

OTTERTON PARISH NEWS

FEBRUARY 2012

A member of the Raleigh Mission Community



COMMUNITY PRIEST:
CHURCHWARDENS:

Reverend Anne Charlton (444276)
Mrs June Kennard-Simpson (568877)
Ms Anne Radcliffe (568059)
Ms Kylie Joyce (443397)

RMC PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

SUNDAY 5th FEBRUARY

11.15 am	Morning Prayer		Otterton
11.15 am	Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh

SUNDAY 12th FEBRUARY

11.15 am	Holy Communion	CW	Otterton
4.00 pm	Evening Prayer		East Budleigh

SUNDAY 19th FEBRUARY

11.15 am	Family Service		Otterton
11.15 am	Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh

WEDNESDAY 22nd FEBRUARY (Ash Wednesday)

7.00 pm	RMC Service		Otterton
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SUNDAY 26th FEBRUARY – 1st of Lent

11.00 am	RMC Eucharist with Bishop Bob for the licensing of David Scrace followed by lunch at the Public Hall		St Peter's
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TUESDAY 28th FEBRUARY

3.15 pm	Holy Communion (Vicarage)		East Budleigh
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SUNDAY 4th MARCH – 2nd of Lent

11.15 am	Morning Prayer		Otterton
11.15 am	Holy Communion	CW	East Budleigh

**Morning Prayer will be said every Tuesday, 9.30am East Budleigh,
and every Thursday, 9.30am, Otterton**

OTTERTON DIAMOND JUBILEE CONCERT

19th May 2012

Can you act, sing, recite, dance, play an instrument, prompt, stage manage, provide lighting etc to help raise money for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations?

Please contact **Brian Le Masurier** on 568619 **by 15th February** to arrange a preliminary meeting.

View from the Vicarage

During a recent walk, I spent some time standing on a bridge looking down at a fast flowing river. The river was dark brown and angry, swollen by recent heavy rains and picking up all sorts of debris from the bank and carrying it along. What an analogy of our lives! We so easily get swept up and taken along.

One of the defining moments of my life was a very small incident, some years ago, when I was opening my post. The first envelope contained a clothing catalogue and as I flipped through it, I saw a jumper that I had already purchased in red, and I remember thinking, ah yes, I could do with one of those in blue, and set it on one side to order. The next was a request for help from a national charity, depicting a young naked child somewhere in the third world. That sort of seemingly unimportant incident happens to us all the time, and yet for some reason on that occasion God opened my eyes and gave me a clarity of vision that had been hidden to me beforehand. How could I sit there worrying about the need for two jumpers when others had none? I too had been swept up in the river of secular life.

Watching this river flowing reminded me of that incident, but also of the need to scramble out of the river and sit on the bank, and just stop and really look at our lives. Who, and what is important to us? What are our priorities in life? What are our hopes and fears for our children and how can we keep them from being swept along in that river? That fast flowing river can only be avoided if we can from time to time make the effort to scramble up the bank, and sit and look.

February sees the start of Lent, which is a season when we are called to examine our lives, to check that we are going in the right direction. This Lent we will be having our usual ecumenical Lent Groups to discuss together our lives and the direction that they are taking. Why not come along to a group and join in? It may be just the opportunity you need to sit on the bank and re-examine whether you want to be caught up in the flow of the river, or whether you want to step outside and follow a different stream, one full of light, and life, and love.

Every blessing,

Anne Charlton

Concert in the Church: The **Salvation Army Divisional Fellowship Band** and the **Sidmouth Gospel Choir** will perform at Otterton Church on **Saturday 3rd March** at 7pm. Tickets £5 available from Anne Radcliffe (568059) or June Kennard-Simpson (568877) or at the door.

Carols on the Green: We would like to thank all the people who supported the event on 20th December. Thanks to their generosity, a cheque for £100 has been sent to ShelterBox. The sponsored box number is UK0065956 and its progress can be tracked on the ShelterBox website. Special thanks go to Philip Greenhow for the mulled wine and the use of his electricity supply, and to all those who supplied mince pies.

