

# BENEFICE CALENDAR

**November 2011**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November**

9.15 am Holy Communion  
11.00 am Family Service

**3 before Advent**

Swilland  
Otley

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November**

10.50 am Remembrance  
10.50 am Remembrance  
10.50 am Remembrance  
12.15 pm Remembrance  
6.30 pm Holy Communion (informal)

**Remembrance Sunday**

Debach airfield  
Ashbocking  
Otley war memorial  
Swilland war memorial  
Thamaniya, Clopton

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November**

9.15 am Holy Communion  
11.00 am Family Service

**Christ the King**

Otley  
Swilland

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November**

9.15 am Holy Communion  
11.00 am Family Service  
6.30 pm Advent carols

**Advent Sunday**

Ashbocking  
Clopton  
Otley

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December**

9.15 am Holy Communion  
11.00 am Family Service

**Advent 2**

Swilland  
Otley

**HOUSE GROUPS** We have two benefice house groups, to which all are welcome. The daytime group (led by Catherine) meets on the 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month at 1.30 pm at Mrs Penny Clark's house (Cherry Bank, Otley). The evening group (led by James) meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 8.15 pm at 16, Spring Park, Otley. New members are always welcome.

## **Sunday Bible Readings**

### **4<sup>th</sup> November : 3 before Advent**

Amos 5:18-24 1Thess.4:13-end Matt.25:1-13

### **13<sup>th</sup> November : Remembrance Sunday**

Zeph.1:7,12-end 1Thess.5;1-11 Matt.25:14-30

### **20<sup>th</sup> November : Christ the King**

Ezek.34:11-16,20-24 Eph.1:15-end Matt.25:31-end

### **27<sup>th</sup> November : Advent Sunday**

Is.64:1-9 1Cor.1:3-9 Mark 13:24-end

### **4<sup>th</sup> December : Advent 2**

Is.40:1-11 2Peter 3:8-15a Mark.1:1-8

### **Prayer for the month**

O God, save me from myself; this frivolous self which plays with your creation, this vain self which is clever about your creation, this masterful self which manipulates your creation, this greedy self which exploits your creation, this lazy self which soothes itself with your creation; this self which throws the thick shadow of its own purposes and desires in every direction in which I try to look, so that I cannot see what you, my Lord and God are showing to me. Teach me to stand out of my own light, and let your daylight shine.

**Austin Farrar 1904-68**

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### **LETTER FROM JANE HALL**

#### **Remembering the departed and why it matters**

November is often seen as the beginning of winter and is a month packed with festivals and rituals that remember or commemorate people who have died but why bother?

Is there something we can learn or think about to give these, perhaps rather morbid, festivals meaning for us today?

**All Saints or All Hallows Day** is on **1<sup>st</sup> November** and is a festival that recalls Christian saints and martyrs. For many its main claim to fame is actually 31<sup>st</sup> October because All Hallows gives Halloween its name because it occurs on the eve of All Hallows. So, while commercialised parties “Trick or Treat”, pumpkin lanterns are made and lit and youngsters dress up as ghost, ghouls and witches one night, the Church remembers its saints the next day. We can all gain from the example of saints past and present who serve and inspire the lives of others

On **2<sup>nd</sup> November** people recall and pray for their own loved-ones who have died. This is still known as **All Souls day**. We introduced a reflective All Souls service to the benefice last year to give residents an opportunity to remember someone they loved that has died. The event was repeated this year on 30<sup>th</sup> October with a quiet service of readings, music and a reflective act of remembrance in which names were read out. I know that many of you have found this helpful and touching.

As a child I loved **Bonfire** or **Guy Fawkes Night** and would rush round to the local bonfire party, which was pretty wild, shouting “Remember, remember the fifth of November, gunpowder, treason and plot”. There were fireworks, toffee-apples, a huge fire with a well-dressed guy, and apple-bobbing. The tradition of celebrating the 1605 failed Catholic plot by lighting fires had begun in 1625, but folk-lorists link it further back to ancient funeral pyres via Halloween fires and Druid rites. In most places it no longer has an anti-papist feel but is an excuse for fun in the dark. However, there is no harm in reflecting on the democracy and freedom we enjoy in this country, as we watch the rockets bursting into coloured cascades.

