



OTTERTON PARISH NEWS

FEBRUARY 2024

A member of the Raleigh Mission Community



VICAR:

Revd Martin Jacques (443473 & 07795 025016)

revmartinjacques@gmail.com

CHURCHWARDENS:

Ms Anne Radcliffe (568059)

Mr John Archibald

RMC PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:

Mrs Fran Mills (07880 331465)

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office open Mon 1-3pm; Tues, Wed, Thurs 10am-12;

Fri 10am-2pm

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

SUNDAY 4th FEBRUARY

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

SUNDAY 11th FEBRUARY

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

SUNDAY 18th FEBRUARY

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

SUNDAY 25th FEBRUARY

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

SUNDAY 3rd MARCH

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

BENEFICE CHOIR

The Benefice Choir is a friendly group of singers which regularly comes together at Easter and Christmas, and occasionally for other occasions. At present there are about 16 members, but we would like to encourage more singers to join us - especially men! Anyone is welcome to come and give it a go and there is no audition.

We meet on Tuesday evenings at 6pm in St Michael's Church, Otterton, starting on 27th February. If you would like to know more, please email me at nicholas.marshall21@btinternet.com or phone 01395 568802.

WINTER WARMER SUPPER

This year's Winter Warmer Supper will be held on **Tuesday 13th February** at 7pm in the Village Hall. **Please bring your own drinks and glasses.** Tickets £10 available from Anne Radcliffe (568059). Donations of Raffle prizes will be much appreciated. Supporting Otterton Church.

A winter evening of good cheer - ALL WELCOME

View from The Vicarage

Dear friends,

The most significant events happening this February (apart from my birthday of course!) are both happening on the same day. 14th February is both Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday, the start of the season of Lent. Actually the 14th was also my Nan's birthday, but hey, less about birthdays and more about the other reasons this day is significant.

I expect a lot of people are a bit sniffy about Valentine's Day as just another bit of commercial overreach, but he was a real character, a priest, who was executed by Emperor Claudius in about 269AD. His connection to lovers is a little sketchier however, possibly because this was the day in Medieval folklore when birds mated, or perhaps linked to the pagan Lupercalia festival in Rome! Whatever the real reason, Christians can celebrate an all-loving God who blesses those who love one another.

As I say, this is also the start of Lent, a season of reflection and contemplation that precedes the festival of Easter. Traditionally this was connected with fasting and austerity (though nowadays just as many people take something up as give something up).

There is method in our madness, however. If it is a fact that you enjoy the highs even more when you have been low, then it makes sense to have a great feast time preceded by a more sombre austere period.

Of course, in Latin catholic countries especially, the beginning of Lent is preceded by one great last Hurrah on Shrove Tuesday, known as Mardi Gras in New Orleans or simply Carnival in Brazil.

In more sober colder Northern climes such as ours of course, we simply have pancakes!

But however we choose to celebrate we are all celebrating the same thing – the last day before the start of Lent which itself is a preparation for Easter.

Love and peace, *Martin*

Gill Barlow, Abigail, Vanessa and Alexandra would like to thank all the friends and neighbours who have been so kind after Robin passed away on 13th January.

At 90, Robin felt he had had a good life and had lived in this lovely village, surrounded by kind and caring people, close to the sea at Budleigh which he loved. How lucky we have been to live in Otterton.

The funeral is at East Devon Crematorium near Whimple on 27th January at 11.30am.

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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: **Charlotte Fitzgerald** – charlotte.fitzgerald@eastdevon.gov.uk; **Melanie Martin** – melanie.martin@eastdevon.gov.uk;
Henry Riddell – henry.riddell@eastdevon.gov.uk

OPEN GARDENS

Unfortunately, it has been necessary to postpone Open Gardens this coming summer due to a lack of participating gardens. Hopefully, it will be possible to bring the event back in 2025.

OTTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Otterton Parish Council will meet for the first time in 2024 on **Monday 5th February** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. One of the first actions for the Parish Council this year is to update the Emergency Plan for the Village. The hope is that anyone with enthusiasm and a clear head in an emergency will offer skills that could be shared/used by the community. If you believe you could be of help, please send a quick email to the Clerk (clerk@otterton.info) to let her know what you could 'bring to the party', together with a contact number. When the plan is nearing completion, a meeting will be called to present it to the village.

