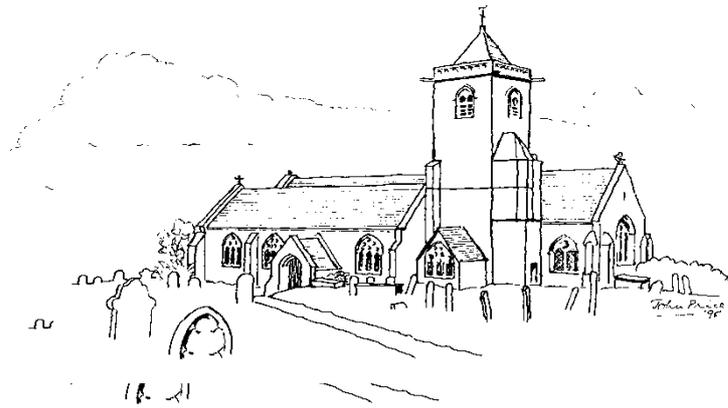




# OTTERTON PARISH NEWS

## APRIL 2024

A member of the Raleigh Mission Community



**VICAR:**

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**CHURCHWARDENS:**

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

Fri 10am-2pm

### SERVICES FOR APRIL

#### SUNDAY 7th APRIL

9.30 am	Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh
11.00 am	Morning Prayer		<b>Otterton</b>

#### SUNDAY 14th APRIL

9.30 am	Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh
11.00 am	Holy Communion	CW	<b>Otterton</b>

#### SUNDAY 21st APRIL

9.30 am	Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh
11.00 am	Holy Communion	CW	<b>Otterton</b>

#### SUNDAY 28th APRIL

9.30 am	Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh
11.00 am	Holy Communion	CW	<b>Otterton</b>

#### SUNDAY 5th MAY

9.30 am	Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh
11.00 am	Morning Prayer		<b>Otterton</b>

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

### SOAPBOX DERBY 2024 – EASTER MONDAY 1st APRIL



Members of the Otterton community have revived the village's **Soapbox Derby** with a 2024 event taking place on **Easter Monday**. The event opens at 9:30am with Otterton Football Club selling tea/breakfast baps from about then. Entry judging is at 10am followed by Drivers' Briefing. Competition Runs commence at 11am. The event is to help raise money for the village playground which is estimated to cost about £30,000. The last Derby took place in 1993! The 2024 event will see a competition for distance and will start at the top of the hill at Stantyway Farm. Entry forms and rules can be found on the Otterton Soapbox Derby site on Facebook or by emailing [ottertonsoapbox@gmail.com](mailto:ottertonsoapbox@gmail.com) or obtained through the Community Shop, Hair@57, The King's Arms and The Mill. A special event logo has been created by book and commercial illustrator Patrick Llewellyn who lives in Otterton.

## View from The Vicarage

Dear friends,

I have given assemblies to local schools on both St David and St Patrick just recently but what of our own English patron saint, St George? St George's Day occurs every 23rd April and at first sight you wonder how on earth that happened. George of Lydda was a 5th century Greek from what is now a part of modern Turkey called Cappadocia, and he was a Roman soldier who was executed for refusing to renounce his Christian faith.

As a military martyr he became extraordinarily popular internationally in both East and West and is also venerated across the Muslim world, so a more international saint it is hard to imagine.

He has been the patron saint of England since 1348 when he was chosen to be so by Edward III.

The most famous image of St George is of him fighting a dragon. That legend started in the 11th century and apparently took place in what is now Libya.

Our flag, which is the flag of St George, a red cross on a white background, originated first in Genoa in Italy and appears as part of many other flags.

So basically, we have representing our country the most international saint that transcends religious traditions and national boundaries. I suppose Edward wanted a "military saint" to represent us and it is probably how this otherwise obscure saint became so popular to so many people.

His origins may be obscure, and his death is even less clear. There is a tomb in Lydda, just south of Tel Aviv, that purports to have his remains, though the Muslim world claims to have had his remains in a mosque in Mosul, Iraq but this mosque was destroyed by Islamic State in 2014.

