



# Otley Parish

CHURCH



# *In Touch*

November 2018

£1

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## **OTLEY PARISH CHURCH**

Kirkgate • Otley • West Yorkshire • LS21 3HW

[www.otleyparishchurch.org](http://www.otleyparishchurch.org)

Vicar: The Reverend Graham Buttanshaw

*Registered Charity Number 1153498*

Dear Friends,

Has anyone else recently had the feeling, “Oh my goodness, it’s Autumn already!”? I can’t believe how quickly this year has gone; it feels like there has been so much change – for us as a church, nationally within the political system, and globally. There is so much going on. It’s hard to keep up. One of the pitfalls I regularly have to stop myself from falling into is trying to keep up with the ever increasing rate of change. My natural instinct is to run faster and harder to keep up with all the new things that are going on in my life.

A good example of this happening to me recently was at my sister’s wedding in the middle of last month where I was officiating. It was such a massive privilege and one of the real joys and perks of being a vicar. But like with all weddings it was a very busy weekend with lots of moving parts. On the morning of the wedding, Jess, my sister, had asked Hannah and I to take a few things to the venue. A few things turned into a



big car full of boxes, cheese, wedding favours, photos and boards. Needless to say everything took a lot longer than we expected. Hannah and I got back to our hotel stressed out and with just 1 hour remaining to get ready for the wedding.

Does this sound familiar? A busy life with lots of moving parts and not enough time to do everything that you have to do? I wonder what you would do in that moment? Hannah suggested that we pray. I felt like there was too much to do and we didn’t have the time, but because I’m a good husband who listens to his much wiser wife I took the advice and we sat on the sofa together to pray.

And so I found myself in the hour before marrying my sister and brother-in-law taking a moment to pray. The 5 minutes we spent on that sofa were invaluable. We really didn’t have the time to stop what we were doing and pray but in retrospect it turned out we were too busy *not* to pray. We needed to stop, centre ourselves back on Jesus and pray for

what was about to take place. If I hadn't done that I would not have been able to lead the service or enjoy the rest of the day.

So what about you, at the end of another busy year and as we head into another busy Christmas, what are you going to do? Are you going to try and work faster and harder? Or are you going to take time to stop and pray?

On Saturday 24th November, Otley Parish Church are hosting a day of prayer which will be led by Bishop Helen-Ann (see page 7 for more details).

***Come and pray, especially if you are too busy.***

*Jimmy*



**JIMMY LAWRENCE**

# IN THE HOT SEAT



with **JACKIE HIRD**



**HELLO JACKIE.** Some of us know you very well. Others may know you by sight but not really know much about you apart from hearing you preach in church from time to time. Will you answer a few questions that will help us all to get to know you better? *Thank you!*

*When were you born and where did you grow up?*

I was born and bred in Glasgow. My year of birth was 1963.

*Where did you go to school?*

I went to Jordanhill College School just around the corner from where I lived. It was attached to the well-

known teacher training college of the same name.

*Which college or university did you go to?*

I studied at what was then called the College of Ripon and York St John which was in York. I qualified as an Occupational Therapist.

*When did you become a Christian?*

I don't know! I do know though that throughout my childhood I "prayed the prayer" many times before realising that as long as I was trusting in Jesus, a date didn't matter.

*When and where did you meet your husband Martin?*

Martin and I met when we both enrolled on a 2-year part-time course to gain an Advanced Diploma in Guidance and Counselling at Bretton Hall College, Wakefield.

*How many children do you have, what are their ages and what do they do?*

Calum is 21 and lives and works in Derby. Isla is 20 and is in her 3rd year of a Sociology degree at Newcastle University. Molly

has just turned 15 and is in year 10 at Prince Henry's Grammar School. Ask me more about them if you like.

I love to talk about our children, much to their embarrassment!!

*What is your occupation and where do you work?*

I am the Director of a Christian charity in Leeds called the Joanna Project. We work with women involved in street sex work nearly all of whom are trapped by life controlling addictions. I have been there for 9 years.

