



# OTTERTON PARISH NEWS

## MAY 2020

A member of the Raleigh Mission Community



**VICAR:**

**ASSOCIATE PRIEST:**

**CHURCHWARDENS:**

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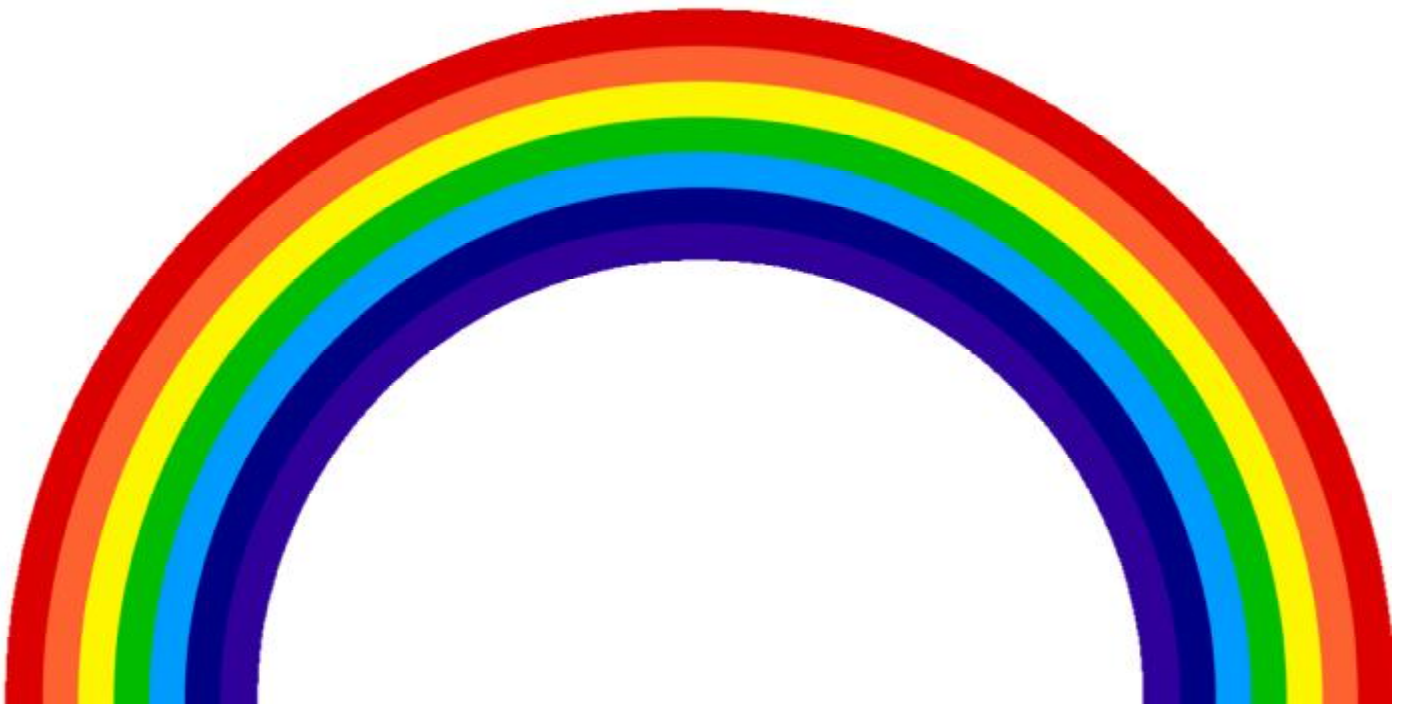
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office open Mon 1-3pm; Tues, Wed, Thurs 10am-12; Fri 10am-2pm

## TAKE CARE AND STAY SAFE



## View from The Vicarage

Dear friends,

We are so lucky to live in this beautiful part of East Devon during this lockdown. Imagine living in a tower block in London where they may have closed the parks. The good weather we have been enjoying would be seen as a curse rather than a blessing, so let's be grateful for small mercies.

When we do go out for our daily exercise, people are friendlier (generally) than they were before which is pleasant, perhaps because of the sense of a bad situation shared I suppose.

True, there have been surreal situations as well; for example funerals with no-one present except me being live streamed to relatives. The churches, being closed alongside thousands of other ventures nationwide, is very strange indeed though necessity is the mother of invention and people in all sorts of situations are finding new ways of operating.

I'm sure some of you have found, like me, that a daily routine, however flexible, helps a bit and having meals at set times so we don't all graze all day is very necessary, especially for me.

The enforced isolation has of course produced unexpected benefits as well. I notice nature more, the birds singing, the squirrels bounding around, and I have been forced to slow down a bit and think about what I really miss and what I really need. In normal times we tend to get what we want and not what we need. In these abnormal times we can take more time, think about what we normally do, and what we actually need.

