

OTTERTON PARISH NEWS
DECEMBER 2019
A member of the Raleigh Mission Community

VICAR:

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SERVICES FOR DECEMBER			
<u>SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER</u>			
9.30 am	Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh
11.00 am	Holy Communion	CW	Otterton
<u>SUNDAY 8th DECEMBER</u>			
9.30 am	Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh
11.00 am	Holy Communion	CW	Otterton
<u>SUNDAY 15th DECEMBER</u>			
9.30 am	Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh
11.00 am	Holy Communion	CW	Otterton
4.00 pm	Carol Service		Otterton
<u>SUNDAY 22nd DECEMBER</u>			
9.30 am	Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh
11.00 am	Holy Communion	CW	Otterton
<u>TUESDAY 24th DECEMBER – Christmas Eve</u>			
3.00 pm	Christingle		Otterton
6.00 pm	Carol Service		East Budleigh
<u>WEDNESDAY 25th DECEMBER – Christmas Day</u>			
11.00 am	Christmas Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh
11.00 am	Christmas Holy Communion	CW	Otterton
<u>SUNDAY 5th JANUARY</u>			
9.30 am	Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh

11.00 am Service of the word Otterton
Morning Prayer will be said Tuesday, 9.30am at East Budleigh, and Thursday, 9.30am at Otterton.

Carols in the Courtyard (at t'Mill)
Sunday 22nd December

Carol singing at Otterton Mill has become an unmissable festive tradition for the village, enjoyed by everyone who comes along. This year we will be giving voice on Sunday 22nd December at 5.30pm. Last year there was standing room only, so come early and warm up with some mulled wine. Mince pies will be distributed to the multitude. We look forward to seeing and hearing you. For more information, please contact *Brian Major* 01395 568706.

View from The Vicarage

Dear Friends

"Christmas is a-coming and the goose is getting fat, please put a penny in the old man's hat" seems to draw both excess and charity together in a rhyme that is traditional and comforting at the same time. Traditions are a comfort at any time of year because of their familiarity, especially at Christmas, where every family seems to have its own jealously guarded family traditions. Louise insists on a real tree every year, whereas my tatty old artificial one holds special memories for my daughter and me. Result: we have two trees obviously. I love the rigmarole, the turkey and tinsel, Midnight Mass, presents on Christmas Day, Noddy Holder bellowing "It's Christmas" for the umpteenth time on the radio, TV, and in high street shops. That too has become a modern "tradition" which adds to the general feeling. There is no need for a war between the religious and commercial sides of Christmas – try and see it as creative tension. Every church I've been at has had a Christmas tree put up inside the church – a marriage of Christian and pagan symbolism that does no-one any harm.

I know a high churchman in East London whose church welcomes scores of Hindus every Christmas to pay respects to the statue of the Virgin Mary. This softening of the divisions between different faith groups also seems right in the "season of goodwill". Christmas is a time for the hotchpotch of traditions and influences to be enjoyed as a whole, not a time to retreat into religious puritanism. After all, the killjoy puritans banned celebrating Christmas in this country in 1644 believing it threatened core Christian beliefs (that went well!). Christmas in all its muddle, excess, strange customs, noise *and* religious import can be enjoyed as a whole. So eat, drink and be merry and remember that the reason for all this from the Christian perspective is to celebrate the incarnation of God's Son on earth. Happy Christmas!

Martin

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COUNTY COUNCIL

Contact: Claire Wright, Corn Cottage, 15 Cornhill, Ottery St Mary EX11 1DW, tel: 01404 815771, claire.wright@devon.gov.uk

DISTRICT COUNCIL

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

OTTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

The members of Otterton Parish Council would like to wish everyone in Otterton a very happy Christmas and a healthy 2020. During next year the Council will be seeking to elect new members and to continue to work with the residents and businesses in

Otterton to enhance the environment and make the village a happy and attractive place for everyone to live. If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor please email the Clerk for more information - we would love to hear from you.