*Do you have brothers and sisters?*

Yes, I have one big sister called Fiona. She lives in Glasgow and is an English teacher.

*Why did you choose to live in Otley?*

When I met Martin he was living in Otley and I was living in Wakefield. When we got engaged we discussed where to live after marriage. It was a brief conversation and a quick decision. Otley won!

*Where did you worship*

*before coming to Otley Parish Church? How long have you been coming here?*

I have been part of Otley Parish Church for 14 years. I was brought up in the Church of the Nazarene. Since leaving home and post-student life I have been a member of a Brethren Church, a Baptist Church and an Independent Evangelical Church.

*You appear to be involved in a variety of activities at OPC – can you list them for us?*

I am a Licenced Reader, so you will sometimes see me preaching or leading services. I coordinate the Welcome and Hospitality Team and the House Groups. Martin and I host a House Group in our home. I am on the PCC and the Deanery Synod. I help Janet Buttanshaw coordinate Messy Church and I'm also on the team for 'Explore Together'.

*Do you have a favourite verse of Scripture? If so, what is it?*

No! Over the years certain verses have different meanings in different seasons.

*Do you have a favourite Christian hymn or song?*

I tend to like whatever I last sang! But I do find, "Lord I come to you" helpful. The image of soaring like an eagle as my heart is changed and renewed and my

weaknesses stripped by the power of His love, is a beautiful one. "Beauty for Brokenness" is another old favourite. My weekdays are spent wading through injustice and brokenness, so I daily need a top up of God's compassion.

*Do you like classical music? Do you have a favourite piece?*

My knowledge of classical music extends to those tunes used by the Advertising industry. If it's not selling luxury cars I probably don't know it!

*What about modern songs or music - anything in particular?*

Again, I have little knowledge but tend to enjoy whatever Molly is listening to, especially if I can dance to it!

*Can you play a musical instrument?*

Sadly, no.

*Do you have a favourite part of Yorkshire that you like to visit?*

A rare treat is a trip to Whitby and Robin Hood's Bay but the inside of any Yorkshire café for tea and cake will do!

*Is there somewhere you would like to go on holiday where you've not been before, regardless of expense?*

Martin has had a couple of work trips to Mauritius and I know he would love to share

what he has seen, and I would love that too.

*A book you really enjoyed reading – any special reason?*

Over the years Christian books have shaped and changed me. Brian McClaren has a lot to answer for! But I mostly read trashy romantic books. They must have a happy ending or I won't read them.

*Do you have a hobby or something you enjoy doing to relax?*

I am a rare breed who willingly admits to loving TV. Give me a good detective drama and I am a happy woman. I also enjoy the odd jigsaw puzzle if the colours in it are life enhancing.

*What would be your favourite meal – 2 or even 3 courses?*

If out, a starter of garlic mushrooms, a main of pasta or risotto with salmon or prawns and Crème Brûlée or something lemony to finish. If eating in, nothing beats a Chinese take-away.

*If you were to spend a whole year on a desert island on your own what luxury would you take with you?*

Anti-depressants! I would be building a raft or tearing my hair out very quickly.

*Which one word best describes your life right now?*

Blessed.

# LOCAL TO GLOBAL

When *Local to Global* was first started at Otley Parish Church it was envisaged we would financially support two charities each year but also shine the light on the work of other charities and activities that members of our congregation are involved in. With this in mind, we will feature from time to time here in our *In Touch* magazine, a series of features.

This month we look at the work of  
**BARBARA NICHOLLS, a Hospital Chaplain.**

**W**HEN David and I moved to Otley in 2010, I asked God what He wanted me to do in Otley. He had brought us here, so He must have had a plan for me.

Not long after, I was having coffee with a friend who used to be my vicar when I lived in Kelbrook in Lancashire. She is now a part-time Chaplain at Airedale Hospital. She asked me if I had ever thought of becoming a Chaplaincy Volunteer. My response was ‘no way, not for me at all’. A few days before, another lady who was already a volunteer had said exactly the same to me. It quickly dawned on me that God was telling me this was what He wanted me to do.

