

THE DRAGON

October 2023



Welcome to your monthly round up of news/events in Ogbourne St George.

Village Hall News

Halloween Quiz – Sat 28 October

With the change in seasons upon us, our thoughts turn to our autumn village events. The next of these is the Halloween Quiz on Saturday 28 October in the Village Hall from 7pm. Quiz starts at 7:30pm.

Spend the witching hour with fellow villagers and friends, tackling some spooky questions and ghoulish puzzles. Either organise your team of six or come along in whatever numbers you like and meet old friends or make new ones and be in with a shot at being crowned Quiz Winners. In addition, you'll be helping us raise much-needed funds to support increasing operating costs.

Entry is £5 per person in advance, or £6 on the door. Donations for the raffle, drinks and bar snacks will be welcome on the night, and to the mystery donor of pork scratchings for the June event, if you would care to do so again, then know that your generosity will go down well with villagers based on last time's enthusiastic consumption!

To secure your advance tickets and seats, please ring Colin on 01672 841485 or email Claire on osgyhall@gmail.com by 5pm on Fri 27 Oct.

Your Committee looks forward to seeing you there.

Christmas Grotto – Sat 2 December

Yes, we know it's early, but we'll be holding our Christmas Grotto event in the Village Hall from 3-5pm on 2 December. If you would like to run your own stall and showcase your wares at this lucrative time of year, then tables are available to hire. Set up is from 1pm.

Contact us on osgyhall@gmail.com for further details and to express your interest.

Village Hall Hire

If you are looking for a local venue in which to hold a business or social event, then the Village Hall is available for hire at very competitive rates. It can be booked from as little as one hour, and we are also happy to discuss regular hires if required. Parties are always popular both for children and adults, and the Hall has capacity for 70 seated, 110 for dancing, and 150 standing.

It's local, convenient, and you have the satisfaction of knowing that your booking will mean that your money stays in your local community and supports your Village Hall.

To make an enquiry and find out pricing, contact Tim Frost on tim@onechurchlane.com

Parish Council News

Next Meeting

The September meeting was cancelled and will now take place on Thursday 5 October in the Village Hall at 7:30pm.

Waste not ...

The addition of a dog poo bin at the top of Jubb's Lane has been approved and will be installed as soon as the best position has been agreed. In the meantime, dogwalkers are respectfully reminded to pick up their dog waste and dispose of it in an acceptable manner to avoid the footpath becoming unpleasant for all users.

Reporting Road Issues in Wiltshire

The MyWilts App is an easy way to report problems on our roads to Wiltshire Council, such as potholes, fallen signposts, missing white lines, abandoned vehicles, dog fouling, fly tipping, graffiti, faulty streetlights and many more issues. You can attach photographs and videos to provide additional information and pinpoint exact locations. The more people use it, the better, and residents have successfully reported issues which have been fixed. Either download the app or access the service here:

www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts-online-reporting

School Report

It has been lovely to welcome back all our existing families for the new school year, as well as to say hello to all the new Acorns children to Ogbourne and to our newcomers to Years 1 and 3.

Our Acorns children have had a great first few weeks, and their Year 5 'buddies' have been very diligent in the care and support that they have been providing.

The staff have been very impressed with how well all the children have settled back into school and adjusted to their new classes, Head of School, Lucy Crump has heard many very positive things from all members of staff about what a great start everyone has made to the new academic year.

The school's value for this term is 'Love', and we look forward to exploring this further in our collective worships and seeing this value lived out throughout school.

As we settle into Term 1, all classes are getting back into the full swing of Ogbourne life and learning. All the children are showing extremely positive attitudes to their work and behaviour.

In addition, it has been great to see a wide range of learning taking place, from investigations and explorations of rocks in Willows, to Viking studies and exploring Beatles' lyrics during Reading in Poplars.

Oaks have ended the week with a lovely, sunny walk around the village as part of their Geography unit and Acorns class are settling in beautifully to the school environment.

