

IN TOUCH

JULY/AUGUST 2025

£1



Otley Parish
CHURCH



O**TLEY PARISH CHURCH** is the oldest building in Otley. It's at the heart of our town and, for over 1,000 years, people have been gathering here for worship, with significant family as well as community events.

We are a gathering place for pilgrims on a journey of discovery, kindling hope as we go, and helping one another to be more fully alive to the wonders, the joys and the 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 our 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; also learn with us what it is to be disciples in the 21st century following Jesus, and help us, with other churches in the town, to bring good news to Otley and far beyond.

**“There is a place for everyone,
with CHRIST
at the centre of it all”**



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Dear Friends *Letter*



GRACE AND TRUTH IN A SHIFTING CULTURE – ABORTION AND EUTHANASIA

Two recent legal developments have been stirring much reflection for me - and perhaps for you as well. First, the Assisted Dying Bill has passed through the House of Commons, moving one step closer to becoming law. Second, legal penalties for women seeking late-term abortions have been removed, effectively decriminalising these decisions.

Both changes raise profound moral and spiritual questions. And as Christians, we may find ourselves torn between two strong reactions.

On the one hand, these shifts stand in clear tension with historic Christian belief - that life is sacred, from conception to natural death; that we are not our own, but belong to God; and that suffering, while grievous, is never without redemptive purpose in God's hands.

But on the other hand, the motivations behind these changes have real moral appeal. Advocates for late-term abortion often point to deeply traumatic situations - such as cases of severe fetal abnormality, rape, or threats to a mother's health. They speak of compassion and bodily autonomy, of trusting women to make complex choices without fear of prosecution.

Similarly, those who support assisted dying appeal to compassion and dignity: shouldn't someone enduring intense pain or terminal illness be free to choose the manner of their death? These are not flippant arguments. They speak to our basic human instincts - to avoid suffering and to protect those we love.

So how do we, as followers of Jesus, respond?

I imagine within our own church family there are a range of reactions. Some may agree with these new laws. Others feel deeply troubled. Most of us, I suspect, feel caught in the cultural crossfire - longing to speak truth, yet also to love well; to honour God, yet not alienate those we hope to reach.

This tension is not new, and it is not wrong. In fact, Scripture invites us into it. As we explored during *The Air We Breathe* sermon series, many of the values we hold dear - compassion, dignity, equality, freedom - are not the inventions of secular progress but are deeply rooted in the teachings of Jesus. Our hearts are stirred by compassion because the Gospel teaches us that God's heart is stirred first.

And yet, the same Gospel affirms that life is not ours to dispose of, even in moments of agony or crisis. The unborn child, the elderly sufferer, the person whose future seems unbearably dark - all bear the image of God. Their lives are precious, not because of their perceived quality or usefulness, but because God made them and loves them.

The Bible never asks us to choose either truth or grace. Instead, it constantly holds them together. Psalm 85:10 says, "*Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed.*" These are not comfortable companions. Yet in God's economy, they do not compete - they embrace.

And in the person of Jesus, we see this tension perfectly held: "*The Word became flesh... full of grace and truth*" (John 1:14). The cross itself is the ultimate expression of both. Justice is done - sin is dealt with. And mercy is poured out - sinners are welcomed home.

So, as we navigate these deeply emotional issues, let us not rush to resolve the tension. Instead, let us live in it faithfully, carrying our cross daily as Jesus calls us to. This means:

- Holding fast to the sacredness of life.
- Listening with compassion to those in pain.
- Speaking truth with humility.
- Offering grace without conditions.
- Loving our neighbours with courage and kindness.

We must not trade grace for truth, nor truth for grace. In Christ, we see both perfectly. And in following Him, we're called to the same.

AARON KENNEDY
Vicar at Otley Parish

IN THE **HOT** SEAT

with
Jenny Liston



We know that you come regularly to Otley Parish Church, Jenny, and many of us will know you quite well, but others may only know you by sight, and not really know much about you. Will you please answer a few questions that will help us all to get to know you a little better? *Thank you!*

When were you born and where did you grow up?