**11.11.11** is a configuration that only comes round once in a century and we will remember the fallen of two world wars and of subsequent conflicts on **Remembrance Sunday**. Each village *will hold its own commemoration and the poppies worn by many recall the blood and flowers that coloured the battlefields of*

Flanders. I sense that acts of remembrance have regained significance for a younger generation because of the casualties among current members of our armed forces in Iraq and Afghanistan. Remembrance Sunday is a chance to pay tribute to those who have served us, but also to pray for peace and hope for a better world; as the prophet Micah wrote “They shall beat their swords into plough shares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more; but they shall sit every one under the vine and under the tree and none shall make them afraid” (Micah 4, 3-4)

So, although remembering people we never know and who died long ago may seem an odd thing to do, we can also think about those we did know and love who have died more recently, and, as we reflect on the past, we can appreciate the blessings of the present and pray for a peaceful and loving future.

*The Rev'd Jane Hall*

## FFY

Our two sessions in November are on unusual dates: **9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>** November (**2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>** Wednesdays) from 7.00pm to 9.00pm at Otley Village Hall. All young people welcome.

There will be a car-wash on Sunday **27<sup>th</sup> November** from 10.00am to 12 noon at Otley Village Hall. Tea and biscuits provided as you wait for your car to be washed. All young people welcome to help. Call Michelle on 890269 with any questions.

*The Rev'd Catherine Beaumont*

## Royal British Legion 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Variety Concert

The Royal British Legion's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Variety Concert, 'Ron Markwell and Friends', which took place in the Otley village hall on 24<sup>th</sup> September, collected £650 for the 'RBL Poppy Appeal fund', in support of past and present British Servicemen and women and their families. The Witnesham Branch of the

Legion wish to thank the many people in Otley who supported the show and particularly those who assisted with its production; namely, Joan Parish with the support of Penny, Andrew and Sally from the post office, who dealt with the sale of tickets; Mike Bullock and his daughter Olivia who provided the stage lighting and effects; Claire Courteney who decorated both the inside and outside of the village hall superbly with Legion bunting and items supplied by her mother Sue, and Nathan Cant, with Liam Smith and Norton Walker of the Otley Scouts, who arranged all the tables and chairs for the audience and assisted Claire with the decorations. And lastly, but certainly not least, Gary, owner of the 'White Hart', who with Martin Bryam and Charlotte, provided drinks from a well used bar. Thanks also to Betty Rudderham and Wendy Marshall who provided hot drinks and cakes from the kitchen.

In all, a most enjoyable evening, the proceeds of which will be much appreciated by Service men and women in need of support and their families.

*Geoffrey Mason*

## Wreaths for Remembrance Sunday – 13<sup>th</sup> November

Village organizations or individuals wishing to lay a wreath at the village Remembrance Services on 13<sup>th</sup> November should contact one of the churchwardens for their village (see inside front cover).

## **NEWS FROM THE PARISHES**

### **CLOPTON**

In September Eily Buffone and Louise Witherden took part in the London to Brighton Cycle Ride. They cycled fifty four miles and raised over a thousand pounds for the Eve Appeal. This charity funds research into gynaecological cancers. Well done to both of you and thank you to all the people who sponsored them.

They will be talking about their ride on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 8pm** in Clopton Village Hall so please come and support them.

Our Harvest breakfast was once more a great success. The fruit juice, bacon rolls, toast and coffee were delicious. It was lovely to see so many people and to have time to chat. Jane led a most enjoyable service with traditional harvest hymns played by Fred. Thank you to all who donated food for the Salvation Army Hostel in Ipswich. They were delighted to receive so many boxes of produce. Their letter of thanks is on the porch notice-board.