Churches Partnership Lent Course 2012: Discussions are based upon the York Course 'Handing on the Torch' - sacred words for a secular world. Groups will be meeting in homes in the area, starting during the week beginning 27th February for 5 weeks. Anyone wishing to join a group should please sign on the board at the back of the church, and it would be helpful if you could indicate your **first and second** choice of group.

Quiet Days in 2012: A few people have asked what exactly happens at a quiet day? It is an opportunity to turn off the phones, step out of our usual environment and spend, in this case, 6 hours focussing on God. There is nothing magical about it, but the results sometimes *can be* for us as individuals. After a preliminary quiet reflective short service, the leader will give a few pointers to guide thoughts, and then we go off and walk, or sit and read our bibles or anything else we may want to read. There is a small chapel available for private prayer. There is space to draw or paint, or sew, and we spend the day in silence, apart from lunchtime when we enjoy some fellowship. The silence concludes about 3.30pm when again we will have a short time for worship, possibly with a shared Eucharist, and some time for reflective sharing if people want. The main object, as with any retreat time, is just to stop and listen, stop and reflect on where God wants us to be.

The RMC will be holding 2 quiet days at the Millhouse Retreat Centre near Tiverton in 2012. The first is on Saturday 21st April, when we will be focussing on the Holy Spirit, and the second on 8th September, when our focus will be God's grace. The day lasts from 10am – 4pm and the cost, which includes coffee, afternoon tea and a light lunch, will be £15 per head and numbers are limited to 25. You will need to make your own way there, although obviously we will car share where possible. The location is a beautiful old Devon Long Barn, set in lovely grounds, but please be aware there are stairs involved to reach the meeting room.

If you would like to book a place, please let Kylie* have your details (name, phone number and any specific dietary requirements) and a deposit of £5 per person as soon as possible. (*Kylie Joyce, RMC Parish Administrator, tel 443397, email raleighmc@gmail.com – office open at St Peter's Tuesday and Thursday 10am-12noon)

For more details on the venue, please see www.millhouseretreats.co.uk

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

Funeral: 10.01.12 Isabel DORMAN (aged 77)
Baptism: 15.01.12 Imogen Elizabeth CLARK

OPEN GARDENS - 1st July 2012

June and I have begun planning for this event and would like you to know one or two things that we have discussed so far. The date was determined by events such as the Jubilee and the Olympics. We hope to benefit from the feeling of celebration that there will be so we can at least equal the success we enjoyed last year.

We would like the gardens to open at 11am, thus extending the time available for visitors. This could help to avoid the feverish rush encountered last time, and also bring some benefit to the Mill and the King's Arms. We also hope there will be more parking places. It is vital that the whole village be given the chance to participate, so we would welcome local produce to be sold in any willing open garden. But, **WE NEED YOU TO OPEN YOUR GARDENS!** Please, please phone us on 568877, or drop in and see us. You will be welcome.

Bruce Kennard-Simpson

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COUNTY COUNCIL

Contact: Christine Channon, 12 Cricket Field Court, Budleigh Salterton EX9 6JB, tel 442927, christine.channon@devon.gov.uk

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Contact: Ray Bloxham, Raleigh Ward member, 14 Villa Maison, 4 Cyprus Road, Exmouth EX8 2DZ, tel 273438 – rbloxham@eastdevon.gov.uk

OTTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

- The organisers of the Jubilee Celebrations thanked the Principal of Bickton College who has generously given permission for the village to hold a **Barn Dance** in the Old Barn, Home Farm, Bickton on **Saturday 2nd June** from 7pm-11pm.
- They also confirmed that there will be decorated tables set out on The Green for the Village Lunchtime Picnic on **Sunday 3rd June** at which all the children associated with the village, under the age of 12 on 31st August 2012, will be presented with a Jubilee mug.
- The organisers, with the support of the Parish Council, hope that these events will be supported by adults and children alike. Further details of these two events will be revealed later.
- The Highways Department have been in the village and have repaired a number of potholes.
- The Parish Council, by 5 votes to 1, agreed to ask East Devon District Council for a precept of £10,100 for the financial year 2012-2013. This will mean that the average household will contribute an extra £5.98 a year towards the cost of maintaining and improving the village.
- The Council is considering how to produce a Neighbourhood Plan which could enable the village to decide, for example, that future building proposals were or were not in the village's interest.
- Approximately the first 50 yards of the lower part of **Church Hill** will be closed to traffic on **12th and 13th February**.
- Chris Holland was thanked for his swift action in removing the two large boughs that had fallen from the chestnut tree in the Jubilee Playground.
- County Councillor Mrs Channon was thanked for giving £250 towards the village's Jubilee Celebrations from her discretionary budget.

D G Ottley, Clerk to the Parish Council – Tel 567701, email clerk@otterton.info

OTTERTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL – from Carron Saunders, Head Teacher

By now, we are well into the swing of the Spring Term. We have gone up to 79 children on roll, having welcomed one new child into our Reception Year, one into Year 2, two into Year 3 and one into Year 5.

During this academic year, Otterton Church of England School Association's (OCESA) phenomenal support continues, enhancing and enriching the learning opportunities for all the pupils. This year, the focus of OCESA's fundraising events is the creation of a dedicated library in school.

As usual, lots of things are going on in addition to the 'normal curriculum'. The Year 6 teacher is currently working alongside her peers from Drake's School on an exciting project based on survival in the wild! Some of the experiences within this project will take place out of doors at different settings in our locality. In March, the pupils will also be working alongside Bickton College students at the schools' allotments, focusing on the diet that can be provided by 'home-grown' food. Don't forget to visit our school website regularly at www.otterton-primary.devon.sch.uk to keep an eye on the exciting events going on in school. The staff are currently working closely with our neighbouring schools on activities such as moderating writing and a joint project on the Olympic values for the benefit of the pupils from Otterton and other local faith schools. This is a 12 week term, with the last day being Friday 30th March. Half-term week is from Monday 13th – Friday 17th February.

FROM PCSO SARAH TRAYHURN 30110

I am very pleased to say that there have been no crimes reported since my last Parish News entry. The rural Police team are looking to re-launch Farm Watch and over the next few months, we will be visiting all the agricultural properties in the area and encouraging them to sign up. We are keen for all serial numbers and property to be registered on our Police property website as this helps us to return any stolen property that we recover. We offer a free property marking service and signs are issued by the Police to place on the property advising that you are part of Farm Watch. Everyone who participates is signed up to community messaging which is a fantastic tool for spreading the message. With the rise in theft of scrap and agricultural thefts, it is important that we all work together to deter these thieves.

Once again it is the start of a new term at the school and this is a gentle reminder to all parents when picking up and dropping off their children to park safely and considerately. I will be patrolling this area when available and monitoring the situation.

If anyone has any concerns or would like to discuss any issues, please contact me on the details below. A reminder that the general enquiries number for the Police is now 101. The old number (08452 777444) will run concurrently for the time being. 999 is for emergencies.

Emergency 999; Non emergency enquiry line 101; sarah.trayhurn@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

OTTERTON GARDEN CLUB

Our next meeting is at the Village Hall on **21st February**. The talk is "The History of Otterton Buildings" by Gerald Millington, our own local Historian. Admission to talks is free to members and £2.50 for non-members. If you would like to join the Club, membership only costs £6 per year; this entitles you to free entrance to all our talks and a copy of the yearbook.

For more information on the Club, go to www.ottertongardenclub.co.uk or contact Ro Smith on 568871 or email roland.smith@btinternet.com

OTTER VALLEY ASSOCIATION

The first event this month is a talk "The Inns of Devon" by Robert Hesketh. This takes place on **Tuesday 7th February** at 7.30pm in East Budleigh Village Hall.