I then went through training in Leeds over a period of a few weeks and then everything seemed to happen very



*Barbara Nicholls, Hospital Chaplain*

quickly. In March 2011, I began volunteering on Ward L17 at Leeds General Infirmary – a ladies cardiac ward. I loved every minute of it, visiting all the ladies on the ward, talking to staff members, praying with them, and feeling very much that God was leading me in all I did. A few years later this ward closed so I started visiting Ward L37, a ladies orthopaedic trauma ward. This was quite a shock to my system. It was so very noisy, very busy, lots going on – very different to L17. It took me quite some time to settle into this ward, but again I knew that God was with me in all I did. He leads me to the ladies or staff members that He wants me to spend time with.

Things have changed over the years. We now have to wear a uniform as well as our I.D. badge, so that we are easily recognised as a Chaplaincy Volunteer. We have had a change of name and we are now part of the ‘Spiritual Care’ team, as everybody needs spiritual care, even if they have no faith at all.

Sometimes, I just have a conversation with them, offer prayer if that is what they want, or I can arrange for a member of their own faith to visit them, or arrange a visit from a chaplain to give them Communion.

Early in 2017, Wharfedale hospital reopened two wards called *Bilberry* and *Heather* in partnership with Villla Care. I started visiting here one morning a week in addition to the LGI. I visit both men and the ladies on these Wharfedale wards, some of them I had previously seen at LGI. I am now trained as a Lay Eucharistic Minister so I can offer them Communion as well. Chaplains don’t often visit Wharfedale.

I know that I am doing what God wants me to do through my chaplaincy work. I love doing His work on the wards and feel very privileged to be able to do this.

If you would like to know more about becoming a Chaplaincy Volunteer, please do have a word with me.



**Copy Date**  
**December Magazine**  
**Sunday 18 November**  
**Email: [stephenhey01@gmail.com](mailto:stephenhey01@gmail.com)**

# **Ordinary and Extraordinary PRAYER**

**The Adventure of God's Presence in Everyday Life**

hosted by

**Otley Parish Church**

on behalf of Christians in the town

**Saturday 24th November 9.30am**

**Guest Speaker: Bishop Helen-Ann of Ripon**

**An informal and safe place to come and learn about prayer.**

**Be encouraged in your relationship with God as we approach the coming year.**

**In the morning we'll pray, sing and listen together.**

**Lunch will be 'bring and share'.**

**Church will be open for private or small-group prayer in the afternoon.**

**The church is near the bus station and town car parks.**

**Contact:** Otley Parish Church, Kirkgate LS21 3HW

[info@otleyparishchurch.org](mailto:info@otleyparishchurch.org) - 01943 465927

[otleyparishchurch.org/prayerday2018](http://otleyparishchurch.org/prayerday2018)

# Family news

Sharing our Stories & Family Life



**GEORGINA DREW** (left and above right) took part in a recent play at the Methodist Church Hall in Otley. *“When we are Married”* is a classic comedy by Bradford’s own dramatist J. B. Priestly. It was performed by the Otley Players. Georgina played the part of Nancy Holmes.

# HERITAGE TOUR



Our feature this month is the 13th in our fascinating Heritage Tour series compiled by Allan Boddy and Margaret Parkin. The series explores many aspects of the history and heritage of Otley Parish Church and its artefacts.

This month, Margaret Parkin looks at an interesting link between the Navvies Memorial in our churchyard and Musgrave Hall in Burras Lane.