I was born in Newcastle upon Tyne in 1956, but in 1960 the family moved to Bristol where my father became minister at Horfield Baptist church and where I then lived until going to university in 1974. My parents and brothers remained living in Bristol until 1975 when dad was made General Superintendent (sort of Bishop in C of E terms but never a title to pass Baptist lips!) for the North East and they moved to Leeds. Sadly, within a year of moving, dad died suddenly. Mum moved to Otley after her retirement and attended Otley Parish Church until her death in 2001.

Where did you go to school?

I attended school in Bristol. Firstly, I went to Henleaze Infant and Junior School, and then Coston's Girls School for secondary education.

Did you go to College or University? If so, where?

After A levels I went back to Newcastle for university where I did a Social Science degree. Having decided that I wanted to enter the world of social work I worked in Carlisle for a year as a trainee social worker. Then I went to Edinburgh University to study and work for my social work qualification.

When and where did you meet your husband?

I met my husband David whilst working in Carlisle. We had a wide group of friends who loved walking and ceilidhing in the Lake District - and I often cadged lifts home in his battered VW Beetle when he and I travelled back to Leeds to see our parents. We were married in Knaresborough in 1982, so have been married a long time! We came to live in Otley then and have remained here ever since.

What was your occupation and where did you work?

After finishing at Edinburgh I came back to Yorkshire having secured a social work post in Knaresborough. After 5 years there I went to job share a social work post at Bradford Children's Hospital – mainly in child protection and within the Bradford Pakistani community. I even studied Urdu for a couple of years, although sadly what I learnt to speak and write then is limited to a very few short phrases now. In 1990 I became what was known as a *guardian ad litem* – a social worker representing the views and interests of children going through care proceedings in the courts. I worked in this role until 2014 after which I then worked for a few years as an independent social worker, mainly within adoption agencies. I finally retired in 2018.

Do you have brothers and sisters?

I have younger twin brothers who live in Haworth and Appleby – nicely near enough for us to see them from time to time.

How many children/grandchildren do you have?

David and I have 3 sons - 2 of whom live within easy striking distance and one who lives in Bedford. They are all with partners and between them we have 5 grandchildren ranging from 3 to 11 years old. We have been and remain quite involved in the children's lives and care.

When did you become a Christian?

I was privileged to grow up in a Christian family and was baptised (full dunking!) when I was 14 years old. Although my dad died in my early adult life, I'm grateful that - although a strict Scottish parent - he and my mother encouraged us to read widely, think freely and to be open to challenge of thought and opinion, including that of our faith.

Did you worship anywhere before coming to Otley Parish Church? How long have you been coming here?

Whilst at University I attended Baptist churches but before coming to live in Otley I attended several different denominations including a Quaker community with which I felt a real affinity. I have been coming here to OPC since we were married. Our boys were made particularly welcomed by lovely Harold Simpson - even when they were in footie and rugby kit ready for matches after the service! I have been the church's safeguarding officer for about the past 15 years.

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

My dad always read 1 Corinthians 13 at church meetings as a way of bringing together quite a large and disparate group of Baptists. We also read this at both my parents' funerals. But perhaps a verse I love and try very hard to live by is Micah 6:8, '...what the Lord requires of you but to do justice, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God'.

Do you have a favourite Christian hymn or song?

I certainly like to bash out 'Thine be the Glory' at Easter, but I also love Graham Kendrick's 'Servant King'.

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

I love many pieces of classical music - Strauss's 'Thus Spake Zarathustra' makes my skin tingle when they start the singing after the orchestral introduction, and Vaughan Williams 'The Lark ascending' transports me to beautiful carefree summer days.

What about modern songs or music – anything in particular?

I have a pretty eclectic taste in modern music. Our sons have introduced me to some new singers and bands which when I listen to them now remind me of long car journeys on holiday with them with the tapes blasting out! I wouldn't advise listening too closely to the lyrics, but the Pogues 'Fairytale of New York' will have me dancing in the kitchen at Christmas!

Can you play a musical instrument?

I learnt to play the piano and violin whilst at school and have a scratchy relationship with both now. I did 'help' with the All Saints school orchestra (thank you Mr and Mrs Outtersides) and the church band a while ago, but don't invite me now - for your own good!

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

I learnt to love Yorkshire when in a developing relationship with David. Whist he went potholing I walked the Dales. I think I'm particularly fond of Hubberholme and Kings Dale - both pretty remote valleys. We cycle

most weeks now and my favourite route is the back road through Bolton Abbey, Hebden, and Grassington and onto Kettlewell.