So England's patron saint is the most international saint that has traditionally appealed to diverse peoples and religions, so in a funny kind of way, is quite befitting a modern Britain that increasingly reflects that demographic. Happy St George's Day! *Martin*

\* \* \* \* \*

## COUNTY COUNCIL

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

## DISTRICT COUNCIL

Contacts: **Charlotte Fitzgerald** – [charlotte.fitzgerald@eastdevon.gov.uk](mailto:charlotte.fitzgerald@eastdevon.gov.uk); **Melanie Martin** – [melanie.martin@eastdevon.gov.uk](mailto:melanie.martin@eastdevon.gov.uk);  
**Henry Riddell** – [henry.riddell@eastdevon.gov.uk](mailto:henry.riddell@eastdevon.gov.uk)

## OTTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Following the Otterton Parish Council meeting on **8th April** there will be Coffee and Hot Cross Buns served in the Village Hall to celebrate Easter. Do come along and meet the Councillors - everyone is welcome. There is still one seat vacant on the Parish Council. If you are interested, do chat to one of the Councillors or come along to the meeting to find out more.

The Council is seeking quotes for the contract for grass cutting in the village for the next 3 years. The areas to be cut are The Green, Jubilee playground, War memorial and Stantyway recreation field. If you are interested in submitting a quote and would like further details, please contact the clerk: [clerk@otterton.info](mailto:clerk@otterton.info) Closing date for applications 20th April 2024.

Many thanks to Roger Pellow and his team for completing the formalities to form a 'speed watch' team for Otterton. Do look out for the yellow jackets at different points around the village and make sure to keep to the speed limit!

If you have an item for the agenda for the next meeting, please send to the Clerk by 2nd April latest.

**Francesca Mills, Clerk to Otterton Parish Council; Sandycross Farmhouse, Yettington, Budleigh Salterton EX9 7BW**  
**mobile: 07880 331465; email: [clerk@otterton.info](mailto:clerk@otterton.info); website: [www.otterton.info](http://www.otterton.info)**

## OTTERTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL



Another busy term here at the school! Some of our year 5 and 6 children sang at the LORP Opening Ceremony.

This event was to celebrate how far the Lower Otter Restoration Project has come over the last few years, highlighting its current and future impacts. The children have been involved at various points throughout this project, so to be asked to sing at the opening event was wonderful. The song was written especially for the event and taught to the children, who performed it beautifully.

As part of their learning about animals, Otters class went to visit the sheep and alpacas at Pynes Farm. They loved feeding them vegetables and finding out all about them. They then walked back to school, spotting wildlife and habitats along the way. Thank you to Pynes Farm for always welcoming us.

At school, the children enjoyed dressing up as a word for World Book Day and fundraising by wearing red for Red Nose Day. Heron Class enjoyed a wonderful afternoon pretending to live under the Shang Dynasty as part of their history learning. They dressed up in traditional clothes and sampled some Chinese food! Thanks to the OVA who have kindly donated a hedgehog house to the school; we have put it in our allotment to attract some new tenants!

Our Toddler Group has got off to a great start; please come along and join us on Wednesdays 9.30am – 11am.

Please contact the school for more information on 01395 568326 or email [adminotterton@thelink.academy](mailto:adminotterton@thelink.academy)

### **OTTERTON COMMUNITY SHOP**

The new Loyalty Card scheme has got off to a good start and been well received. Not mentioned last month was that redeemed cards will be placed in a quarterly raffle to win a £5.00 voucher so you can double the benefit. Meanwhile, some customers are intending to save by converting their completed cards into vouchers to spend at Christmas, so keep getting those stamps.

Magazines and periodicals we don't regularly stock can be ordered very simply by either emailing the shop at [ottertoncommunityshop@gmail.com](mailto:ottertoncommunityshop@gmail.com) or calling in. Our lack of space restricts what we can hold so if it's Cycling Weekly or any other publication you would like, let us know.

Bank Holiday opening times on Good Friday and Easter Monday will be 8.00am to 12.00noon.

The shop has also updated its Safeguarding Policy, intended to protect the interests of all customers and those working within the shop. The policy is available to view on the shop website.

### **OTTERTON VILLAGE HALL**

We are urgently looking for a practical person to serve on the Village Hall Committee with a view to becoming an officer of the Committee. If you live in the parish and would like to serve your community, please contact us at [village.hall@otterton.info](mailto:village.hall@otterton.info)

### **OTTERTON LADIES' COFFEE MORNING – 11am Monday 8th April (NOT first Monday)**

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](http://www.orinc.org.uk)
- Or you can **email**: [orin.charity@gmail.com](mailto: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.