Please note that during the current rainy season it is important that all residents who have a property bordered by the stream keep it free from weeds and debris to ensure water is able to flow freely. For the benefit of all, please also ensure that dog owners pick up after their dogs and that folk park considerately, keeping in mind at all times the safety of pedestrians.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 3rd February as there will not be a meeting in January.

**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

THE RALEIGH FEDERATION – Otterton C of E Primary School

It has been a busy start to this half term. We have welcomed Mr Scott as the new class teacher in Kingfishers Class and school SENCo. There has been lots happening and in the run up to Christmas it's going to get even busier; we have lots of exciting things planned, including our Christmas performance, a trip to the pantomime, our Christmas lunch and a visit to The Old Vicarage to sing some Christmas carols to the residents.

We took part in a football match against Exeter School; the older team won 6-1 and the younger children drew 2-2. Against such a big school this was an amazing result and we are very proud of them all! We have also taken part in a netball competition, in which all the children tried their best and were a credit to the school.

We did some fundraising for Children in Need which was a great success; there was a non-uniform day, a cake sale and lots of Pudsey themed activities. We have also had a non-uniform day, fundraising for Just One Tree, which is a non-profit initiative working to remove CO2 from the atmosphere through global reforestation. By planting our trees in poverty-stricken areas, they maximise the effect on global warming whilst simultaneously lifting struggling families out of poverty through training, education and the provision of sustainable incomes.

One of our Teaching Assistants has now completed her Forest School training and is running regular Forest School sessions for children across the school; the children are really enjoying this opportunity and are gaining a lot of valuable skills from it.

Toddler Group is regularly busy and we get great feedback from it. It is lovely seeing the little ones every week and watching their confidence grow and friendships form. If you haven't been before, then we would love to welcome you; it's on a Wednesday 9.30-11.00, £1.50 per family.

OTTERTON REINDEER RUN – 7th December

DUST OFF YOUR ANTLERS – it's nearly time for the village's festive Reindeer Run which will take place on Saturday 7th December. The annual community event consists of a 3km fun run and a 10km multi terrain run through our stunning Otter valley; both runs start at 10am at St Michael 's Church. The event, which usually attracts around 350 runners, many in fancy dress, raises money for Otterton Primary School and is supported by several local businesses. Last year the popular run adopted a new course for its 10k route that took in a stretch of the coastline - to the delight of hundreds of runners who enjoyed fantastic views over Ladram Bay. The new route was well received and the run raised around £3,000 for school funds; it is hoped this year's run will be just as successful. **(continued on next page)**

For more information find the event on Facebook (Otterton Reindeer Run) or visit www.active.com and search for Reindeer Run to book your place (£13 for the 10k route and £5 for the 3km) and save queuing on the day. Registration for the event is

available on the day in the church and opens at 8.30am, closing at 9.30am. Those who take part in the 10k event are treated to mulled wine afterwards and will receive a commemorative mug, while those who tackle the 3k will earn themselves some reindeer antlers. Reindeer Run T shirts are on sale in the Community Shop; all proceeds from the sale of these will go to the upkeep of the church and the first runner home on each route wearing one will win a hamper!

OTTERTON COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE

On 1st December the Otterton Community Shop will be five years old! To celebrate, we will be offering mince pies and coffee to our customers on Thursday 5th December and launching our Christmas Raffle, so do drop by.

The shop opened for trading on 1st December 2014 after more than two years of hard work by a dedicated team of volunteers, many of whom have continued working to ensure its success and establish the shop as such an important asset to the village. As ever, enormous thanks are due to all volunteers both past and present.

We are now looking to the future and have renewed our lease for a further five years. We continue to refresh the range of goods on offer, supporting local producers whenever we can and providing even more reasons for everyone to visit the shop.