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

I've been fortunate to have done some quite interesting travels in the world, including Russia, America, India and more recently Japan and Australia. We have a campervan and enjoy exploring this country and Europe, but we do have a hankering to explore the stans - Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and others.

A book you enjoyed reading - Christian or general? Any special reason?

I belong to a book group which has introduced me to many different authors, both the classics and the more modern. Looking along my bookshelves I'd find it very hard to choose a favourite but perhaps because of its association with a friend, now very sadly deceased, who recommended 'Dreams of Trespass: Tales of a Harem Girlhood' by Fatima Mernissi which is both fascinating and joyful. 'Thoughtful Guide to Faith' by Tony Windross, has been what the controversial Don Cupitt described as 'a bombe surprise'. I like it because of that - it pushes the boundaries of the church.

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

I love gardening. I sort of manage an allotment (poor Val and David Tait are my allotment neighbours). I keep bees; we try and cycle most weeks, and I love reading. I've recently discovered the joys of making sourdough bread. But a lot of our time at the moment involves the grandchildren.

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

My favourite meal is a good mushroom risotto followed by a bowl of vanilla ice cream, preferably with hot chocolate sauce poured over it. Yum!

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

I love a good perfume. My family know the brands and scents so I'd let them choose which for me to take.

Which ONE WORD best describes your life right now?

Busy! (Yes, very busy, content and immeasurably fortunate.)

Creation Care

A monthly column for us to share environmental and sustainability ideas

For the summer months of July and August, let us think about gardens and outdoor spaces and how we can contribute to a greener, less polluted world.

▶ Adding wildlife friendly plants such as dahlias, fuchsia or hellebore to your garden, window box or pots can give you pleasure as well as helping to combat the causes and effects of climate breakdown. Thirty per cent of the food we eat is thought to be pollinated by insects; without insects we would not have that food. But research suggests seventy five per cent of flying insects have been lost in the past 25 years and the number of bumblebees in Europe has dropped by about thirty per cent in the last 50 years.

▶ Let all or part of your lawn grow, and only mow it once every four weeks, or less frequently. You may find more wildflowers and butterflies. Climbing plants like honeysuckle or clematis provide even more nectar for insects. We are trialling this in the Churchyard, in conjunction with Leeds City Council and Wildlife Friendly Otley; an area of grass is being left unmowed, where wildflowers have been sown.

▶ Peat when left in the ground is a sequestered store of carbon. A lot of that carbon is released when peat is used in commercial compost, thereby contributing to climate change, so only use peat-free compost if you buy it. Otley's Courtyard Planters will also fill reusable bags with peat-free compost, but the best way is to make your own; there's plenty of information online to help you turn your vegetable waste into garden compost such as here on the RHS website <https://www.rhs.org.uk/soil-composts-mulches/composting>

▶ Water butts are great for watering plants and avoid the carbon impact of using tap water. A drought has been declared in Yorkshire - a good time to take notice of the advice given from the authorities, including Yorkshire Water.

▶ Grow as many different flowers or plants as possible. The wider the range, the more chance there will be food for insects, and seed heads for birds.

▶ It is difficult to avoid plastic plant pots, but you can try to grow as much as possible from seed, share plants with family and friends or use your existing pots as many times as possible. Courtyard Planters will also take and reuse any plastic pots that are 1 litre and above (approximately 13cm diameter).

Look out for more tips in future editions of In Touch or you may wish to share any actions you have taken with the rest of the Parish. We will continue to pray for God's creation, nature's preservation and the reduction in fossil fuel usage.



The History of Otley Parish Church Building



The oldest Church in Otley is the Parish Church, which is reputed to have been built by Paulinus, the first Archbishop of York, 627 A.D. A Saxon Church existed on the site in the earliest days of Christianity. From the remains of the Saxon Cross dating from A.D. 750, it is probable that there was a Monastery attached.

The first Norman Church built on the foundations of the earlier Saxon structure in the 11th or 12th Century is now the Chancel.

In the early part of the 13th Century the Transept, Nave and Tower were built, forming a Cruciform. At the end of the 14th Century Nave pillars and arches were inserted in the 13th Century walls and the aisles added. The perpendicular window inserted in the Chancel and Transepts, and the floor of the Chancel was raised some two feet.

