



OTTERTON PARISH NEWS

AUGUST 2020

A member of the Raleigh Mission Community



VICAR:

ASSOCIATE PRIEST:

CHURCHWARDENS:

RMC PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:

Revd Martin Jacques (443473 & 07795 025016)

vicar@rmcommunity.co.uk

Revd Karen Young (488121)

thereverendkarenyoung@gmail.com

Ms Anne Radcliffe (568059)

Mr John Archibald

Mrs Fran Mills (443397) raleighmc@gmail.com

office open Mon 1-3pm; Tues, Wed, Thurs 10am-

12; Fri 10am-2pm

This newsletter is available on-line at: <http://www.otterton.info/Church/currentParishNews.pdf>
and at <https://www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk/otterton-parish-magazine.html>

Delivery of paper copies of the Parish News will start again with the September edition.

SERVICES FOR AUGUST			
SUNDAY 2nd AUGUST			
9.30 am	Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh
11.00 am	Morning Prayer		Otterton
SUNDAY 9th AUGUST			
9.30 am	Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh
11.00 am	Holy Communion	CW	Otterton
SUNDAY 16th AUGUST			
9.30 am	Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh
11.00 am	Holy Communion	CW	Otterton
SUNDAY 23rd AUGUST			
9.30 am	Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh
11.00 am	Holy Communion	CW	Otterton
SUNDAY 30th AUGUST			
9.30 am	Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh
11.00 am	Holy Communion	CW	Otterton

VJ DAY – 75th Anniversary

On 15th August 1945 the Allies celebrated VJ Day (Victory over Japan Day). This marked the end of WWII. At 10am on Saturday 15th August 2020 a Royal British Legion wreath will be laid on our War Memorial commemorating all those who fought against the Japanese. There is one Otterton man who lost his life in the conflict with the Japanese, **Corporal Sidney Smith**, who died in Burma on 18th April 1944 aged 24. It is fitting on this anniversary that we should remember Sidney along with the thousands of others who gave their lives in the conflict with the Japanese.

Sidney enlisted in the Devonshire Regiment, where he served in an Anti-Tank company. In 1941 the 45th Reconnaissance (Recce) Corps was formed from Anti-Tank companies of various infantry battalions. At the time of his death Sidney was with 45 Regt, Recce Corps, serving with the Chindits in Burma (now Myanmar). The Chindits were special operations units, incredibly brave men who penetrated through dense jungle behind enemy lines. Sidney is commemorated on the Rangoon Memorial, Myanmar, along with 27,000 others with no known grave, and also 6,374 Commonwealth burials, 867 unidentified.

The youngest of 7 children, Sidney was the son of Albert, a market gardener, and Bessie Smith, living in a cottage called The Gardens (now divided into 2 as April Cottage and Garden Cottage). He had 3 brothers, but it is not known how many of them served in the War. Frank, who was the next youngest, was later gardener for the Bennetts at Up Hayes, and recounted how he would walk to Exeter to court his wife! How times have changed.

Jane Bennett

View from The Vicarage

Dear friends,

Writing something in advance is treacherous these days because by the time you get to read this, everything could have changed but here goes regardless.

The UK-wide lockdown restrictions are loosening by the day, only needing to be applied in specific areas. So far (!) the South-West has been barely touched in comparison with more densely populated areas, something to be truly thankful for. The three Church of England churches in Budleigh Salterton, East Budleigh and Otterton are open for public worship on Sundays again and it becomes immediately apparent who and what you have missed. Normal, everyday things like having a drink in the pub, a meal at a favourite restaurant, and for me, seeing all the happy faces in church again for the first time in ages.

The rhythm of our lives has been interrupted and we are busily getting back with the beat. Going to church is a habit like any other habit. Having a healthy set of habits is no different for our spiritual wellbeing than it is for our physical wellbeing and mental state.

“Healthy body healthy mind” is an old adage to which I would add “healthy spirit” to include the whole person. For a flourishing life one needs to look at oneself holistically.

Developing a healthy set of religious habits which may include private prayer and communal worship does for your spirit and mental health what gym membership does for your physique.

