



OTTERTON PARISH NEWS

FEBRUARY 2023

A member of the Raleigh Mission Community



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10am-12; Fri 10am-2pm

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

SUNDAY 5th FEBRUARY

| | | | |
|----------|----------------|----|-----------------|
| 9.30 am | Holy Communion | CW | East Budleigh |
| 11.00 am | Morning Prayer | | Otterton |

SUNDAY 12th FEBRUARY

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|----------|----------------|----|-----------------|
| 9.30 am | Holy Communion | CW | East Budleigh |
| 11.00 am | Holy Communion | CW | Otterton |

SUNDAY 19th FEBRUARY

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|----------|----------------|----|-----------------|
| 9.30 am | Holy Communion | CW | East Budleigh |
| 11.00 am | Holy Communion | CW | Otterton |

SUNDAY 26th FEBRUARY

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|----------|----------------|----|-----------------|
| 9.30 am | Holy Communion | CW | East Budleigh |
| 11.00 am | Holy Communion | CW | Otterton |

SUNDAY 5th MARCH

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|----------|----------------|----|-----------------|
| 9.30 am | Holy Communion | CW | East Budleigh |
| 11.00 am | Morning Prayer | | Otterton |

Morning Prayer will be said at 9.30am at East Budleigh on Tuesdays and at Otterton on Thursdays

OTTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

The first meeting of 2023 for Otterton Parish Council will take place on **Monday 6th February**, commencing at 7.30pm. Should you have a question you wish to raise at the meeting or would like an item added to the agenda, please let the Clerk know by the Monday before the meeting.

2023 is an election year for the Parish Council. If you are interested in becoming a Councillor, do come along to a meeting and make yourself known to the Chair.

Francesca Mills, Clerk to Otterton Parish Council; Sandycross Farmhouse, Yettington, Budleigh Salterton EX9 7BW
tel: 01395 568732; mobile: 07880 331465; email: clerk@otterton.info; website: www.otterton.info

View from The Vicarage

Dear friends,

February has the reputation of being a dark dismal unremitting month so it might seem appropriate that Ash Wednesday falls on the 22nd when we recall our mortality, and at the Ash Wednesday service, I apply Ash to people's foreheads (if desired) accompanied by the words:

"From dust you came and to dust you shall return. Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ."

Thus, with this reminder of our own mortality ringing in our ears, we enter the season of Lent where we strive to come into a better relationship with God and with our neighbour.

Traditionally this season is coloured by the notion of sacrifice and people usually having "given things up for Lent" but in recent years I've noticed a trend for "taking things on for Lent" because there are many ways in which we can establish a better relationship with God, and taking something up, for example, something simple like saying a prayer before meals, or reading some spiritual literature every day, or thanking people more than you would normally, has the benefit that it generally makes you feel good as well.

Of course, the Lenten tradition of sacrifice and self-examination leads up to the great celebration of Easter and it is a fact of life that you enjoy the highs much more after you have experienced the lows, which is why both great explosions of celebration and rejoicing in the Christian calendar of Christmas and Easter are both preceded by more sombre periods of reflection. Both Lent (before Easter) and Advent (before Christmas) lead us into a state of being that enables us to enjoy and appreciate more the heightened state of joy and celebration of both festivals. This makes sense on a human level because it is hard work trying to maintain a heightened level of enjoyment over a long period of time which has the effect of deadening the day of celebration itself.

For example, extending Christmas over a longer and longer time just ends up making the actual day itself a relief - just to get the whole thing over with. I recommend a bit of what they nowadays call "delayed gratification". Lent fulfils that role before Easter wonderfully.

Peace and Love, Martin

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COUNTY COUNCIL

Contact: Jess Bailey, Lark Rise, Elsdon Lane, West Hill, Ottery St Mary EX11 1TZ 01404 814056 jessicamarybailey@yahoo.co.uk

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Contacts: Alan Dent – 01395 444238 - alan.dent23@gmail.com; Tom Wright – 01395 444222; Paul Jarvis – 07863 020400 – pjarvis@eastdevon.gov.uk



OTTERTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

It has been a busy start to the new term at Otterton C of E Primary School.