On **Wednesday 8th February** there is a circular walk leaving Four Firs car park at 10am. The walk on **Saturday 25th February** is the ever popular local walk to Otterton, leaving White Bridge at 10am. There is an energetic walk on **Wednesday 29th February**, beginning at Newton Poppleford Recreation Ground car park at 10am.

Walks are free to everyone. For any further information, please contact John or Wendy Winson on 568274.

LITTLE OTTERS PRE-SCHOOL – "The love of the children shines through"

NEW SESSION ON WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON FROM JANUARY!

Little Otters Pre-School is nestled in the heart of East Budleigh in the Village Hall. It provides a wonderful environment for young children to "learn through play". There are **still spaces available** in September for children aged 3-5 for a variety of sessions. The pre-school operates on a daily basis during term time: Monday to Friday 9.15-11.45am and also 12.45-3.15pm on Monday & Friday. Lunch clubs are also available, which run immediately after pre-school on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 11.45am-12.45pm.

We have now added a **NEW SESSION** on a Wednesday afternoon. Children can therefore enjoy a full day on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and half days with lunch club on Tuesday and Thursday.

Little Otters Pre-School also runs a parent and toddler group which meets on Thursday from 1-3pm in term time. Families with babies, toddlers or pre-school-aged children are welcome. **For more information please visit our website www.littleotterspreschool.co.uk or call 445825 (term time only).**

OTTERTON MILL

As we start to look towards Spring, here are the Mill's highlights for February:

- **Shrove Tuesday – 21st Feb:** Enjoy pancake-themed lunchtime specials (both savoury and sweet) in our café restaurant.
- **Tasting! St Valentine's Day – Sat 11th to Tues 14th Feb:** Sample our range of artisan produced chocolate throughout the weekend and buy sweet gifts for your loved ones, including our own gingerbread hearts.
- **Music & Food Nights:** Featuring these world renowned musicians: BBC Folk Award Musician of the Year (2009) **Tom McConville and David Newey** (2nd Feb); Mill favourite and New York award winner **Barb Jung** singing Bob Dylan (9th Feb); and part of the Glastonbury headline group, The Blues Band, singer songwriter **Gary Fletcher** (23rd Feb).
- **Milling:** Drop by on Thurs 9th and Tues 14th to watch the mill in action as it produces our signature stoneground, wholemeal flour. Free entry.

Thanks to all our customers, and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Tel: Office 568521; Restaurant 567041; Gallery 568008; Food Shop 568031; Website: www.ottertonmill.com

Field required to rent

Emma Hellier of 2 Maunders Place, Otterton is looking for a small field or part of a field to rent in Otterton. She competes nationally with her dogs in agility, and would like to rent a space in which she can train her dogs locally and more often than she can manage at the moment. The minimum space requirement would be 30m x 30m. If you can help, please contact Emma on 568503 or email emmahellier@btinternet.com

Hospiscare 2012 Men's Walk

Saturday 17th March starting at 1pm. The perfect day out for the boys! Enjoy a 10k walk around Exeter, starting and finishing at the home of the Exeter Chiefs, Sandy Park. On your return, enjoy a pasty and a pint on us, and watch the Six Nations England v Ireland match live on big screens in the luxury of the Exeter Suite. A sponsored walk in aid of your local hospice charity. Visit www.menswalk.co.uk or call Hospiscare on 01392 688052 for more information.

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

A village policeman had been appointed following a petition from villagers that "a large proportion of the inhabitants bear a bad character". The clink was to replace the village stocks in the churchyard which were to punish petty criminals. A painting of 1849 by Peter O Hutchinson illustrates them standing close to the south gate of the churchyard. At a Manor Court held in 1779, it is recorded "stocks of this Parish are out of repair and that the same ought forthwith to be repaired".

Gerald Millington

PLEASE NOTE that entries for Otterton Parish News should be sent to **Jill Beacham**, Barton House, Church Hill, Otterton EX9 7HU - tel: 568130, email: jill@beacham.co.uk **Deadline for March edition is Monday 20th February LATEST please.**