The Wildlife Evening organised by the Parish Council was very interesting and informative but sadly only five people attended. Ideas were discussed for a wildlife area in the village.

The next Coffee Morning will be on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November** from 10.00am until noon in the Village Hall. It will be hosted by Pat and Elaine. Everyone is welcome.

We shall shortly be losing one of our long-serving helpers on the flower and cleaning rota. If anyone would like to help with either cleaning or flowers (or both!), please phone 737602. If you would prefer to be with someone when cleaning, you can work as a pair. You don't even need to live in Clopton!

*Doris Main*

**Church flowers for November**  
**Church cleaning for November**

Katherine Deacon  
Audrey Barker

## **OTLEY**

Nearly ninety people attended Harvest Thanksgiving in the Lings' barn at Grange Farm on a surprisingly hot October day. About a third of these were children and they took a great part in the proceedings, presenting harvest produce and enacting a poem about everybody involved in the making of a loaf of bread, from the sowing of the wheat-seed to the eating of the finished

product. Graham interviewed Anthony Ling and Peter Holloway about their farms and the changes they have seen, and then Peter gave a very entertaining talk. Music was led by Helen and her accompanists on flutes and clarinets, the Scouts and Cubs presented their banners, and a collection of £196.79 was taken for Farm Africa.

The produce was later taken to the Salvation Army hostel in Ipswich. Afterwards there was a harvest lunch at the village hall. Thank you to everybody who contributed towards this day, because there was a lot of preparation.

Remembrance Sunday will be commemorated on 13<sup>th</sup> November with a service at the war memorial at 10.50 am so that we can observe the silence at 11am.

Thank you to everybody who attended our coffee-morning for Macmillan Cancer Support, to those who generously sent donations and to our helpers, Helen Jay, Trudie Stratford, Ann Baker and Audrey Farley. It was very successful and we were delighted that we raised £326 for this wonderful charity in its centenary year.

The next monthly coffee-morning will be held on **Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> November** at 7 Spring Park, the home of John and Helen Jay. You will be welcome there from 10.00am.

The next meeting of the Gardening Club will take place on **7<sup>th</sup> November** when the subject will be 'Flowers for Bees'.

The speaker will be Sue Haynes who is secretary of the Suffolk Beekeepers Association.

Starting on **1<sup>st</sup> November**, at Moat Farm, Otley, is a new group called Discord. It is the brainchild of Michael Dann and it is all about the feeling of wellbeing to be gained from singing together, and the subsequent health benefits. It is aimed at people who enjoy singing (never mind how good or bad you think your voice is), and have a good sense of fun. It will take place every Tuesday, 1.15pm to 3.15pm, with a break for refreshments, and each session will cost £3.50. Michael is very amusing and has

had success with this already; it is also a good opportunity to get out in the winter afternoons. You can contact him on 07966 183057 or go to [www.michaeldann.co.uk](http://www.michaeldann.co.uk)

*Rose Rogerson*

### **Otley Village Diary**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> November** Friendship Club - tea with Mrs Lise Hilton  
**5<sup>th</sup> November** Firework night 7.00 for 7.30pm – Community Council  
**14<sup>th</sup> November** Shopping evening – Under 5's  
**17<sup>th</sup> November** Friendship Club – bring childhood toys  
**25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> November** Scouts Show – Scouts and Cubs  
**3<sup>rd</sup> December** Christmas draw and coffee morning St Mary's PCC 10am  
**3<sup>rd</sup> December** Christmas Bazaar Otley School 11.00am-1.00pm

### **Otley Church Sidesmen's Rota**

- |                                 |                        |               |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> November</b>  | 11.00am Family Service | Mrs S Wilkens |
| <b>20<sup>th</sup> November</b> | 9.15am Holy Communion  | Mrs P Clark   |
| <b>27<sup>th</sup> November</b> | 6.30pm Advent carols   | Mr D Papworth |