### **OTTERTON FILM CLUB**

Andrew Sharp, after 8 years as Chairman and prime mover of the Film Club, has decided to stand down from the committee. We owe a debt of gratitude to him for all the unsung hard work he has put in over this period, offering the village a welcome monthly diversion throughout the winter months. We now need some fresh faces to bring a new impetus to the Club. If you are interested in films, we would love you to join our committee to assist in the running of the Film Club. This will include input into selecting the season's films, publicity, and applying for screening licences. We urgently need a volunteer or two to come on board to help us secure the future of Otterton Film Club. If you feel you can assist us, either email [ottertonfilmclub@gmail.com](mailto:ottertonfilmclub@gmail.com) or for more information, call Alan Weeks on 01395 557757.

### **OTTERTON GARDEN CLUB**

In spite of the inclement weather, the Village Spring Show was well attended. The Hall, as usual, was filled with colourful flowers and produce that looked good enough to eat!

In the spirit of the Oscars (but without the glad rags) we would like to thank the exhibitors, without whom there would be no Show, the folk 'behind the scenes' who worked tirelessly to organise and set up the Show and lastly, but definitely not least, the visitors who braved the rain and gave the Show their full support.

### **PILATES IN OTTERTON VILLAGE HALL**

**Tuesdays:** 11.15am – 12noon

Chair & Standing Pilates - Beginners welcome!

Contact Grace to book on - 07500 112646 / [info@redbaypilates.co.uk](mailto:info@redbaypilates.co.uk) / [www.redbaypilates.co.uk](http://www.redbaypilates.co.uk)

**Wednesdays:** 8.45am - 9.45am & 10am - 11am

Open Level Pilates

Contact Grace to book on - 07500 112646 / [info@redbaypilates.co.uk](mailto:info@redbaypilates.co.uk) / [www.redbaypilates.co.uk](http://www.redbaypilates.co.uk)

## **OTTERTON MILL**

### **Events**

Our Friday night fish and chips and pizza will start again from **29th March**. On **1st April**, the East Devon Daytime Band will be performing again 11am – 1pm.

### **Music**

Details of our 2024 music events are on our website. Tickets can be purchased online, by telephone on 01395 568521 option 6, or in person in our Mill Shop.

### **Milling**

**14th & 28th** - come and see our merry millers in action; entry is free; milling 11am-12.30pm & 2-3pm.

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

No information received from The King's Arms for April. From the March Parish News:

More **Music Bingo** on **Friday 29th March**. £5 for 1 game or £7.50 for 2 games. *Prizes galore for lines and Full Houses.*

Easter is just around the corner. We can't wait for the **Soapbox Derby** on **Monday 1st April** with drinks and a BBQ after the event. Keep your eyes and ears peeled regarding Easter Sunday as well.... For more details, please visit our website <https://www.kingsarmsotterton.co.uk/> or call 01395 568416.

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

Redshank and shelduck, and dipper and teal, moorhen and godwit and rail

Will fly back here for many a year, to weather the storm and the gale.

Where the beavers swim and build their dams, and the sparkling kingfishers dive,

And the herons and curlews, geese and swans make us happy to be alive.

*So flow, river, flow, through the wind and the rain and the snow.*

*Let the river run wild and free on its way to the rolling sea.*

This is the last verse of a specially commissioned song performed by a choir including pupils from Otterton Primary. Their performance was the highlight of a busy day of celebrations with invited guests and hundreds of local people, on 14th March, to mark the completion of the Lower Otter Restoration Project.

To read the *Song of the Otter River*, visit Countryside Learning at [www.otterton.info](http://www.otterton.info) where you will also find details of a brand new project, Pebblebeds for All, which will be supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

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

## **THE LOOKOUT FROM LADRAM**

We hope everyone is having an enjoyable Easter. Please remember that if anyone is looking for work - full time, part time, weekends, evenings - we might have the right job for you on your doorstep. Please email [jobs@ladrambay.co.uk](mailto:jobs@ladrambay.co.uk) to find out more.

**POLICE – Exmouth Neighbourhood Team: [Mark.Edwards2@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Mark.Edwards2@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/>**

<p><b>TAXI SERVICE:</b> 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](mailto:jill@beacham.co.uk) - 01395 446433 **PLEASE NOTE - Deadline for May edition is Thursday 18th April latest please.**