest Festival** on Sunday 12th October at 11 a.m. Please remember to bring some food or produce to the service. These will be blessed during the service and will afterwards be distributed to good causes locally. Please also invite someone to come to the service with you, whether they be family, a friend, or a neighbour - everyone is very welcome.

In November, we will be holding our **Remembrance Day service** on Sunday 9th November. As always, this service will

start at 10:50 a.m. so that we can keep the 2-minute silence during the service.

In December, we will be holding two services: our ever-popular **Carols by Candlelight service** on Sunday 21st December at 4 p.m. and our **Christmas Day service** on the 25th at 11 a.m., immediately followed by a short Holy Communion service. Please do come and join us, and remember to invite a friend!

For a few months now, we have placed a basket in the Church for people to donate food to FIND – the Families in Need charity in Ipswich. Please do bring some non-perishable food and place it in the basket when you have a chance.

The coffee-morning will be on Friday 3rd October at the Pollards' house, Hawthorns, behind Ashley Grange at 10.30 a.m. Please bring red, green or black wool if you have any. Kate Watts is knitting (or crocheting) lapel poppies to sell to raise funds for Help the Heroes/British Legion. She needs wool and would be grateful to hear from any other knitters and anyone who has a 3D poppy pattern. These will be sold in our churches so we can wear them for Remembrance Sunday. Please contact her on 890417 or catherin.watts@btinternet.com

Duncan Bray

HELP THE HEROES/BRITISH LEGION



CLOPTON

This time last year we had just celebrated the dedication of the bells and new bell-frame. Since then more work has been completed, the bells are being rung regularly and the learners

are progressing well. We really appreciate the Otley ringers coming to ring for our family services.

The heritage centre is in place at the west end of the church. Already people are visiting to look in the folders and research is ongoing.

Our website is gradually having more information added and in August it had 243 visitors and 3,648 hits — our highest total so far. At the time of writing September has had almost as many.

The monthly craft-morning will be on Wednesday 1st October in the village hall from 10am until 1pm. Everyone is welcome. Bring your craft along or just come for coffee and chat.

The coffee-morning in the village hall will be hosted by Brenda Laws and Vanessa Law on Wednesday 15th October from 10am until noon. Everyone is very welcome.

Church cleaning
Church flowers

Doris Main
Beryl Birchmore

Doris Main

OTLEY

Harvest Festival will be the main event this month – see the invitations below.

Otley and District Gardening Club resumes on Monday 6th October when Matthew Tanton-Brown will be speaking about 'Plants for Winter Interest'. Matthew is well known to the club here and is an entertaining speaker. New members are very welcome. Subscriptions are £10 for the year + £1-50 entry at each meeting, £4 for non-members, to include refreshments. Membership includes 10% discount at Ashbocking Nurseries and Laurel Farm, Henley.

The next monthly coffee-morning will be held on Thursday 9th October at Lavender House, Otley Green, the home of David and Tess Papworth. Proofs of this year's Christmas cards for the Otley Church Preservation Trust will be available and orders will be taken.

The Friendship Club celebrated its 50th anniversary with a tea-party at the village hall on 31 August. The club was founded in 1964 under the leadership of Mrs Beth Welford for the older people of the village and some who were lonely. She was the sister of Benjamin Britten and she lived at Church House, but, after she moved to Aldeburgh, she invited the club to her home there every year. When she died she left £100 to the club, with which it bought the clock in the village hall in her memory. Entertainment at the party included Russell Ling speaking the monologue about the pickpocket, and Geoffrey Mason enacting Stanley Holloway's piece 'The Nightwatchman', and music was provided by Nick Ling on guitar and Charlie Hopgood on a box drum singing popular songs from the 1960s. A great tea of sandwiches and cakes was provided by Wendy Marshall and her team, with sparkling wine to toast the wellbeing of the Friendship Club. It was a happy occasion.

23 cyclists visited the church during the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust sponsored ride, including Catherine and Ian Beaumont and Jane Hall (James took the train to Beccles and didn't get back to Otley until after the official closing-time). Thank you to them, those who sponsored, and to Geoffrey Mason, Russell Ling, Audrey Barker and the Crowleys, who manned the church. The weather was ideal.

Alyson and Ian Chilvers would like to thank everyone who came to "Music in the Barn" and supported Aled Jones of Ashfield, severely disabled after a terrible road accident when he was 15. Aled is now 28 and with the support of his family tries hard to live life to the full. One of his greatest passions has always been music and everyone was impressed by his demonstration

on the “Sound Beams”. The event raised a staggering £1000, which will go directly towards Aled’s music therapy.

We are sad to report that Muriel Podd has died and send our sympathy to Briony, Stephen, Cathy, Andrew and all the family. The church was almost full for her funeral and she will be fondly remembered here for her contribution to village life. She came from Manchester to marry Russell Podd and immediately got involved in the community and the church. She led the Sunday School for many years, was a member of the drama group and the Mothers’ Union, and was one of the main compilers of the first detailed plan of the churchyard and all the tombstones. She had a great zest for life and love of her family.