- |                                     |                            |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Church Flowers for November</b>  | Sue Wilkins/ Ruth Farnhill |
| <b>Church Cleaning for November</b> | Angela Treloar             |
| <b>Brasses</b>                      | Betty David                |

### **Otley Church Preservation Trust**

The Trust is delighted to report that sufficient money has now been raised to proceed with the restoration of the clock faces on St Mary's. We would like to thank all residents who have continued to donate so generously through savings boxes and regular donations, and also to all those who made one-off donations for this particular project. It is hoped that the work will commence later in October.

Two new Christmas cards depicting St Mary's during last winter's snow will shortly be available for purchase. These beautiful A5

sized cards, from photographs taken by the Revd Canon Graham Hedger, capture the beauty of the church on a crisp winter's day. Available in packs of 5 for each design and priced at just £3 per pack, the cards will be available from all Trust members, the church and the village shop. All proceeds will help support the on-going preservation of St Mary's.

*Ian Beaumont, Chairman - Otley Church Preservation Trust*

## SWILLAND

Tickets for our Christmas Draw are now available. This will take place at 1 p.m. on **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December** at Witnessham Village Hall. Filled rolls and homemade soup and mince pies will be served from 12 noon to 2 pm. Do come and join us. Any gifts towards our prize list (generally of Christmas fare) will be much appreciated.

The Witnessham, Swilland and Ashbocking Community Council recently planted a tree in memory of Georgia Ball, who lost her fight with cystic fibrosis a year ago. It is a prunus kanzan which will have lovely double pink flowers in the spring. A brass plaque has been put beside it remembering Georgia. It is near the village sign. Several people gathered to witness the planting.

This year we have decided to hold our Christingle Service at Candlemas, after Christmas. A family service with carols will be held on **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December** at 11am.

An act of Remembrance by the British Legion will be held at the Swilland Memorial on **13<sup>th</sup> November** at 12.15pm.

*Ann Kent*

### Swilland Flower rota

**23<sup>rd</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> October**

**6<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> November**

**20<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> November**

Ellen Jarvis

Gill Reidy

Jackie Williams

**Farming Years:** Russell Ling has very kindly allowed us to publish his record of what life and farming was like in Otley during the past century. We will be including excerpts from this fascinating account during the next few months.

## **A Century in Otley 1900-2000**

### **Chapter one**

Conditions in Otley during the year 1900.

Agriculture was the main industry and village life revolved around farming. There were 19 farms, Otley Hall, Poplar Farm, Grange Farm, 2 Wood Farms, Vine Farm, Gull Farm, 2 Shrubbery Farms, Swiss Farm, Leaseland Farm, Church Farm, Nether Hall, High House, Villa Farm, Goldsmiths Farm, Charity Farm, Moat Farm and Little Moat Farm. Now there are only 7.

The population in 1901 was 530; now it is approximately 700. At that time 130 would have been farm-labourers, who would have had up to 8 children per family, 3-5 on average. They lived in tied cottages with two rooms upstairs and two on the ground floor. The remainder of the working population would be the Thatcher, Blacksmith, Harness-maker, Wheelwright, Carpenter, Miller, Boot-maker, Bricklayer and their apprentices. There were also the Grocer, Baker, Doctor, Dress-maker and the Tinker who served the village in their various capacities, plus the Policeman, School Master or Mistress, and the Vicar.

There were no main water supplies, therefore no flush toilets. The “brumbies” as they were sometimes called, took many forms. Usually they were in small buildings at the bottom of the gardens, which were much larger at that time, as nearly all residents grew their own vegetables. A pail provided a receptacle and the contents were dug into the garden on a rotation. In other situations there would be a pit, which would be cleaned out once a year and the contents incorporated in the soil round fruit trees, which benefited greatly.

Supplies of water for washing and drinking came from wells and ponds, which also supplied all the requirements for the livestock on the farms.