This period of enforced isolation is not good. But even so, some good could come out of it if we let it.

Love and peace, *Martin*

**FLOWER AND ART FEST 2020 CANCELLED** regrettably, due to the current situation. Thank you very much to all those who offered help and support in any way. It was much appreciated. My best wishes to you all. *Jane Smith*

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### COUNTY COUNCIL

Contact: Claire Wright, Corn Cottage, 15 Cornhill, Ottery St Mary EX11 1DW, tel: 01404 815771, [claire@claire-wright.org](mailto:claire@claire-wright.org)

### DISTRICT COUNCIL

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

### OTTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Otterton Parish Council wish to thank the residents of Otterton for being 'good neighbours' and for the many offers of help during this period of lockdown.

As it has just been announced that this situation is likely to continue for at least the next few weeks, please do continue to look after anyone you know to be alone or in need and do message [cv19otterton@gmail.com](mailto:cv19otterton@gmail.com) if you need assistance. John Hiles, Chair of the Parish Council, monitors this daily and due to the generosity and thoughtfulness of other residents, assistance can usually be found very quickly.

Undoubtedly the 'rules' by which we are encouraged to live currently do have their frustrations but please can we as a community exercise tolerance towards others and desist from any vigilante efforts to promote good behaviour. We are all in this together! Take care and stay safe.

The Parish Council will be holding a 'virtual meeting' on Monday 4th May. If you have any issues you would like raised, please do email/post them to the Parish Clerk by Saturday 2nd May.

**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](mailto:clerk@otterton.eastdevon.gov.uk); website: [www.otterton.info](http://www.otterton.info)

### OTTERTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL



Otterton School is remaining open and the teachers have been providing a safe, calm and happy environment for Key Worker children who have been attending.

The teachers have been working to provide work for the children to do at home and they have been doing an excellent job. The children, with the support of their parents, have been producing some great pieces of work, including some excellent art and poetry pieces; have a look at our Facebook page, search for Otterton CofE Primary to see what they have been up to!

We hope everybody stays safe and well during this time and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school as soon as it is safe to do so.

### GROW YOUR OWN CHILLIES

Growing Chillies is very easy; they don't need a lot of care and attention but do like heat. You can grow them on your window sill, in a conservatory or outside when there is no chance of any frost. I have a number of spare plants of different varieties available for free so if you would like to have a go, contact Roland (Ro) Smith on 568871 or by E-mail [ro@otterton.info](mailto:ro@otterton.info) For more information go to [www.rosuz.co.uk](http://www.rosuz.co.uk)

### **OTTERTON GARDEN CLUB**

Our greetings to all of our members. We hope that you have been able to take advantage of the better weather to spend some quality time in your gardens. It is a lovely time of year with the Spring flowers and the bird song (much more audible without the traffic noise!). We have, not surprisingly, had to cancel our May speaker but we live in hope that, if restrictions ease, we will be able to hold our Autumn Show in September so start thinking about your exhibits and keep growing those vegetables!

THANK YOU 🌈🌈

We would like to say a big thank you to:-

The Otterton Community Shop for keeping the shop open under very difficult circumstances

The Old Vicarage for taking such good care of our loved ones and keeping the families updated by newsletter

Our lovely neighbours for keeping so cheerful and upbeat in the face of this adversity

And to Jill for keeping the Parish News going

### **OTTERTON COMMUNITY SHOP UPDATE**

The onset of the coronavirus required a significant number of our longstanding volunteers to self-isolate, but through the tremendous efforts of Nikki, our shop manager, and all those still able to volunteer, the shop is busier than ever, serving the village in what are extraordinary times.

Customers may call at the shop between 8.00am and 1.00pm on Monday to Saturday and collect pre-ordered newspapers on Sunday between 8.30am and 9.30am. We would however encourage customers to pre-order by telephone [708324] or email [ottertoncommunityshop@gmail.com](mailto:ottertoncommunityshop@gmail.com) to collect if you can, or for home delivery if you are self-isolating.

Now available to pre-order are fruit/veg boxes as is an excellent range of fresh and frozen fish from a local supplier and a wider range of meat products so do phone the shop and speak to Nikki.

A number of new volunteers have stepped forward to either work in the shop or undertake deliveries. Thank you all. If you have not been called upon that merely reflects the response we have had and the need to limit the number of those working in the shop at any one time.

The Calendar Photo Competition is still running with a prize of £25.00 for the image chosen for the front cover. Let us have your Otterton photos which may now be emailed to the shop in either pdf or jpeg format. Full details are available from the shop.