Rose Rogerson

Village diary

2nd October	Friendship Club - Bring your favourite tune record/CD
4th October	Harvest supper and barn dance at Warrens Farm
16th October	Friendship Club - Chris Parfitt
1st November	Fireworks evening - Community Council

Church flowers: Harvest - everyone/ Helen Jay

Church cleaning: Mary Hunt/Ruthie Bullock

Brasses: Betty David

Sidepersons’ Rota

5th October	11.00am Harvest	Churchwardens
12th October	11.00am Morning Praise	Betty David
19th October	9.30am Holy Communion	Karin Upson
26th October	6.30pm Evensong	Peter Rogerson

Come and join Otley’s harvest celebrations

Everyone is invited to celebrate harvest & God’s goodness.

On **SAT 4th OCT** we are putting on our wellies for MESSY CHURCH, which is for children of all ages from 10am-12 noon

beginning at the church & ending at Gull Farm, Ipswich Road. Do come along to learn, worship, walk & have fun.

In the evening there will be a TRADITIONAL HARVEST SUPPER in the Chilvers' barn at Warren's Farm. It is intended to be for everyone including young families. Starting at 6pm there will be activities & a bar, an informal Songs of Praise will follow at 6.30pm before we share a hot 2 course supper. Then there will be a barn dance with music from Inertia Reel. Do come along to create a great community occasion. Tickets are available from the PO, Jane Hall (785251), Ruth Farnhill (890543) & Alyson Chilvers (737674) – £10 for adults, £5 for under 16's & £25 for a family of 4.

On **SUN 5th OCT** there will be a traditional HARVEST FESTIVAL at Otley church at 11am. It is church parade so we will be joined by Otley's scouting groups. **Harvest gifts** are welcome & as usual we will welcome non-perishable food for the food-bank run by Ipswich Families in Need, so do bring contributions. The collection will go to Farm Africa, which is campaigning to "Give poverty the boot!".

Otley Scouting News

1st. Otley Scout Group held its annual 'Pig Roast' on 12th June. It was lovely to see so many people from the group and the village, as well as past members who came to support us. We said goodbye to our treasurer Alan Taylor, who has done a fantastic job for us.

The group has an exciting 12 months coming up...we will be 40 years old in September 2015. Lots of events, challenges badges and fun activities are being planned, including our group camp on the playing field in Otley on 18th/19th September. This will also be the 'leaving camp' of our Group Scout Leader Brian Childs who will have completed 40 years in scouting. Any past Scouts who would like to come along to this – please contact me and I'll be able to give details nearer the time.

By the time you read this our Cubs will have enjoyed their camp at Bury St Edmunds and Scouts their summer camp. Group camp will be late September at the Torrington camp site and we wish our new Akela, Kev Jackson, lots of luck working towards his camping permit.

Christmas post will take place again in December for addresses in Otley Village, please look out for the post box in the shop. Scout Bingo will be on 17th October, 21st November (7.30pm in the Scout Hut) and the "Christmas Bingo" on Thursday 18th December in the village hall.

All our sections are running well, but we do have a few places available. Beavers can be joined from age 6, Cubs from age 8 and Scouts start at 10½ years of age. If anyone would like more information please contact me.

Jayne Vaughan, Group Secretary, 01473 890057
district.sectreary@debenscouting.org.uk

Discord concert – 24th October

Michael Dann's popular wellbeing singing group DISCORD has been meeting weekly in Otley since November 2011 and is one of 6 wellbeing groups that he runs throughout South Norfolk & North Suffolk. The Otley members will be performing a charity concert of songs from the shows at Otley Church, on Friday 24th October at 7:15pm. Tickets for the concert are £5 with light refreshments available afterwards. Since DISCORD was formed in 2011 nearly £8000 has been raised for various charities with the current charity being East Anglian Air Ambulance. Proceeds from this concert will also benefit Otley Church. Tickets are available from Otley Village Stores or by calling 01379 741854.

Fireworks – 1 November

Otley Community Council's annual firework display will start at 7.30 p.m. with the gate opening at 7 for refreshments. Please

support the evening. Admission will cost £3 for adults and £2 for children of 16 or under. Soup and hot chocolate will be £1, hot dogs £1.50.

News from Otley Primary School

I always feel that although Otley is a small school, the children should not be put at a disadvantage and miss opportunities that larger schools with their larger budgets can offer and afford. It is therefore very pleasing to report that Otley was shortlisted at the 2014 Suffolk Sport Awards in the School of Sporting Excellence and Participation Award, which is open to all of Suffolk's 350 schools. It is not about results, but about opportunities. The judging panel considered items such as the provision of extra curricula clubs, links to local community clubs, competitive opportunities and participation in the Suffolk School Games etc.

Following an Oscars-style gala presentation-evening at Trinity Park on 12th September Otley School was announced as runners up to Hadleigh Primary School. Although it was disappointing not to have won, it was a great achievement for which we should congratulate all the staff, but in particular the PE co-ordinator, Miss Baker.

If you follow the education news in the local press, you will know that education in Suffolk is currently under the spotlight for underperforming. However, there is a lot of good education that is often unreported and unpublicized. Otley is part of it, as the award and other examples prove.