In times of drought water became very scarce and this caused many problems for the residents of Otley until the main water supply was brought to the village in 1936. The majority of properties were finally connected in 1938.

A reservoir was dug alongside Helmingham Road, on land occupied by Mr G Ling at Grange Farm, in 1896 after the parish council had sought the help of E G Pretyman MP. The landlords of Grange Farm, as well as Mr Pretyman and the Revd. Gretton, signed the agreement for the reservoir to be dug.

As working families had a considerable number of children, the eldest child would have to look after the younger ones and help with the chores. Living conditions for large families were very cramped. Once a week the family had a bath, this took place on a Saturday night when the tin bath which was hung on a nail outside the back door was brought into the kitchen. Water was heated in an iron copper. The youngest member of the family bathed first followed by the next one in age until all members of the family had bathed; what the water was like after the last one had finished I hate to think.

When the children reached school age the parents had to pay a penny each week for their education. Any misdemeanours and the headmistress would send for the vicar to administer punishment, which meant a thrashing in front of all the other pupils.

Children were sometimes kept away from school in order to work on farms and school holidays revolved around farm work. The extra money that the children brought into the household was a very welcome addition to the cost of their upbringing.

Toys were simple and home-made; iron hoops from wooden barrels were bowled along with a stick. Spinning-tops were made from wood and popguns from a mature elder.

A thick piece of the shrub was cut 12 inches long to make the barrel; the pith was removed; a piece of wood about an inch shorter than the barrel with a handle at one end was rounded to fit the hole. The popgun was used when the mature acorns were dropping off the trees. Two acorns the size of the barrel were pushed into each end; the wood was pushed against one of the acorns; the handle was pushed against the stomach and the first acorn was forced out of the barrel with a bang, anyone hit being badly stung.

There were no holidays away for the vast majority of children. The one entertainment of the summer was the Sunday school treat, as all the children attended Sunday school, church or chapel twice a day on Sundays. Everyone was eligible. A horse-drawn wagon would take the children to Felixstowe for the day and this would be their holiday for the year.

Children left school at 12 years old. Boys went to work on farms or were apprenticed to a trade. Girls usually obtained work as domestic servants.

The surface of the roads was stone which made them dusty in summer and muddy in winter. It was the parish's job to fill the holes that formed during the winter. Women picked the stones off the fields in March and April before spring seed-sowing. The payment was 18 pence, or 7p in present-day money, for a tumbrel-load of stones, which would be tipped on the side of the road ready to fill in the holes. Mothers would lay their babies in the furrows while they collected stones.

*Russell Ling*

## Rainfall – September 2011

After a dry spring and a miserable summer we finished up with a hot end to September. The term Indian summer has nothing to

do with the Indian continent but refers to native Americans gathering their harvest later than in Britain.

We have had hot dry spells of weather at this time of the year many times before but the temperature has been unusually high this year; it seems as though we are destined to break as many weather records as possible. It will be interesting to see how long the dry spell will last. I can remember one dry autumn when I had to wait until November before I was able to get a seedbed good enough to drill wheat, although I admit we didn't have the machinery that we have today.

September rainfall was only .85 of an inch and the hot weather soon dried that up; the total for the year so far is 13.45 inches.

*Russell Ling*

### **A new way to contact the police**

Suffolk Constabulary has introduced a new telephone number for people who want to talk to the police about non-urgent issues. Instead of ringing the current switchboard number of 613500, people should dial 101.

The introduction of 101 in Suffolk is part of a nationwide initiative which will see all forces adopting the number by the end of the year. It is designed to offer one easy way to contact your local police force to report non-emergency crimes, disorder or anti-social behaviour or to speak to your local police officers.