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

We have reached another major milestone in the production of the Neighbourhood Plan: approval from the EDDC-appointed Examiner for our plan, subject to a few minor revisions. This means that our Plan, with these changes made, can now proceed to referendum - where everyone in the village will be asked to vote on whether or not to adopt the Plan. Needless to say, in the current circumstances, with *all* elections being delayed by the Government (HMG) due to the Covid-19 crisis, the referendum will also be delayed - possibly until as late as May 2021. However, the situation will be reviewed by HMG in the interim and the delay may be less than that. In the referendum, if the majority of voting Otterton parishioners vote yes, then our NP will pass to EDDC's Cabinet for ratification. It is then deemed to be 'made' and becomes part of the statutory development plan for the area.

HMG has announced a change to planning regulations to compensate for this delay, though. All Neighbourhood Plans that are awaiting a referendum will, for now, be treated as carrying weight in decision making. EDDC are taking legal advice as to how they can ensure that the Plan is given as much weight as possible while we wait for the formal referendum, and will circulate the Plan to the Development Management officers to this end.

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](http://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 ([otterton.info/ONP/ottertonONP.htm](http://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.

### **OTTERTON FILM CLUB**

We hope to be back in business for the first screening of next season on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October.

### **OTTERTON MILL**

Otterton Mill Call & Collect service operating weekly.

Call 01395 568031 on a Tuesday Wednesday Thursday between 10am and 1pm for a Friday afternoon collection.

Our Artisan bakery goods, flour, fresh fruit & veg boxes as well as fresh meat hampers and our Farm shop produce all available.

All with minimal contact in our own village.

Stay safe from all the Mill team

### **THE KING'S ARMS**

Stay safe everyone. We hope to see you again before too long.

### **THE FORMER LITTLE OTTERS**

Regretfully the Former Little Otters have decided to postpone their fundraising Jumble Sale planned for 6th June at East Budleigh Village Hall. No doubt some of you will have taken the opportunity to have a 'de-clutter' during this time of staying at home and may be disappointed with the delay; however please do hold on to your jumble if you can as we aim to plan another event in July, all being well. Thank you all so much for your ongoing support - since starting our termly Jumble Sales in September 2018 we have raised over £2,500 for good causes. Rather overshadowed by Captain Tom's efforts I know, but as they say 'every penny helps! Stay safe and keep well.

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

**Emergency 999; General Enquiries number 101; [exmouth@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk](mailto:exmouth@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk); <http://www.ukcrimestats.com/>**

### **THE LOOKOUT FROM LADRAM**

Ladram remains closed for the time being. We do hope you are all keeping safe and well during these unprecedented times. We have a small team working daily to ensure the grounds are well maintained and to ensure our supermarket is fully stocked for you all to utilise.

We have seen some familiar faces already collecting their essentials and are pleased this is helping the residents of Otterton. Our supermarket is open daily between 8am and 6pm. Mike, our Shop manager, is able to provide all essential items and also source a variety of local produce – do let him know if there is something you need and we will do our very best to help. The direct line is 01395 567692, should you wish to phone ahead. We look forward to re-opening as soon as we possibly can. Stay safe.

*Zoe, Robin and the Ladram Bay Team.*

### **CLINTON DEVON ESTATES – from Kate Ponting, Countryside Learning Officer**

#### **Doing today what is right for tomorrow**

The Estate Office closed some weeks ago but for those who are based out-of-doors, work continues as before, although nothing is normal. All necessary adjustments have been made to ensure that the health and safety of tenants, employees and visitors as well as livestock welfare is maintained, despite this unprecedented and very challenging situation we all find ourselves in.

Staying home isn't an option when you care for livestock. At *Clinton Farms* the team have successfully adapted their farming operation to maintain social distances whilst keeping the milking parlour running and caring for hundreds of cows each day. Demand is higher too. Our milk vending machine at the Mill has seen sales double since the pandemic began and the price per litre has been reduced to just £1, to support local communities even more.

More people are choosing to exercise close to home. Therefore, it is more important than ever to remember that as well as beautiful places for daily exercise, the landscape around Otterton is also producing food for the nation. Farmers are key workers too; please help them grow crops and keep livestock happy and healthy by sticking to Rights of Way, keeping dogs out of fields and always picking up after your pet wherever they 'go'.

For full length article find Countryside Learning at [Otterton.com](http://Otterton.com)

[kate.ponting@clintondevon.com](mailto:kate.ponting@clintondevon.com) 01395 443881

### **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**

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

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

Of the 13 farms and small holdings in Otterton village in 1840, only two have survived as working farms, both situated elsewhere in the Parish. They are Sea View and Stantyway Farms. The latter moved out as late as 1986, leaving the 16<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse standing proud in the village street with its cluster of thatched barns tastefully converted into attractive residences in a Court behind. The cottage built in Stantyway open-field in 1885 was enlarged to become the new farmhouse.

*Gerald Millington*

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**PLEASE NOTE** that entries for Otterton Parish News should be sent to **Jill Beacham** - email: [jill@beacham.co.uk](mailto:jill@beacham.co.uk)  
01395 446433 **Deadline for June edition is Friday 22nd May please**