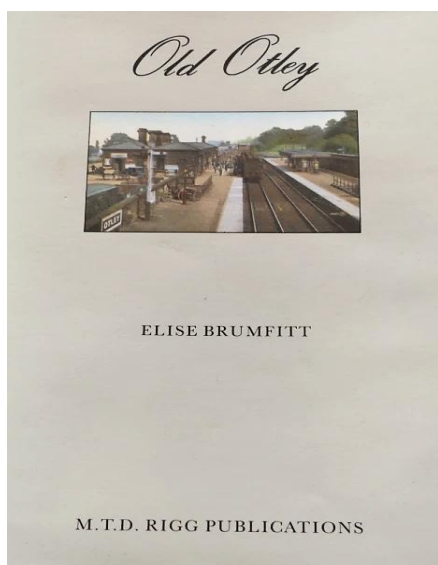
In the middle of the 18th Century further alterations were made, with the erection of the galleries, ceilings placed in the Nave and Chancel, and the capital of the pillars being cut away. In 1851, the last gallery was removed, a new roof was added to the Nave, and the clerestory was built.

In 1867 a further restoration was carried out whereby the Chancel was restored, its ceiling removed, and the old roof opened out. The Nave capitals were restored and its floor lowered. The box pews were replaced by oak seats (later removed in 2015) and the choirstalls were erected.

The Tower Clock was made by Harrison of Aberford, a village on the eastern outskirts of the City of Leeds in West Yorkshire, in 1793. The eight bells were re-cast and re-hung in 1748, 1782 and again in 1922.

The East Window and four others are of stained glass, two of which are memorial windows. The Font was presented in 1868 by F. Darwin of Creskeld Hall in Arthington, near Otley.

Details taken from “Old Otley”
Author: Elise Brumfitt
First published 1986 by M.T.D. Rigg





Local to Global is the name given to the group set up in 2015 by Otley Parish Church. The name denotes our interest in supporting both a local charity and an overseas one.

We are currently focussing locally on **Leeds Faith in Schools**, and globally on **Kisiizi Hospital** in Uganda. Our aim is to support them both financially and to take the opportunity to raise awareness of their work.

Leeds Faith in Schools (LFiS)



For 20 years, LFiS have provided Schools Workers at Prince Henry's Grammar School here in Otley, as well as at another 9 schools in and around Leeds. Work in Otley includes 1:1 mentoring, boys groups, a lunchtime club as well as the after school drop-in youth club at the Bridge Church.

LFiS seeks to be a Christian presence in the schools, living out the vision of being 'Good News' to the school, its students, and staff.

Kisiizi Hospital, Uganda



This is a Church of Uganda hospital in a remote valley seven hours' drive south-west from the capital city of Kampala. The local people are mainly poor subsistence farmers and some travel more than 80 miles seeking hospital care. The hospital has a small income from the Uganda Government. Patients have to pay for their care, but the hospital keeps fees to a bare minimum. Over the years the hospital has evolved and developed many ministries to support the community.

Looking ahead, it will be the 70th Anniversary of Kisiizi Hospital in 2028, and they are already planning to have a major celebration.

► Any money raised through donations or events is split evenly between the two charities. In the past year we've had several successful and entertaining events including a Beetle Drive, a Domino Drive and two Curry Nights. We also take part in the Otley Christmas Tree Festival

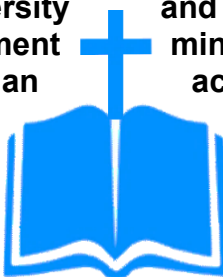
It would be great to have new people involved with our Local to Global group. If you'd like to know more, please contact Tricia Merrick: merricktricia@gmail.com

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE BIBLE *Verse?*

Philippians 4:6 (NRSV)

“Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God.”

Entering my 87th year, I reflect ‘with thanksgiving’ on a challenging but fulfilled life directed by God. A happy marriage to Barbara, 3 successful children and 5 amazing grandchildren. The privilege of 40 years of stipendiary ministry in housing estates in Southampton and Birmingham, a university and a commuter market town and 15 years of ‘retirement ministry’ in a cathedral city. The opportunity to enjoy an active life, playing sport, walking and cycling holidays around the world. But advancing years bring inevitable limitations, infirmities and occasional anxieties. The escalating of global uncertainties makes me uneasy about what future generations may have to face. So, Paul’s words ‘do not worry about anything’ bring comfort, reassurance and hope to calm any concerns. And fond memories of a visit to the ancient site of Philippi to whose ‘Saints in Christ Jesus’ these words were originally addressed.