Looking ahead, on Friday 13 October we will be holding our Harvest Festival celebration in the village Church. This year our chosen school charity is the Trussell Trust, and we will be taking some food and drink donations with us to the festival. If anyone would like to make a donation, then these will be gladly received in the week up to the festival to support those in need during these difficult times. Parents and carers are also welcome to join us for the festival as well as on the walk from the School to the Church. We'll be leaving school at 1:30pm.

The Inn with the Well

Rounders Review

August Bank Holiday Monday saw an impressive turn out of locals and friends assemble in the Paddock on the Old Marlborough Road for the revival of this popular fixture in the village calendar, which had been held every Bank holiday for 15 years.

Team B won the toss and elected to bat first. Some strong batting saw multiple rounders being run whilst fielders scavenged hard to retrieve buried balls. Little Ivy ran the alternative back-to-front route to score her first home run. Controversial catch-of-the-match went to husband Clive who caught wife Lesley out! And Colin remembered his gallantry (eventually!) to assist Michelle who retired with an injury, substituted by Suz whose Antipodean roots contributed to some remarkable fielding.

VAR only had to be referred to once, and Team A snatched a win by just one rounder on aggregate. Adding to the entertainment were picnics, beer, escaped chickens and home-grown jam (yes grown!). The event marked the end of the summer in a fabulous way, and thanks go to Mike & Megan for resurrecting the event, the organisers, players and spectators, as well as those who made the paddock available for the fun. We hope you haven't found too many lost balls in the hedges since!

October Opening Hours

Open Tuesday to Saturday 4-10pm.

Closed from Sunday 22 to Tuesday 31 October inclusive

Men's Rugby World Cup matches will be shown as follows:

Sat 7 Oct	2pm	Wales v Georgia,
	4.45pm	England v Samoa,
	8pm	Ireland v Scotland.

Sat 28 Oct open 7:30pm for the Final.
Bar only to be run by the Old Wellonians

Find and follow the Inn and the Old Wellonians on the Socials on the following Instagram usernames: *@theinnwiththewell* and *@oldwellonians*

Old Wellonians

Ridgeway Ramble

11 intrepid villagers assembled at the Inn with the Well on a muggy Sunday morning during an unseasonably hot spell for the Old Wellonians inaugural walk along 'the oldest road', the Ridgeway, back to the village.

Chauffeur Charlie drove the walkers in style in Charabanc Chantelle to the start at Overton for a 16.25km (or 10.1 miles in old money) walk which took the group 3 hrs 40 minutes.

The high point literally was reaching 278m above sea level at Barbury Castle, where Charlie had set up a stylish pitstop complete with cushioned seating and linen clad tables on which were served chilled drinks to rehydrate everyone and to accompany Suz's delicious Anzac biscuits, freshly baked that morning. It was hard to tear yourself away, but the ramblers did to complete this first section. The group was so inspired by their achievement and the beautiful Wiltshire countryside that it has committed to walking the next section from Sparsholt Firs, so if any readers are similarly motivated, then watch this space, surf the socials or check the pub chalkboards for future details.

Congratulations to all participants and thanks to all organisers including the Inn with the Well for bookending the event with their mouthwatering bacon and sausage rolls to start and delectable steak chilli to end. See you all on the next leg!

End of Season Quiz

The distinct change in the weather meant it was time for Ben's End of Season Quiz which saw teams tackle rounds as diverse as spot the United State, identify the food & drink, name the Union flag and date the Dead or Alive. Congratulations to the Sofa Surfers who took the Quiz Crown. Thanks to Ben and Charlie for hosting and Mike and Megan for the post-match Sunday roast baps.

Ogbourne Motor Group

The first meeting of the Ogbourne Motor Group (yes, the OMG) was well attended with people coming and going through the evening to discuss what they might hope for the group.