Assistant Chief Constable Paul Marshall said: "Everyone knows to ring 999 in an emergency - but research shows that only half of the public know how to contact their local police if they want to talk to them about less urgent issues. The introduction of an easy-to-remember, three-digit number should help address this. By the end of the year, people will be able to use 101 to contact their local police force's non-emergency service, wherever they are in England and Wales. It is also hoped that the introduction of 101 will help divert more non-urgent calls away from the 999

system, freeing up call handlers to deal with genuine emergencies."

The new number should be used to report issues which don't require an emergency response. For example, people should ring 101 if:

- . their vehicle has been stolen;
- . their property has been damaged;
- . they suspect drug use or dealing;
- . if they want to give the police information about crime in their area; or
- . if they would like to speak to a local police officer.

101 will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. When calling 101, the system determines the caller's location and connects them to the police force covering that area. A recorded message announces which police force the caller is being connected to - and gives them a choice if they are on a boundary between two or more forces.

Police call-handlers in the local force contact-centre will then answer the call and respond appropriately. There is also an option of speaking to an operator, if the caller wishes to contact another force. Calls from landlines and mobile networks cost 15 pence per call, no matter what time of day or the duration of the call.

People who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech impaired can textphone 18001 101.

The new 101 service is not for emergencies. In an emergency, people should always ring 999 for immediate police assistance. An emergency is where:

- . life is in danger
- . a serious offence is in progress
- . a suspect is at a scene
- . an alleged offender is identified at any location
- . there is an imminent likelihood of violence/damage to a person's property
- . there is a serious road traffic collision

## SMILE LINES

**Children of Israel** - In Sunday School one morning young Joseph raised his hand and proceeded to ask a question that had perplexed him for some time.

"There's something I can't figure out. According to the Bible, the Children of Israel crossed the Red Sea, right?" "Right," said his teacher.

"And the Children of Israel beat up the Philistines, right?"

"Er, right."

"And the Children of Israel built the Temple, right?" "Again you're right."

"And the Children of Israel fought the Egyptians and the Children of Israel were always doing something important, right?" "All that is right, too," agreed the teacher. "So what's your question, Joseph?"

"Well what were all the grown-ups doing?"

### **Observations....**

Can an atheist get insurance against acts of God?  
When a clock is hungry it goes back four seconds.

The short fortune teller who escaped from prison: a small medium at large.

When she saw her first strands of gray hair, she thought she'd dye.

Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead to know basis.  
When you've seen one shopping centre you've seen a mall.  
No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.

A sign on the lawn at a drug rehab center said: 'Keep off the Grass.'



## REMEMBRANCE: Cenotaph

Every year, on Remembrance Sunday, the television will show pictures of the Queen, politicians and those who have served in the armed forces at the Cenotaph in Whitehall. They stand in silence for 2 minutes to honour those who have given their lives for others.

But do you know what the word 'cenotaph' means? It comes from two Greek words 'kenos' meaning empty and 'taphos' which is a tomb. The cenotaph is a monument to people whose bodies are somewhere else. Have you ever seen a war cemetery? They have rows and rows of simple tombstones and while there are flowers and the grass is carefully mown there is such a sense of sadness.

The Cenotaph was unveiled in 1920, the same year that the body of an unknown soldier was buried in Westminster Abbey. So many people have had their lives taken in wars and each one matters, not just to their families, or us, but to God.

## WORK IT OUT?

The drawer where you keep your socks has five pairs of grey socks and five pairs of black socks. If you can only take one sock from the drawer at a time and you can't see what colour sock you're taking until you've taken it, how many socks do you have to take before you know you will have at least one matching pair to wear to school?



Answer at the bottom of this page.

## Who always goes to bed with his shoes on?

A horse.

There is a girl who lives in a bungalow. Everything in her home is pink. The lamp is pink, the bed is pink, the television is pink, the computer is pink, the mirror is pink, the kitchen is pink, the windows are pink, even the plants are pink. What colour are the stairs?

There are no stairs – it is a bungalow.

**Answer:** Three. At worst, the first two socks you take out will be one black sock and one grey sock. The next sock you take out will match one or the other