## From a Tunnel to a Planter?

**I**N 1845, the *Leeds & Thirsk Railway Act* received Royal Assent, heralding the invasion of the railway age into Wharfedale and providing a rail link between Leeds and Thirsk. James Bray, an iron and brass founder from Leeds was appointed to oversee the construction of the section between Horsforth and Weeton which had to pass under the ridge separating Airedale and Wharfedale. This necessitated the building of a tunnel at Bramhope, some 2 miles long, 25 feet high and at its deepest point 290 feet under the village. Work began on 20th October 1845. It is reported that at the height of the work some

2,300 men and 400 horses were being used – quarrymen, stonemasons, tunnellers, labourers and carpenters. Each man worked a 12-hour shift, were lowered down by huge buckets to work in candlelight and were paid around £1.50 per week. Working conditions were constantly wet with foul air, gunpowder fumes and the danger of roof falls.

For four years, the navvies, many of whom bought their families with them, lived in wooden huts called bothies in and around Bramhope. There were often seventeen at a time in each hut, taking turns to

share beds in unsanitary conditions. They had travelled to find work from all over England, Ireland and Scotland. As might be expected, given the dangerous working conditions, accidents were frequent and often fatal and it is recorded that 23 navies were buried in unmarked graves in Otley Churchyard. We know there are more – buried elsewhere.

In 1849, a memorial to those killed, and known as The Navies Monument, was erected in our churchyard at the expense of James Bray the contractor, agents and sub-contractors and fellow workmen. Costing £300 it was made of soft Caen stone shipped here from Normandy. Unfortunately, it did not weather well and by 1883 was recorded as 'being in a sorry state of repair'. But it was another 30 years before the memorial was reconstructed in more resilient local stone.

1974, the Monument was granted Grade II listing by the Department of the Environment, thanks to recommendations from Paul Wood, Christine Dean and Eric Cowling, under the auspices of the Otley Civic Society. Further restoration was carried out in 1988.

In 2017 permission was given to Otley Town Council to take ownership of the monument with a view to its restoration and future maintenance. That work is currently being done, driven by the enthusiasm and hard work of local volunteers in the form of Otley Town Council and Otley Conservation Force, with funding from the Heritage Lottery fund, the Heritage Railway Trust, and the Otley Town Mayor's Charity Appeal; also with private donations from local residents and businesses. It will continue to attract the attention of visitors and local residents alike – being the only known memorial of its kind in the country.

And the planter?

A garden planter stands at the front door of Musgrave Hall in Burras Lane – placed there by Ken Pollard (Churchwarden 1959-1970) and his wife Barbara when the Hall became their home in 1978. We have recently learned that this planter was one of the original turrets from the Navies Memorial.

One of the tragic deaths during the construction of the tunnel was reported in *The Bradford Observer* which is reproduced below:

# The Bradford Observer

AND HALIFAX, HUDDERSFIELD AND KEIGHLEY REPORTER

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THURSDAY, JULY 9, 1846

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EXTRAORDINARY FUNERAL PROCESSION.—Last week we noticed a fatal accident which had befallen an excavator on the Leeds and Thirsk railway. We gave his name as Russel, but it seems his real name was George Thompson, from Thirsk. He was forty-six years of age. He had only commenced working on the line that morning, at quarter time, and was killed at half-past eleven o'clock a.m. He was interred in Otley churchyard on Thursday last, and the funeral was such as excited considerable attention. Previous to its starting from Kirskill, solemn and impressive addresses were delivered by two home missionaries to the workmen, who listened thereto with deep attention, after which the procession was formed, and moved on towards Otley, where it arrived in the following order: first, several subcontractors, undertakers, &c., then the coffin, borne by workmen in white smocks, and pall-bearers in the like dresses; chief mourners, his daughter and mother, she being 96 years of age, and walked as cleverly as a young girl; his father died a short time ago at the same advanced age; a train of about four hundred workmen followed the corpse, three a-breast, the greater part of them in white smocks; these went in front, and all had bunches of white ribbons or cockades in their hats. The number of spectators to witness the procession was very great, there never having been anything like it seen in Otley before; and although a melancholy event, it was pleasing to see the remains of the unfortunate man borne to the house appointed for all living with such respectability.