Also excitingly, Tony Shaw, one of our residents, would like to start a **photographic club** in the village. The aim would be to meet regularly and share information, tips, and expertise. A short meeting will follow the Council meeting on Monday 5th February (probably starting at approx 9pm) to plan the way forward. Thanks to Tony for this proposition. Just a quick reminder that everyone is welcome at the Otterton Parish Council meetings but if you have a matter you would like to raise, it is helpful if you let the Clerk know in advance. Wishing you all a happy new year and do stay warm!

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

OTTERTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

No report received for February.



OTTERTON COMMUNITY SHOP

We are entering a month of celebrations, and the shop is here to help you, whether it's Chinese New Year on 10th February (this is the year of the Dragon), Shrove Tuesday on the 13th or Valentines Day on the 14th. We don't stock dragons, but we do sell noodles, sauces and rice, pancake ingredients - milk, eggs, plain flour, Nutella, fruit, lemon and sugar - and for Valentine's Day, cards, chocolates and wine. And with the Six Nations rugby under way shortly, you will need a supply of beers and snacks but don't forget, we close at 6pm on a weekday, 3pm on Saturday and 12noon on Sunday.

Importantly, we are holding many of our 2023 prices including those on milk, eggs and fruit, with our 6 free range eggs at only £1.75. We are also maintaining a 10% discount on all pre-ordered fish and meat. As ever, we strive to provide everyone with as wide a range of items as will fit in the shop at the lowest prices possible.

OTTERTON LADIES' COFFEE MORNING – 11am Monday 5th February

At The King's Arms, Otterton. Please come along and make new friends or just catch up with old ones. All welcome. (contact Sharon 708302 for more information)

OTTERTON RELIEF IN NEED: Local Support for Local People

Otterton Relief in Need Charity (ORINC) exists to provide financial relief to residents of the Parish of Otterton in need, hardship or distress through situations such as loss of income or domestic crisis. Types of help given include payment of essential bills, rent, electricity, supply of logs and other living expenses.

If you or someone you know would benefit from our support, we encourage you to please apply. Application forms can be found:



- In the **foyer of the Village Hall**
- On our new **website**, www.orinc.org.uk
- Or you can **email**: orin.charity@gmail.com

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE DEALT WITH IN COMPLETE CONFIDENCE.

If you are interested in donating to support the work of ORINC, please email us at the address above.

MIXED LEVEL PILATES

Wednesdays at Otterton Village Hall: 8.45am-9.45am and 10am-11am

Pre-booking essential - please contact Grace: 07500 112646 / info@redbaypilates.co.uk / www.redbaypilates.co.uk

OTTERTON FILM CLUB

We will be screening the film "Cyrano" in the Village Hall on **Friday 9th February** at 7.30pm. Doors open at 7.00pm for tea/coffee and a chat. We look forward to seeing you there. Entry £5 for adults, £3 for under 16s. Contactless Payments Accepted.

Cyrano - Starring Peter Dinklage & Haley Bennet

Award-winning director Joe Wright envelops movie lovers in a symphony of emotions with music, romance, and beauty in Cyrano, re-imagining the timeless tale of a heartbreaking love triangle. Cyrano de Bergerac dazzles with both ferocious wordplay and brilliant swordplay, but is convinced that his appearance makes him unworthy of the love of his devoted friend, Roxanne, who has fallen in love at first sight with Christian.

OTTERTON GARDEN CLUB

The Spring Show will be held on **Saturday 16th March** from 2pm to 4.30pm in the Village Hall. Entry is free for anybody to exhibit or just come along to view the exhibits and enjoy the refreshments.

The closing date for entries is 14th March and entry forms are available from the Community Shop, Hair@No57, The King's Arms or from Iain Ure, the Show Secretary. You can also download the schedule and an entry form from our website:- www.ottertongardenclub.co.uk

The Home Produce schedule includes a Victoria sandwich, rock cakes, mini quiches, marmalade and a tea loaf (men only). The Photographic subjects are 'Lower Otter Wetlands' and 'Local Wildlife'.