Ian Liddell - Chair of Governors

SWILLAND

The scaffolding is now down and work on the tower complete. It is a wonderful achievement for such a small community; many thanks to Brian Williams for his hours of hard work to get grants

and donations and to those who have given (and are still giving) so generously.

We are most grateful to the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust for its generous grant. I urge everyone to support it. Membership is £15 per year. We would like also to thank Viridor Credits Environment Company for its generous grant. Organisations with an 8 mile radius of a waste-recycling plant are eligible to apply.

We will in the near future be getting quotes for refurbishing the organ.

We are looking forward to our harvest festival on 21st September and I will report on it next month. This year the harvest here was finished early and only the sugar-beet remains. We have been very fortunate with the weather. Some of next year's crops are already in the ground and coming up. We could now do with some rain, both for the fields and our gardens. The fruit harvest has been abundant and it makes us think of those in other parts of the world who struggle to survive.

18 cyclists visited the church on the sponsored cycle-ride for Suffolk Historic Churches Trust, which I think is more than usual. Gill Reidy was our sole cyclist - I don't know yet how much she raised. Thank you to Gill, Kate Hatch, Rick Middleton and June Frost for manning the church and to Gill for riding.

Our Christmas Draw will take place on 6th December with a light lunch in Witnesham village hall as usual. Tickets will be available from the beginning of October.

Ann Kent

Church Flowers

28th September – 5th October	Gill Reidy
12th – 19th October	Jackie Williams
26th October – 2nd November	Ann Kent

Rainfall – August

The first two weeks were quite wet with 3 inches of rain but apart from one day on the 26th of the month the weather has been fine and warm and this has continued into September. The cereal harvest was completed in record time with good yields and there have also been heavy crops of fruit and vegetables.

The weather in the first half of September has been dominated by an area of high pressure to the east, bringing in cloud off the North Sea, with the jet stream south of the UK.. Rainfall for August was above the average at 3.30 inches, and the year's total now stands at 16.11 inches.

Russell Ling



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AND
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Have you always had an interest in **archaeology**? Want to learn new skills and help out the **Eighth in the East** project? Live close to **Debach** Airfield? We want to hear from you!

On **Sunday 2nd November** we will be running a **free** day-long course providing an introduction to recording your local airfield. This course will be held at **493rd Bomb Group Museum** at **Debach Airfield** from **11am until around 4pm**.

The morning will be spent at the museum learning how to conduct a building survey, followed by an afternoon where you can test your new recording skills and exploring airfield buildings nearby. It is hoped that on the completion of this course you will be able to use your new skills to record other airfield buildings.

No previous experience is necessary! We will provide all the equipment you will need to carry out the survey, as well as explaining how to fill in one of our recording forms.

Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. To book please email **martin@8theast.org** or ring **01986 873516**. Further details will be provided upon booking.

To find out more about future and past events take a look at: **www.8theast.org**

Otley Hall Retreat Day Programme

Thurs. 6th Nov.- Anne Spalding & Anthony Lury - 'Exploring Spiritual Direction.'

Fri. 5th Dec. - Archdeacon Ian Morgan - 'A day for Advent with music.'

Both days run from 10am-4pm and cost just £22 to include all refreshments and a buffet lunch. Please contact Karen on 890264 or events@otleyhall.co.uk

SMILE LINES

October brings St Luke's day, and as St Luke is the patron saint of physicians and surgeons, we thought you might enjoy these comments, allegedly taken from actual medical records dictated by doctors.

- On the second day, the knee was better and on the third day it had completely disappeared.
- The patient has been depressed ever since she began seeing me in 1983.
- Discharge status: Alive but without permission.
- She slipped on the ice in early December and her legs went in separate directions.
- The patient was released to the outpatient department without dressing.
- She is numb from the toes down.

Source: Grove Jokes of the month

Church notices that didn't quite work

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the jumble sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.



31st OCTOBER – ALL HALLOW'S EVE

Many customs are linked with this day – most of them because this was the 'day before'. To the Celts it was the day before winter and the New Year officially began. In later years it became the day before, or eve of, the Christian festival of All Hallows, or All Saints' Day.

The Eve of All Hallows (Hallow's Eve gradually became the word 'Halloween') was the day for driving out evil – which makes it seem very strange now that some people 'celebrate' Halloween by dressing up as witches and monsters and having special parties.

Wouldn't it be better for us as Christians to celebrate by dressing up as angels and saints rather than as ghosts and devils?

BEFORE & AFTER



The answer to these questions are either 'befores' or 'afters'...

1. What comes before thunder?
2. What comes after red on traffic lights?
3. What comes after Advent?
4. What comes before green in the colours of the rainbow?
5. What comes after dusk?
6. What comes after revision?
7. What comes before a surname?
8. What book comes before the Book of Ruth in the Bible?
9. What comes after Lent?
10. According to the proverb, what comes before a fall?

Why did the angel lose her job?

She had harp failure.

How do angels greet each other?

They say 'Halo'.



Answers: 1. lightning 2. amber 3. Christmas 4. yellow 5. night 6. exams 7. fore or Christian names 8. Judges 9. Easter 10. pride

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