**The Navvies Memorial is the only one of its kind in the country, and is situated on the north side of Otley Parish Churchyard, adjacent to Church Lane. The Grade II listed building is a memorial to those who died during the construction of the Bramhope Tunnel.**

*If you want to know more about our Heritage Tour, look out for two articles in the church magazine during the early months of next year. They will tell you the story of Musgrave Hall in Burras Lane and its place in the history of Otley Parish Church.*

●● Did you read the Carolina story in last month's magazine? The start of two years' renovation work to the organ at York Minster is just beginning. The work is being carried out by *Harrison and Harrison of Meadowfield*, Durham. Thomas Hugh Harrison was the second husband of Carolina and a member of the same Harrison family who are carrying out the restoration work, although he did not go into the family business. Just thought you might be interested – *Margaret Parkin*

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Photo of poppies outside Otley Parish Church by [www.davidcharlesphotographyandav.co.uk](http://www.davidcharlesphotographyandav.co.uk)

**ALWAYS** find it hard to imagine in advance how something is going to look in reality and the installation of 14,000 poppies flowing down from the roof of the Parish Church was no exception. When I was first approached by Corrine and Christine, their plan sounded extremely ambitious but here we are, just a few months later and the whole town is talking about it.

The Otley Poppy Project has been a collaborative effort between various knitting groups (including our own Knit and Natter), the church and countless individuals, who have all worked hard to “do their bit” and what a wonderful example of teamwork it is. We are all familiar with the traditional red poppies, which form the vast majority of those knitted, but in and among are also purple poppies, to encourage us to remember the countless animals killed in war and also some white poppies, which some people suggest are more

fitting these days, as a way of distancing ourselves from the potential glorification of war or the temptation to jingoism and focusing instead on a desire for peace.

The phrase, “Lest we forget” is a succinct way of summarising the purpose of “Poppy Day”. Of course the reality is that not of all us have personal, first-hand experience of any war, let alone World War, although few of us can say we have not been touched in some way, even if only through the memories of others, or from what we’ve read about, or seen on the news.

My Dad died on Remembrance Day in 2013 and I remember thinking at the time how pleased he’d be if he knew. His experience of National Service was perhaps the most formative of his whole life and it was his memories of his time in the army that were his most enduring memories once Vascular Dementia took

hold. He certainly always wore his poppy with pride and my own thoughts on November 11th will include my memories of him and all that he taught me.

Of course most people have memories they would prefer to forget, and many people are haunted by traumatic memories which take hold of them and refuse to let go. Why would anyone choose to remember the horrors of war or the pain of any other deeply

wounding experience? It's interesting to reflect on how often the Bible speaks of God remembering and what it is that He remembers. He remembers His covenant with us. He remembers that we are dust. He remembers our tears. Yet our sins, he remembers no more.

On Remembrance Sunday, what exactly will we choose to remember, lest we forget...?

**Linda Sharp**



Hand-knitted poppies outside Otley Parish Church

☐☐ *When the 1st World War started, the charity Scripture Gift Mission (now known as Lifewords) produced a small booklet of encouraging words from the Bible to give to every soldier going to fight. This year, in commemoration of both World Wars the charity is giving a copy of the booklet to every soldier serving in our army today. Let's pray that those words will encourage and comfort those engaged in peacekeeping and in conflicts around the world in 2018.*



# HELLO Otley Parish Church

***A special thank you to a recent visitor for her lovely comments about our church and the various displays both inside and outside of the building. She sent the following email to us:***

Hello Otley Parish Church. Yesterday (24/10/18), my husband and I visited your church. I just want to say how wonderful the display of the events of the 1914-18 War were. I was very impressed by all displays (including those advertising church events) both inside and outside the church. The local information of those affected by War was very poignant, extremely interesting and well researched. I am interested in local history and genealogy and the display highlighted to me that no matter how large or small a community is that events such as the First World War can have such a *massive* impact that it can be as if half the village has disappeared. The impression it gave me was that I felt as if I was in a village church. By this I mean I felt as if I knew them all, as I would if I lived in the village. The information about the refugees and also the soldiers that did not survive I was particularly drawn to. The photographs and personal stories were very engaging and just right in length and content and visually the whole thing was impressive. My husband is a church organist so we visit many churches and cathedrals and I have not been as engaged by a display as I was in your church. It was obvious that it was done with love and care for the subject matter. I did look around for a visitors book to record my feelings but I could not find one. I do not think, however, that I could have expressed as much as I have here.

