

THE DRAGON

February 2024



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

Parish Council News

The Parish Council wishes all residents health and happiness for 2024 and hopes that this leap year has started well for everyone.

Parish Council Meetings

The first Parish Council meeting of the year has already taken place at which there was plenty of thoughtful, robust and engaging debate about village interests and plans for 2024.

Meetings take place in the Village Hall at 7.30pm, and the 2024 meeting schedule is as follows:

11 January

14 March

9 May

11 July

12 September

14 November

Draft minutes are produced after each meeting and can be found on www.ogbournestgeorge.org.uk under 'Council Meetings' followed by the meeting year and date. Minutes appear as final versions once they have been formally voted and accepted, usually at the following meeting under 'Council Meetings' / '2023-2024 Final Minutes'.

Reminder to Cut Back Hedges and Keep Paths Clear

Residents are reminded of their ongoing responsibility to maintain good public access along footpaths, pavements, roads, etc, which abut their property/land/gardens, by cutting back hedges, trees, bushes, verges, etc. This is especially crucial at junctions and around village signs where overgrowth impedes access and visibility, creating hazards for pedestrians and drivers as well as all road and path users. The Parish Council has received complaints about overgrowth restricting safe usage of public pathways in the past, so kindly reminds everyone that now is the time to undertake this important green maintenance.

Ogbourne Motor Group

It's good to see the OMG working; members helping each other when in trouble with their vehicles. These connections are important when you're stranded at the side of the road!

We're starting to plan for the year ahead and the latest ideas include:

- A treasure hunt around some of the sites of Wiltshire answering questions and collecting some artefacts along the way
- A summer gathering and get together of interesting vehicles in the village.

The group is open to all, so if you have an interest in things automotive, old or new, then you're welcome to join us in the Inn with the Well each month. The next meeting will be on Thursday 8 February from 7pm. See you there.

Little Dragons Update

The staff and children of Little Dragon would like to wish our local community a belated Happy New Year. All the children settled back happily into the new spring term and are gaining in confidence.

One of our themes this term is weather, and there has been plenty for us to talk about. The children love playing outside, even when it's wet or cold, and we encourage them to be in the outside play area as much as possible.

Cold weather offers opportunities to explore shapes as well this term, and both topics have been incorporated into the children's play and interests. We have been exploring ice out in the playground and freezing our toy animals in trays of water inside, which has offered the children the opportunity to see them stuck in the ice and to work out how to rescue them.

Our setting is growing again, and we would like to welcome Ceri, our new member of staff who started with us just before Christmas. She has settled in well.

The Inn with the Well

Mike and Megan Shaw wish everyone a warm welcome into 2024 and hope to see many friends and village residents in the pub soon.

They start the year by extending a particular thank you to Sherilee and Trevor Bathe for delivering papers in the village for many years and who retired last month.

By the time you read this we will have banished any January blues by celebrating Australia Day with a BBQ and Karaoke at the pub. We hope everyone there had a great time!

Six Nations Saturdays

Looking ahead, the 2024 Guinness Six Nations tournament will run from 2 February to 16 March, and 'Six Nations Saturdays' are back at the pub. It will be showing Saturday matches and serving two types of Basket Meals from 5.30pm.

Upcoming Events

- Friday 2 February: Carers and residents' lunch 12.30-2.30pm
- Wednesday 14 February: Mike would like to invite all villagers to the Inn with the Well for drinks on his 66th birthday from 4-8pm. To quote the man himself, 'No money, no presents.'
- Saturday 30 March: Celebration of Spring Dinner. Details to follow.

Sunday Lunches

- Home-cooked Sunday lunches will be served from 12.30pm onwards on 25 February and 10 March. The latter is also Mothering Sunday, so where better to bring the mum in your life for a delicious treat. Please book in advance.

Opening Hours

- February and March: Open Wednesday to Saturday 4-10pm.
- Saturday 10 February: Closed for Private Party
- 4-9 April: Closed for Celtic Capers (moved from February)

Please visit www.theinnwiththewell.co.uk for up-to-date events. and deals.

February Church Services

- 4 Feb, 2nd Sunday before Lent, 10.00am, Cafe Church
11 Feb, Sunday next before Lent, 8.30am, Holy Communion (BCP)
14 Feb, Ash Wednesday Service, 10.00am Chiseldon,
7.00pm, Ogbourne St Andrew
18 Feb, Lent 1, 10.30am, Zoom Service
25 Feb, Lent 2, 4.00pm, Evensong (BCP)

100 Club Winners

Congratulations to the latest 100 Club winners:
December: 1st D Cook. 2nd M Tanner / January: 1st R Lacalle. 2nd S Smith

Plant Sale Table

Carol and Helen would like to thank you all for supporting the Plant Sale Table outside the Old Forge throughout 2023. By bringing and buying all things horticultural, over £700 was raised for the Church. In this new year they look forward to us all sowing a few extra seeds to generate more plants to share around the village in 2024. The Table will return in the spring.

Mobile Library

The Mobile Library will stop at Liddiards Green / High Street from 10-10.30am on the following dates:
22 February, 21 March, 18 April, 16 May, 13 June, 11 July

Chiseldon Local History Group

The next meeting is on 21 February 2024 in the Church Hall at 7.30pm on 'Women in the Wars of the Roses', presented by Chris Scott. The Wars of the Roses, which pitted the Houses of Lancaster and York against each other, was a pivotal period in English history. But it wasn't just about the men - there were powerful and influential women who were key figures in the story. Chris will tell us more about such women as Elizabeth Woodville, Margaret of Anjou and Anne Neville.

Message from the Editor

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