Richard Bollard



Alison Cairns

Famine

“We’re going to have to pump out your stomach.” I was thirteen. It was Christmas Day, and I had taken an overdose. I didn’t want to kill myself. I just wanted someone to love me.

Life was pretty grim. My father was an alcoholic and a gambler, and my mother was always busy, working outside the home and raising five children. There was never enough money, or enough love to go around. I learned to be a good girl and to become invisible.

I married young, eager to have someone of my own to love me, and only me, but it didn’t work out. Marriage didn’t fill up the ever increasing hole inside of me, nor did wealth, a successful career, alcohol or affairs. Then the marriage was over. I was frightened, alone and emptier than ever. I met another man. We fell in love and set up home together and I wrongly thought he was the answer to my emptiness. The relationship deteriorated and in a last ditch attempt to save it, we went together to see a counsellor.

A Snack

For the first time in my life, I experienced unconditional love. I could tell this counsellor about all the rotten stuff in my life and he neither judged nor accused me. He just had a way of making me feel loved for being me.

He was also a Christian minister, and as he continued counselling me, I realised this man had something in his life that I desperately needed and wanted. He didn't speak to me directly about God and Jesus, but I could see that he had a joy and peace in his life that I envied.

After several months I asked him if he would bless the relationship that I was now in. He agreed to do this and suggested that we list all the things in our past that we wanted to ask God's forgiveness for. We met one September afternoon in his Church, and he blessed us and burned the lists. As that happened, I felt God's love and acceptance wash over me, and I knew I was his child.

Banquet

Now I know what it is to be forgiven and a child of God. He loves me, he listens to me, speaks to me and guides me. He is interested in every detail of my life. I no longer need wealth, a career, alcohol or affairs to fill up the hole inside me. God's love has done it all. He loves me so much that he even sent his only son Jesus to die on the cross for me. Jesus once said, "I am the bread of life and he who comes to me will never go hungry". Now I know this is true. We don't need to go hungry because he wants to feed us all with his love.



● *If you'd like to know how you can get a seat at God's banqueting table, then please see Alison in Church or email her at: alisonjcairns@gmail.com*



My Devotional Thoughts

Margaret Parkin

“The Lord will keep you from all harm – he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and for evermore.”

Psalm 121:7-8 (NIV)

Granny's Box of Promises

I was intrigued by a small cardboard box which sat on my Granny's chest of drawers. It was filled with small scrolls of paper and a pair of tweezers. Each morning, she would choose one of the scrolls, pick it out carefully and read the words on it.

Yes, it was a Promise Box full of scripture messages such as the one above and occasionally I was allowed to choose one. I never had my own Promise Box - but I have a selection of Bibles of differing translations and often read something which just seems to fit the need of the day.

The verse above, taken from songs written for pilgrims to use as they travelled to Jerusalem for festivals, does at first sight bring comfort and

reassurance. Yet, when I reflect on my life, I recall times of sadness, illness, bereavement and hard decision making to be done. At times I was cynical, doubting and found the words a challenge, distrusting them. Now, I can testify that, just like the pilgrims, I did not walk alone. God was with me.

This promise of God's presence is a constant feature throughout the Bible. Isaiah repeats it like this – "Don't panic, I am with you. There's no need to fear for I am your God. I'll give you strength, I'll help you, I'll hold you steady. I'll keep a firm grip on you." Here in Isaiah 41:10, is a powerful message of comfort, security and reassurance for my future and yours.

Dear Lord Jesus, more than anything else I need to remember that today you will never be far from me. Thank you for your loving care. Keep me trusting. Amen.





Sheila Simpson

Sheila celebrated her 99th birthday on 29th June 2025. She was born in Otley in 1926. Very sadly her husband, Harold, died 2 years ago on 24th October 2023 at the grand old age of 103. They were married in Guiseley on 23rd July 1949, 76 years ago!



95

Happy
Birthday
Peter

Peter Hipwell celebrated his 95th birthday
on 30th May 2025.
He was born in Wellingborough in 1930.