Otters Class have been exploring continents in Geography, Materials in science, and in Literacy they have enjoyed writing "What Happens When..." books and have come up with some brilliant and creative ideas for them. Reception have been exploring how to keep their teeth healthy and learning about going to the dentist. They have had a go at being dentists themselves and all of our toy animals have now got beautifully clean teeth! As a class, they have celebrated Chinese New Year; they learnt lots about Chinese traditions, tasted different Chinese foods and even had a go at Dragon dancing! They also invited their parents and carers to school for an invention afternoon where they created all sorts of amazing inventions using recycled junk; it was a great afternoon that was enjoyed by all the children and their grown up helpers!

Heron Class have enjoyed learning about Europe in Geography and looking in more depth at Judaism in RE. In Literacy the text has linked nicely to Science and they've written some fabulous explanations of how to carry out experiments. They have performed some amazing dances as part of PE and are very proud of how well they can talk about themselves in Spanish.

All the children have been working really hard but even more importantly, they have all been demonstrating our school values wonderfully in their behaviour and attitudes. We are very proud of them!

The children are looking forward to lots of sporting events coming up, including KS1 Inclusion Games which they will take part in along with Drake's C of E Primary School in East Budleigh, a dance workshop with Katie from Step up and Dance and a Trust Cross Country event which will take place at Stover School, near Newton Abbot.

We have spaces in our Pre-school for children starting the term after their third birthday; our next intake will be Easter 2023 and then September 2023. We also have spaces in year groups across the school. If you would like to arrange a visit to see what we have to offer, please call us on 01395 568326 or email adminotterton@thelink.academy

OTTERTON GARDEN CLUB – SPRING SHOW

The Village Spring Show will take place on **Saturday 18th March**, 2pm-4.30pm - for further details please visit our website - www.ottertongardenclub.co.uk

The subject for the photographic competition is “The Lower Otter Restoration Project”. Up to two entries per person are welcomed.

The home-made produce items are:

Victoria Sandwich; 3 pieces of shortbread; Savoury Quiche; one jar of marmalade; Ginger Cake (men only) - so plenty of time to get those recipes sorted and marmalade on the go!

OTTERTON COMMUNITY SHOP

The range of items we stock always seems to amaze people and few customers leave the shop without finding what they want. This might be something like Calpol for a sick child, cooking ingredients, or items from our range of vegan and gluten free products. Customers can additionally pre-order fish and meat that we do not have room to stock on a regular basis. Meanwhile, we continue to offer our Staple Saver products at special prices, including Fenton eggs at £1.49 and Four Elms apples at £1.60 a bag, so our commitment to supporting the village is as great as ever. As the new year gets under way, we will continually look to maximise value and provide good reasons for everyone to continue supporting the shop.

We can also welcome back Geoff and Pat Porter who have been ‘down-under’ on their break to visit family and friends. I used to believe in the old adage that nobody was indispensable. I am not so sure now!

OTTERTON FILM CLUB

The next film to be screened will be ‘Top Gun Maverick’. This will be on **Friday 10th February** in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. £5 per person entry (under 16s £3). Contactless payments accepted.

Top Gun Maverick – 2022 starring Tom Cruise, Miles Teller, Jennifer Connelly.

After more than thirty years of service as one of the Navy’s top aviators, Pete “Maverick” Mitchell (Tom Cruise) is where he belongs, pushing the envelope as a courageous test pilot and dodging the advancement in rank that would ground him. When he finds himself training a detachment of Top Gun graduates for a specialised mission, the likes of which no living pilot has ever seen, Maverick encounters Lt Bradley Bradshaw (Miles Teller), call sign “Rooster”, the son of Maverick’s late friend and Radar Intercept Officer Lt Nick Bradshaw, aka “Goose”. Facing an uncertain future and confronting the ghosts of his past, Maverick is drawn into a confrontation with his own deepest fears, culminating in a mission that demands the ultimate sacrifice from those who will be chosen to fly it.

THE KINGS’S ARMS

For information, please visit our website www.kingsarmsotterton.co.uk

OTTERTON MILL

News

We would like to thank all our customers for their much valued and continual support; every purchase helps to keep us going. We are now looking forward to Spring and hopefully brighter and warmer weather. We are stocking a selection of spring bulbs to start to bring some colour to gardens.

Events

Details of our line-up for this year's music gigs are on our website; to purchase tickets please ring 01395 568521 option 3. All our gigs will be held outside; tickets are £15 (covers music only); pre-booking is essential; food served 6-7pm and music starts at 8pm.

Milling

19th - please come and see the Mill come alive as our team of millers produce our flour. They are always happy to answer any questions and entry is free; milling is 11am-12.30pm and 2-3pm.