The point of the group is to have a time and place to meet and discuss automotive issues of running older vehicles. In addition, there was definite interest in getting out and about, either in our cars, or coordinating with the Old Wellonians to make use of their minibus, Chantelle. Destinations discussed include Beaulieu, Gaydon, Haynes Motor Museum, the Classic Car Show at the NEC, and more locally, the Atwell-Wilson museum at Calne, or just getting out for a drive around the area.

This group is about meeting in Ogbourne St George, not where we are from. If you know people that fancy a trip out to Ogbourne St George to talk about old cars, let them know we're here. It would be great to see some cars next time too... people love to see old cars on the road even if they don't have one themselves.

The next get together is 7pm on Thursday 19 October when we can all meet at the Inn with the Well again. See you there and bring an old car!

Little Dragons

We began our exciting new term with a splash! Hot weather necessitated a lot of water activities. Water play stimulated an interest in fish (in water trays), fishing games, puzzles etc. and it all helped the children to settle in well. Looking further into the term, we will be exploring autumn - its colours, textures, sounds and the idea of hibernation. If you have anything we could look at such as pumpkins, apples, conkers that you could drop at Pre-school we'd love to learn more about them.

Finally, we are also looking forward to welcoming our MP Danny Kruger, who will be coming to admire our outstanding setting and to congratulate the staff on their amazing achievements.

If you, or someone you know, would be interested in working at Little Dragons please let us know. The post is a part time one and we would love to hear from anyone who is interested. Preferably, applicants will need a level 2 qualification. Please contact Helen or Kate for further details at helen@littledragons.org or kate@littledragons.org

Chiseldon Local History Group

The next meeting is on Wednesday 18 October in the Church Hall at 7.30 p.m. when the subject is “Remembrance and the Unknown Warrior” presented by David Bailey. We will also be holding our Annual General Meeting immediately before the talk.

The Unknown Warrior is an unidentified British serviceman who is interred in Westminster Abbey. Although created to honour and commemorate all those who died in British service, it also serves as a special symbol of those recorded as missing in action.

The Unknown Warrior was carried back from France and then reverently buried in Westminster Abbey on 11 November 1920. His grave is one of Britain’s most important war memorials. Over a million people queued up to visit it in the week following his burial, and it still attracts large numbers of visitors.

Chiseldon Local History Group membership subscriptions are £20 per year, with the subscription year starting in October. Visitor fees for non-members are £5 per meeting. The schedule will be published on the website, www.chiseldonlhg.org.uk as well as general information on the History Group and local historical links and information.

Chiseldon Museum is now closed for the 2023 season. It will re-open in spring 2024. Contact details: Elaine Jones (01793 740784) Keith Parsons (01793 741346) Email: info@chiseldonlhg.org.uk

Mobile Library

If you’re looking for your next read, then the Mobile Library will be on Liddiards Green from 10-10.30am on 5 October, 2 November, 30 November and 28 December.

October Church Services

1 October, Harvest Festival, 10.00am, Harvest Service

8 October, Trinity 18, 8.30am, Holy Communion (BCP)

15 October, Trinity 19, 10.30am, Zoom Service

22 October, Trinity 20, 6.00pm, Evensong (BCP)

29 October, Last after Trinity, 11.00am, Benefice Communion in **Ogbourne St Andrew**

The 100 Club

Congratulations to September winner Sue Iliffe and runner-up Jeanette Thierren.

The 100 Club is still open to all locals for year 2023/24. For an annual subscription of £12, members are allocated numbers which are entered into 12 monthly draws. Membership is limited to 100, and there are two cash prizes of £25 and £15 each month. It's a 'first come, first served' basis.

To join the 100 Club church fundraiser as a new member or to renew your subscription, please complete the form on the back page of last month's Dragon or the flyer delivered through your letterbox and return it with your cheque for £12 made payable to 'Ogbourne St George PCC'. Alternatively e-mail laayres@talk21.com and we can provide bank details.

If you have a preferred number, they will try to accommodate you, but don't delay in applying!

Contact the Dragon

To include your Village news in The Dragon and/or to receive a copy by email, please write to the Editor, Claire Heald, on osgdragon22@gmail.com