Pauline Coultas



Pauline Coultas celebrated her 88th birthday
on 29th May 2025.
She was born in Barnsley, West Yorkshire in 1937.

Fear...
Lies...
Despair...

TRIUMPH!

by **LESLEY NOBLE**



Introduction

I was born in 1949 and had a poor childhood filled mainly with fear, lies, loneliness and despair, which impacted my life in a negative way for the first forty years. Then, between 1991 and 1993 my healing process began.

I feel the need to tell my story with the hope that anyone reading it may be encouraged if they ever thought things would never get better for them in their own lives.

I found it very therapeutic when starting to write this book. One of the main wonderful things is that, in the end, I know that for all my past I've not only been forgiven, but I have also learned to forgive.

A STORY TO BE TOLD... TO ENCOURAGE... ALL IS WELL

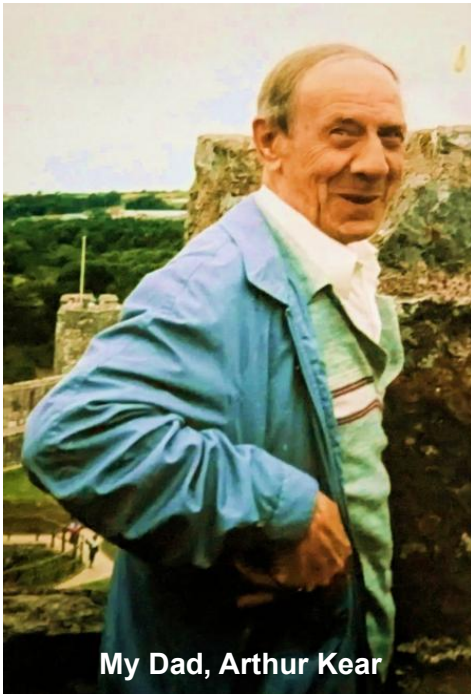


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Good Memories with Dad

I remember the lovely occasional days out with my dad. He took Dave, me and Ricky to Ilkley (we would be aged about four, eight and eleven) and we would run up to the White Wells on Ilkley Moor. Dad carried the coats, and told us at the top that the best thing for us was a nice drink of cold water and better than any ice cream! Mam never came with us. On another occasion, Dad took us to Otley for a day out with him, his sister and her husband - my Aunt Dorothy and Uncle George. I remember our Ricky chasing the ball down the slope towards the river and Uncle George ran and caught him as he was about to go in after it! The ball went down the river, but Ricky survived the plunge!! It was another treat when dad



My Dad, Arthur Kear

took Dave and me to the 'Pictures' - no posh cinemas in those days; many were called the 'flea pit' and occasionally someone would walk along the aisle with a disinfectant spray gun. What with this and the cigarette smoke it was quite an atmosphere, but what I remember was the choice we had between 'Butterscotch Tablets, Midget Gems or Poor Bens! There was a lot of Picture houses near us, but we usually went to the 'Regent' on Torre Road. We could walk there easily.

Oh! And I never forgot the time dad took both Dave and me to the City Varieties to see the 'Billy Cotton Band Show'. These were the memories that helped me during the dark times.

I sucked my thumb for many years. It was the only bit of me that was clean.

Sometimes when my brother Ricky, as a baby, was taken into the house, I would climb into his pram outside, put the hood up and pretend I was a baby. Sucking my thumb made me feel safe and warm.

As the time for demolition of our house began, I would be about nine coming up to ten. They knocked down the houses at the back of us first, and for a long time we had a hole in the wall where daylight came in, and the water on our side of the street was cut off so we carried buckets across the street to fill up with the water from the now empty houses there. It was a difficult time but then we were offered a three bedroomed house with a garden in Cross Gates at 96 Cross Gates Road, Leeds 15. I was ten when we moved there. I thought things would improve once away from the 'Old End'.

My new school was 'Parklands Junior' and Derek, one of the boys who lived next door, took me on my first day to show me how to get there, and I was given a general knowledge exam to see which class I should be in. It was always the 'B' class. I just didn't like school. Then as a routine came the eye test in Leeds where it was discovered how bad my vision was and it obviously hadn't been picked up before. My eyesight was very poor, so glasses were prescribed quickly, and needless to say they were bog standard national health glasses, clear plastic with silver speckles and everyone knew this. It carried a stigma, and I straight away became 'specky four eyes'. The amazing thing for me though was seeing the moon very clear, and street lights without blurred edges; it was wonderful.