I have never emailed a church before so please could you pass on my praise to those who were involved in creating such a wonderful display, the poppies and also the notice boards both inside and outside the church. They were all very clear and visually pleasing. A credit to your church, staff and community.

*Kind Regards  
Deborah Aspland  
Pontefract, West Yorkshire.*



# 18<sup>th</sup> Otley Beer Festival 2018

FEATURING REAL ALES FROM YORKSHIRE MICRO-BREWERIES

AT

**OTLEY RUGBY CLUB**

**CROSS GREEN, OTLEY**

**WEST YORKSHIRE, LS21 1HE**



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[www.OtleyBeerFestival.co.uk](http://www.OtleyBeerFestival.co.uk)

Organised for OTLEY PARISH CHURCH to raise money for local charities

**HELP NEEDED!**

**Saturday December 8th  
Refugee Party  
Bridge Church  
11am - 4pm**

About 70 refugees from various countries will be attending and there will be a range of activities and games on offer.

If you could help by providing cakes or desserts, they can be brought to the URC on the day from 10.30am onwards.

The main meal will be provided by outside catering and arranged by RETAS.

Anyone wishing to stay and befriend one of the refugees would be most welcome.

**Thank you!**

# Otley Parish Church

Kirkgate • Otley • West Yorkshire

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# Otley Parish Church Groups and Activities

<b>Beer Festival</b>	Allan Boddy	01943 466182
<b>Bell Ringers</b>	Meg Morton	01943 461836
<b>Craftynuts Craft Group</b>	Lynne Barber	01943 466493
<b>Flower Arranging</b>	Val Tait	01943 464032
<b>Knit and Natter</b>	Jo Briscoe	01943 466515
<b>Little Rascals / Baby Rascals</b>	Eileen Barr Jean Boddy	01943 464382 01943 466182
<b>Men's Group</b>	Robert Sharp	01943 513017
<b>Messy Church</b>	Janet Buttanshaw	01943 462240
<b>Music Groups</b> <i>Worship Singing Team &amp; ACTIVATE Band</i>	Jimmy Lawrence <i>revjimmylawrence@gmail.com</i>	07539 118695
<i>Church Band &amp; Church Choir</i>	Pam Beck	01943 462283
<b>Newall Ladies Fellowship</b>	Val Tait	01943 464032
<b>Open House</b>	Church Office	01943 465927
<b>Scrapbooking</b>	Lynne Barber	01943 466493
<b>Steel Magnolias</b>	Shirley Parker	01943 466956
<b>Sunday Club and 7up</b>	Janet Buttanshaw	01943 462240
<b>Sustainability Group</b>	Dave Cherry	01943 463896
<b>Uniformed Groups</b>	Bev and Mark Rothery	01943 467016
<b>Welcome &amp; Hospitality</b>	Jackie Hird	01943 462858
<b>Youth Group</b>	Jimmy Lawrence <i>revjimmylawrence@gmail.com</i>	

# WHO ARE WE?

OTLEY PARISH CHURCH – the oldest building in Otley – is at the heart of our town and, for over 1,000 years, people have been gathering here for worship and significant family and community events. *“There is a place for everyone, with Christ at the centre of it all.”*

We are a gathering place for pilgrims on a journey of discovery, kindling hope as we go, helping one another to be more fully alive to the wonders, joys and sorrows of life. We’d love you to share the journey with us.

We want to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to Christ and in service to our local community.

Join us in worshipping God together on Sundays and in daily life; be with us as we study and discern how to use the Bible in the 21st century; learn with us what it is to be 21st century disciples following Jesus and help us, with the other churches in the town, to bring good news to Otley and far beyond.



Otley Parish  
CHURCH