It builds you up and you develop spiritual strength and resilience. And you certainly need that in life. Jesus never promised anyone an easy life. Having lived one himself he could say with perfect confidence “In this life you will have trouble, but take heart for I have overcome the world” (John 16:33)

Love and prayers,

Martin

* * * * *

COUNTY COUNCIL

Contact: Claire Wright, Corn Cottage, 15 Cornhill, Ottery St Mary EX11 1DW, 01404 815771, claire@claire-wright.org

DISTRICT COUNCIL

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

OTTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

A HUGE thank you to all the residents who joined together to form a working party to clear the stream recently. It was a happy occasion and the help of Sam Walker and his tractor made the removal of the debris much easier. The hard work on this occasion can be clearly seen and that will benefit the whole village during the wet winter months. Special thanks also to Ian Simpson for his prolific strimming activities which have tidied up a lot of areas.

The holiday season is now upon us with many visitors to the area. The Parish Council understands the anxieties that the increase in population bring but would urge tolerance and kindness whilst remembering the need for continued social distancing.

Finally, please can I remind all dog owners to pick up after their dogs and use the bins provided, not leaving bags on the pathways and pavements.

The Parish Council will next meet on Monday 7th September by zoom. If you would like to be sent an invitation to the meeting please inform the Clerk; alternatively, please send questions to the Clerk by 1st September.

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



OTTERTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

With the Summer Term now having come to an end, it's safe to say we had a very strange school year! We would like to thank the children and their parents for their resilience and positive attitude when faced with the uncertainty that came our way and for embracing the changes so brilliantly!

We have said a fond farewell to the Year 6 children and look forward to welcoming our new Reception cohort and a couple of new families in September. We are hopeful that as the new school year begins, a slightly adapted normal way of life can resume and the children will get to take part in everything that they work so hard for that was missed this year, including school trips, sporting fixtures and real end of year celebrations.

OTTERTON COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

The shop is now admitting customers and restored to its full weekday opening hours of 8.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Customers are now required by law to wear face coverings when entering the shop, but if you arrive without, we can either sell you a mask or serve you at the door. Alternatively, phone through your order for collection [01395 708324].

The shop calendar competition is decided. The proofs are with the printers and we should shortly have copies available for sale.

The Annual General Meeting of Otterton Community Shop Limited cannot be held in the Village Hall as usual so copies of the annual accounts and other reports have been sent to shareholders who have until 5th August to raise questions and must vote by email or deliver their voting paper to the shop by 10th August. The Committee will convene on 12th August to record the matters raised and votes taken. Minutes of that meeting will be prepared and circulated to shareholders.

OTTERTON GARDEN CLUB

Greetings from your Garden Club. We hope that you have had a productive gardening year so far and that you have been able to spend some quality time in your gardens. The dry and windy conditions have not made it easy for gardeners and farmers alike but the vagaries of our weather are something we are well used to!

With great reluctance we have decided to cancel the Autumn Show in September as the current regulations on social distancing etc make it difficult to manage in the Village Hall.

We are still hopeful, however, that we may be able to hold the talks already arranged for October and November, subject of course, to Government guidelines. We will keep you informed so please watch this space! In the meantime, keep safe and well.

THE KING'S ARMS

Following our reopening we have been welcoming you all back in droves. We continue to bring you the best local food and drink and look forward to welcoming you soon. Please remember to book a table whenever possible as we expect August to be very busy.

To keep our team and our customers safe, we've made some important changes to the drinking and dining experience. Visit our website for full details - <https://www.kingsarmsotterton.co.uk/>

Online ordering: Customers who choose to sit at one of our outside tables can now order and pay for their drinks via our new online ordering system.

New Menu: We are offering a new menu, which features fresh ingredients from our farm and fishing boats - be sure to try our delicious crab sandwiches, made with crab caught in Ladram Bay! Book a table via our website.

Takeaway: We now offer ice cream, coffee and teas to take away.

We can't wait to welcome our much-missed customers back again, and look forward to catching up with you all - from a distance!

OTTERTON MILL

News

We are pleased to have received accreditation from the AA for the systems and procedures we have in place at the Mill. The accreditation indicates to customers that an establishment has in place the necessary risk assessment, safety measures and staff training to reopen safely, in line with the UK's respective government guidelines as well as UK Hospitality and respective trade association guidelines, as they are published. The team are ready; we have lots of systems in place to ensure your visit is both enjoyable and as safe as possible. We will be asking all diners for contact details as per the NHS track & trace system. Please look out for the new signage and if in doubt please ask.