THE FORMER LITTLE OTTERS are holding a fundraising jumble sale at East Budleigh Village Hall on **Saturday 24th February** in support of **Open Door** in Exmouth. Donations of jumble would be gratefully received at the Hall from 9.00am on 24th February but if you have difficulty in getting there and need a collection, please call Fran on 07880 331465. Entry £1 - refreshments available.

OTTERTON MILL

News: We have a lovely range of arts and crafts available, including a number of artists from our own village of Otterton. We have spring bulbs available and our Farm Shop will be stocking Mother's Day and Easter gifts.

Music: We will release our 2024 music line up this month; please check out our Facebook and website for details.

Milling: 4th & 25th - come and see our millers in action; always ready and willing to answer any questions; entry is free; 11am-12.30pm, 2-3pm.

THE KINGS'S ARMS – from Freddie and The King's Arms Team

We hope everyone is enjoying the start to 2024. We had some great feedback around NYE, and it was so lovely to see so many of you!

Quiz

Thank you for continuing to support the Quiz. Next quiz dates are as follows:

Wednesday 24th January; Wednesday 7th February; Wednesday 21st February

Valentine's Night

We are running a **Valentine's Night Taster Menu** here at The King's. Full details are on our social media or website. We are also going to be running a promotion over the weekend following Valentine's (16th & 17th evenings) with deals on meals with wine. Full details will be up in the pub and on the website in the coming days.

Music Bingo

Something a bit different coming soon, and another date for your diary. Starting **Friday 1st March**, we have a musician (Alex Dobson) who will be doing a Music Bingo evening:

25-30 seconds per song; all song titles on a bingo card.

He has assured me he sings the chorus which has the title, so you'll all know the songs!

Prizes for 1 line, 2 lines and a full house. Entry - £5 for 1 game or £7.50 for 2 games.

LEAP YEAR AFTERNOON TEA – Thursday 29th February



As part of their **40th Anniversary** celebrations, **Budleigh Salterton & District Hospiscare** are inviting people to make the most of their extra day this leap year, by joining them for an afternoon cream tea.

With the support of the ladies of East Budleigh & Bicton Women's Institute, who will be baking an array of scones and cakes, along with savoury alternatives, the event will be hosted in East Budleigh Village Hall on Thursday 29th February between 2.00pm – 4.30pm. There will also be a WI craft stall and a draw, with a chance to win a commemorative 40th Anniversary bottle of Budleigh Salterton & District Hospiscare Gin – which has been specially crafted by Copper Frog Distillery in Exmouth.

All proceeds will be donated to Budleigh Salterton & District Hospiscare who raise much needed funds to provide free end of life care for patients of Budleigh Salterton Medical Centre and Woodbury Surgery.

Tickets cost £5.00 and are available from the East Budleigh Community Shop.

CLINTON DEVON ESTATES - From Kate Ponting, Community Engagement and Countryside Learning

World Wetland Day falls on 2nd February, celebrating the beauty and biodiversity of wetlands along with the vital role these critical ecosystems play in supporting life across the planet, delivering future solutions to combat climate change as well as most of our fresh water for drinking.

Closer to home, in the Otter Valley, the problem is rarely too little fresh water but too much, but nevertheless February brings important news for our newest local wetland too. Look out for the notice from *Natural England*, who this month will announce that as part of the 'King's Series of National Nature Reserves', the Otter Estuary will be declared a National Nature Reserve (NNR), becoming an extension of the Pebblebed Heath NNR.

Read more by visiting the Countryside Learning section of Otterton Village website <https://www.otterton.info>
kate.ponting@clintondevon.com 01395 442881 www.clintondevon.com

THE LOOKOUT FROM LADRAM

We are looking forward to the season ahead, and as always are on the lookout for some superstar employees. So, if you are looking for work, part-time or full-time, we may have the role for you. Please email us on jobs@ladrambay.co.uk along with your ideal department and number of hours, and we can get back in touch with details of the opportunities we have available.

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/>

<p><u>TAXI SERVICE:</u> Available for local and long-distance journeys, including airport runs. For more information, please contact Barry on 07925 933100.</p>
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PLEASE NOTE that entries for Otterton Parish News should be sent to **Jill Beacham** - email: jill@beacham.co.uk - 01395 446433 **PLEASE NOTE - Deadline for March edition is Monday 19th February latest please.**