The one day in the year we are closed is Christmas Day but we will be open over the festive season at the following times:

Tuesday 24th December – Christmas Eve: 08.30 - 13.00; Wednesday 25th December – Christmas Day: Closed

Thursday 26th December - Boxing Day: 08.30 - 12.00; Friday 27th December to Wednesday 1st January [inclusive]: 08.30 - 12.00

Thursday 2nd January: Normal opening times resume: 08.00 – 18.00

OTTERTON GARDEN CLUB

More news in January.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The final draft of our Neighbourhood Plan (V0.21) has been uploaded onto the Otterton Parish website for you to view, under the Neighbourhood Plan tab. Our Chairman presented this version to Otterton Parish Council, at the most recent Parish Council meeting on 4th November. On 15th November the Parish Council formally accepted the plan and gave their approval for it to proceed to the next stage of the process.

Prior to the formal submission of the final Plan V1.0 to East Devon District Council (EDDC), the Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group will finalise the accompanying paperwork. It is anticipated that our Neighbourhood Plan will be submitted to EDDC before the end of the month. After submission, the responsibility for moving the plan forward lies with EDDC. They will publicise the plan for a further 6-week consultation period and arrange for an independent examiner, who will ensure that our plan meets the basic conditions and other legal requirements. Once satisfied that it does, a referendum to adopt the plan will be arranged.

OTTERTON FILM CLUB

On Friday 13th December, Otterton Film Club will be screening "Green Book", a 2018 American biographical comedy-drama set in 1962, directed by Peter Farrelly. As usual this will be in the Village Hall starting at 7.30pm. Entrance fee is £2 for members, £6 for non-members and £3 for under 16s.

HAIR @ No 57

Alison and Lisa would like to thank everyone who supported their '**Wearing Pink for Breast Cancer**' day so very generously, raising the amazing sum of £530.

THANK YOU FROM DEREK SEARLE

Derek would like to thank the people of Otterton for their prayers and good wishes whilst he was very ill in hospital. He hopes to be home very soon. Thank you, and a Merry Christmas to all.

OTTERTON MILL

Milling will take place on 12th December, this being our last date for 2019.

Opening hours have now switched to our winter schedule, with a slight tweak. The Mill will now open daily from 9.30am closing on weekdays at 4pm, weekends at 5pm.

Events: From 23rd November, a 'Month of Mince Pies' begins with our famous Christmas fare available in the restaurant and shop.

Tickets are now available for our **2020 music programme**, with tickets held at this year's price of £15. The Mill will feature a host of World Class acts and this year an early bird offer is available until close on Christmas Eve. Book two indoor gig tickets and you are eligible to purchase an outdoor gig at half price. See website or call in to find out more or call 568521 to book.

Booking is now open for our **Rustic Evening** dining events on Friday 13th & 20th December; a fabulous three course menu awaits featuring great local produce - a great way to get together this Christmas.

Our Farm Shop will be offering daily tasters throughout the month along with a mouthwatering range of Mill and local produce. We also have a Hamper service available - please see Hannah and the team who will be happy to help. Please ensure you have ordered your Christmas Bakery items in good time as we will be very busy in the run up to the 25th.

Our Gallery has some wonderful new arts and crafts for that unique Christmas gift. Carol, Ann and Maria will be delighted to point out our full range.

We will be hosting the ever popular **Carols in the Courtyard** on Sunday 22nd December at 5.30pm. All welcome, free mince pies (while stocks last) and mulled wine/hot drinks available to purchase.

The Mill will close for Christmas Day and Boxing Day but open every other day including the New Year.

To one and all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year from all the team at the Mill.

THE KING'S ARMS

Lots going on in December at The King's Arms:

*Art History Talks with Lin Holdridge - Tues 3rd & 10th at 10.30am; *Talking Pictures with Maggie Giraud Mon 2nd at 10.30am

*Budleigh Male Voice Choir Carol Concert Thurs 19th at 7.30pm

*Quiz Night will be a week later this month, on 11th at 8pm. A big thank you to everyone who took part in November's record breaking quiz!

*New Year's Eve will be a ticket affair with tickets available from mid-December. Party the New Year in with our Disco. Buffet available. Please check posters in the pub for our opening times during the festive period. Rachael and the team wish everyone in the Parish a very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Prosperous New Year. We look forward to seeing you all.