Tullulah our vintage horsebox opens daily from 9am to 5.30pm and we are delighted to announce our informal evening service offering both hot and cold drinks, snacks, ice creams and basket meals by the river. Tullulah will stay open until 8pm on Fridays and Saturdays offering our extended evening basket meals and refreshments.

Milling

We are open to the public with our Millers in action on 2nd, 16th & 30th.

Opening Hours Daily

Our Farm Shop is open from 9.30am to 5pm.

Vintage horsebox takeaway 9am to 5.30pm; Summer suppers & drinks, Friday, Saturday until 8pm.

Gallery and Crafts Centre open 10am to 5pm.

Café / Restaurant open 9.30am to 5pm

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

In the last few days, our Neighbourhood Plan has been placed before East Devon District Council's Cabinet (its prime decision-making committee) for approval to proceed to referendum. It was approved, so the plan is now deemed to 'carry significant weight' in the determination of new planning applications, until such time as a referendum can be held - likely to be May 2021.

You can see the 'Referendum version' of the Neighbourhood Plan and its Appendices, and the Examiner's report, on the East Devon District Council website at: eastdevon.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/neighbourhood-and-community-plans/neighbourhood-plans/neighbourhood-plans-being-produced-in-east-devon/otterton You can also see the Plan, Appendices and other related documentation on the Otterton village website:

<http://www.otterton.info/ONP/ottertonONP.htm>

We will post further updates on the Otterton village website and via this newsletter, as and when anything changes regarding the referendum.

THE LOOKOUT FROM LADRAM – from Carla Newman, Marketing & Events Manager

After an unprecedented start to the season, we are so glad to be open and finally providing 5 star holidays.

Our Covid-19 updates for 'our new normal' can be viewed online @ <https://www.ladrambay.co.uk/covid-19-guidance/>

In line with Government advice, for the foreseeable future we are not accepting day visitors; this is for the safety of our staff, our holiday guests, and the local community, and therefore our car park is closed for visitors. For those regular users of the Ladram Stores, please be aware that our 'Short Stay' car parking scheme is still in operation. If you are yet to apply for your pass and require one, please contact Mike on 01395 567692. (Proof of address may be required; 15 mins maximum duration; access to shop only).

Wishing you all a wonderfully sunny and healthy summer.

CLINTON DEVON ESTATES – from Kate Ponting, Countryside Learning Officer

Young and old pitch in to improve local biodiversity

Whatever we see on the news about mass littering of beaches and countryside areas, thankfully there are still many more people keener to improve their local spaces than to spoil them. Volunteer numbers have seen a big boost recently, with students, families and furloughed staff joining the active retired to undertake worthwhile local conservation and biodiversity initiatives with the *Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust*.

When Colyton Grammar student, Matthew Williams' volunteering opportunity was impacted by coronavirus, he found an alternative that could be completed as part of his daily exercise. Matthew, who is working towards his Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award, chose to pull Himalayan balsam on the river below Otterton, where this invasive plant is doing its best to take over the riverbank. Along with his family he spends 2 hours each week pulling up the balsam plants helping to make space for native wildflowers to grow.

Small groups have been able to undertake balsam work on the main river and have seen good progress on a number of key sites on the Otter tributaries too. If you can spare an hour or two this summer and would like to volunteer independently or in small organised groups, contact kate.ponting@clintondevon.com for more information.

This month's full length Countryside Learning article introduces a new project to explore what the heaths means to local people; to read about it visit www.otterton.info

SALEM CHAPEL AND SCHOOLROOM, EAST BUDLEIGH

Sadly we have to inform you that the Chapel and Schoolroom are closed for the duration of the Covid-19 emergency.

POLICE: Justin.WILLIS2@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

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

TAXI SERVICE

Available for local and long-distance journeys, including airport runs. For more information, please contact Barry on 07925 933100.

PLEASE NOTE that entries for Otterton Parish News should be sent to **Jill Beacham** - email: jill@beacham.co.uk 01395 446433 **Deadline for September edition is Thursday 20th August please**