OTTERTON RELIEF IN NEED CHARITY (ORINC)

Please remember ORINC is here to help and support in times of difficulty. Examples of help given include contributions towards rent, fuel, child care, school uniform, food bills, replacement of essential domestic items and financial support during difficult times.

To talk to us about how we could help or support, please contact us at orin.charity@gmail.com

THE LOOKOUT FROM LADRAM

This year is a big one in the history of Ladram. We will be celebrating our 80th year as a family run holiday park. As we approach opening, movements of caravans will increase. **For those interested in receiving a WhatsApp notification of the caravan movements, please email wilttottle@ladrambay.co.uk** A group is going to be set up specifically for local residents.

An interesting note from Joy Hanson, Co-founder of St Bridget's Friends, on Otterton's historic connection with Syon Abbey, South Devon

I spent a couple of days in your lovely historic village recently to research the links with the Monastery of Syon Abbey. Between 1925-2011, Syon's last resting place was in my village of Rattery near South Brent. I had the privilege of being Monastic gardener with Sister Mary Bridget OSsS for four years, 1986-1990, and became fascinated by the history of this unique Monastery which was the only community to return after the Dissolution in mid C15.

In the village of Otterton lived a wealthy family by the name of Edwards. Maybe they lived in the prestigious medieval Manor House of Bicton Court before the ornate red brick house was built C18. Syon Abbey was one of three Monasteries founded by Henry V in 1415 and was on the River Thames in the beautiful setting of Isleworth, opposite where Kew Gardens is now. At that time it was a great privilege for a family to have daughters who were Nuns in this convent, as they were educated ladies. Dowries had to be provided and often a lady's maid would accompany them as well to become a Lay Sister assisting in menial work.

So in C15 Margaret (died 1516), Anne (died after 1539) and Elisabeth (died after 1539) Edwards went on a journey of about a week by sailing ship with Devon's wool and tin to London. The sea came up higher in the Otter valley at that time. They become postulants in the Abbey, then Novices, taking seven years to complete to their Final Professions, receiving the Bridgettine Crown. The Community were enclosed, with up to 63 Sisters and 13 Brothers. Their cousin Elisabeth Gybbes (died 1518) followed shortly after becoming the Fifth Great Abbess of Syon. Her family were in tin and had family houses in Venton Manor, Rattery, a chapel at Dartington Hall and a house near the Guildhall. She probably came often with her lady's maid and her mother to stay with her cousins from Exeter along the carriage ride past A La Ronde.

They may have walked sometimes to Mass in the Priory in Otterton which was connected with Mont St Michel, to listen to the wonderful chanting by the monks. There is a chapel in the grounds of Bicton estate.

A huge acreage was given to "The Monastery of St Saviour, St Mary and St Bridget of Syon Abbey in Middlesex", Otterton, Nonston, Harpford and East Budleigh, together with the waters and fishing rights of the River Otter for £1,727.14s 2d. This gave an annual rent of £9.12s. Syon's Martyr, St Richard Reynolds (died 1535) came from Pinhoe. The Church of Otterton was passed to Syon Abbey in C15, then bought by Richard Duke at the Dissolution of the Monasteries.

The village of Otterton is a living history with thatched farm cottages, the Mill and such lovely villagers who are playing out your part as the Custodians of history.

POLICE – Exmouth Neighbourhood Team: Mark.Edwards2@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Emergency 999; General Enquiries number 101; exmouth@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk; <http://www.ukcrimestats.com/>

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| <u>TAXI SERVICE:</u> Available for local and long-distance journeys, including airport runs. For more information, please contact Barry on 07925 933100. |
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HISTORY OF OTTERTON

As readers will remember, this slot was filled for many years with a wide variety of fascinating local "snippets" provided by Gerald Millington BEM. Some of them emerged thanks to his role as Archivist to Clinton Devon Estates, some from his researches into the history of the village and its characters, and we all greatly enjoyed his wealth of knowledge about this area. We also, in the church, had the huge benefit and pleasure of his skill as our church organist for many years. Gerald passed away on 21st December 2022, aged 94, and a large gathering of family and friends said a final goodbye to him in Otterton Church on 19th January 2023. Rest in peace, Gerald.

PLEASE NOTE that entries for Otterton Parish News should be sent to **Jill Beacham** - email: jill@beacham.co.uk - 01395 446433 **Deadline for March edition is Saturday 18th February latest please.**