In this new house I had my own small bedroom. Apart from that not a lot else changed. My mam was up to her usual interest in Ouija boards and fortune telling and involved the new neighbours when dad was out. We had a bathroom but never hot water, nor proper soap or shampoo. Fairy household soap was used for everything including washing up - whenever that happened. There was only one hair clogged hairbrush, no iron, and a proper dinner was never on our agenda. I was frustrated, and angry.

The old fears had never left me, and I was beginning to experience an ominous overwhelming fear and didn't feel safe in the house alone. Nightmares returned, and one particular night I woke up and as I lay there and glanced across the room (for some reason I had slept downstairs in the room next to the living room) I saw a figure of a woman sitting sideways on a chair with her hands crossed and resting on her knees. She was all in grey, her hair fastened back in a bun. I looked and thought the curtains must be open a bit, but there was no light. I closed my eyes and turned over and then back again, but for some reason I didn't feel afraid. I turned over again and went to sleep. When I told my mam next morning, she didn't seem surprised and said, "it was only my mother" and left it at that! We have never seen a photograph of my mother's parents, so I have no idea what she looked like.



Otley Parish Church Services in July

(see church noticeboards / website for August details)

Each 10.30am service is live streamed to YouTube:

www.youtube.com/@otleyparishchurch

Sunday 6th	8.30am	Holy Communion This monthly service of Holy Communion is based on Common Worship, with a short talk
	10.30am	Service of the Word Sunday Club (KS1, KS2 and pre-schoolers) OPC Youth Group (school years 7-13)
	6.00pm	ACTIVATE Lively, informal and reflective worship <i>(followed by pizza)</i>
Sunday 13th	10.30am	Service of Holy Communion Sunday Club (KS1, KS2 and pre-schoolers) OPC Youth Group (school years 7-13)
Sunday 20th	10.30am	All-age Service of the Word
Sunday 27th	10.30am	Service of Holy Communion Sunday Club (KS1, KS2 and pre-schoolers) OPC Youth Group (school years 7-13)

Our Midweek Services in July

Every Tuesday	11.00am	Holy Communion A short service with no hymns <i>(followed by light refreshments)</i>
Every Monday to Thursday except in school holidays	4.30pm	Evening Prayer There will be a variety of approaches to prayer; also, a reflection on a Bible passage, and time for silence to pray for others

**ARE
YOU
NEW
HERE?**



If you are fairly new to Otley Parish Church, you are indeed very welcome here!

If you'd like to get connected, involved, or find out more about us, please pick up a *Welcome to Otley Parish Church* card which you'll find on the table at the back of the church.

Please fill in the details and return it to us, or put it in the red wall safe on the back wall.

We will use your contact information to help you find a way to connect into the life of our church. We do take care to ensure that your data is kept secure.

Please Keep in Touch

We would love you to keep in touch and tell us what you'd like to see in *your* monthly **IN TOUCH** Church magazine. If you've got something you would like to share with us in the September edition of **IN TOUCH**, please send it to our editor, stephenhey01@gmail.com

NO LATER THAN

Saturday 9th August



Otley Parish CHURCH

Kirkgate ● Otley ● West Yorkshire ● LS21 3HW

Vicar: Revd. Aaron Kennedy

Registered Charity Number: 1153498

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Sarah McCormack

CHURCH OFFICE

"The Chestnuts", Burras Lane, Otley LS21 3HS

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Thursday, 9.30am - 3.00pm

TELEPHONE

01943 465927

EMAIL

info@otleyparishchurch.org

CHURCH WEBSITE

www.otleyparishchurch.org

*see our website for details of Church services
and a link to our streamed services on YouTube*

FACEBOOK: [@otleyparishchurch](https://www.facebook.com/otleyparishchurch)

X (TWITTER): [@otleyallsaints](https://twitter.com/otleyallsaints)

CHURCH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

Account name: Parochial Church Council of Otley

Sort code: 20-37-13 **Account No:** 10088811

Gift Aid: if you are a tax payer, please consider signing a Gift Aid declaration, available on the Church website or from the Treasurer, Tony Pike

KEY CHURCH CONTACTS

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Revd. Rachel Wilson 01943 968902 revrachel.wilson@gmail.com

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