THE FORMER LITTLE OTTERS JUMBLE SALE

A Big Thank You to everyone who supported our recent Jumble Sale in aid of Pete's Dragons in Exmouth. We were delighted to be able to send a cheque for £420 to this wonderful charity whilst also supporting the schools of the Raleigh Federation through Bags2schools, CR2EE by sending warm clothes, Turntable in Exeter, a charity for the homeless who seek crockery, pot & pans and furniture, a local women's refuge and the

local charity shops by distributing the left-over bric-a-brac and toys. Our next sale will be on 29th February in East Budleigh Village Hall at 10am - it would be good to see you there. Details of how to donate will be in the newsletter in January. Thank you all so much for your support. With best wishes for a happy Christmas from Fran & the Team.

CLINTON DEVON ESTATES – from Kate Ponting, Countryside Learning Officer

Clinton Devon Estates were pleased to assist with the Parish Council's new signposts, which as well as waymarking paths across the village, also commemorate each of Otterton's heroes of the Great War. This month we will also support Otterton Reindeer Run, and hope it brings in funds for the village School as well as kickstarting the seasonal festivities.

A full-length article about post war woodland recovery and a very special connection to the Forestry Commission, which celebrates its 100-year anniversary this year, can be read on Otterton Website or in the *East Budleigh with Bickton Parish News*.

We wish all readers of *Otterton Parish News* a peaceful Christmas and very Happy New Year from everyone at Clinton Devon Estates. kate.ponting@clintondevon.com

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

With Christmas and the beginnings of a fresh new year upon the horizon, we're looking back on season 2019; many new memories made and plenty of accolades achieved to be proud of. Highlights include retaining our Visit England 5-star status, David Bellamy Gold Conservation Accolade, Honeybee Pledge plus receiving new 5 in 5 Woodlands Conservation award. We've also received recognition for our outstanding amenity blocks via the 'Loo of The Year' and are delighted to announce we're a finalist within the Devon Tourism Awards 'Holiday Park of the Year 2019'.

We've been working hard to develop our Green efforts on park and have just introduced our first electric vehicle to the fleet for use by our team. Electric charging points will be fitted to the car park for guest use from 2020. Introduction of solar panels across a number of our key facility buildings - these are due to be fitted Winter 2019. These will, in turn, prevent a massive 171 tonnes of Carbon Dioxide entering the atmosphere every year.

Fancy a swim? Our complex will be open until 1st March 2020. (Closed between 23/12/19 - 26/12/19 and 30/12/19 - 1/1/20 inclusive.) Open 5 days a week (Wednesday-Sunday) between 10am - 6pm with free winter parking. Winter membership available @ just £65 adult, £25 child & £130 for a family pass plus day admissions available too.

As usual, we will endeavour to keep you informed about the deliveries/collections of Holiday Homes throughout the winter. Information will be updated on both the village website & the Friends of Otterton Facebook page.

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2020.

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.

SALEM CHAPEL AND SCHOOLROOM, EAST BUDLEIGH

***Thank you** to all our visitors and friends who have supported us over the past year. Should you wish to view the Chapel, Chapel Records, associated literature and displays, please contact **446189**, email salembookingseb@mail.com or go to www.hct.org.uk

* In the meantime, we send you our **Warmest Wishes** for Christmas.

HISTORY OF OTTERTON.....Did you know?

Rosemary Cottage, an early 17th century house in Fore Street, is first named in 1734. Mrs Sarah Pinn was the tenant and with her daughter from 1753 for ten years turned it into a beer house. In 1775 the owner, John Duke of Otterton, left the cottage to his widow Susanna and it has been a freehold ever since. In 1838 a Plymouth Brethren Meeting House was built behind the cottage, complete with corrugated iron roof. In 1887 William Pratt opened a lace dealing shop. (to be continued) *Gerald Millington*

Thanks as always to all who contribute to the Parish News and those who kindly give up their time to deliver it around the village, and to Otterton School for providing printing facilities.

PLEASE NOTE that entries for Otterton Parish News should be sent to **Jill Beacham** - email: jill@beacham.co.uk

PHONE NUMBER HAS CHANGED - 01395 446433

Deadline for January edition is Monday 16th December LATEST please