

THE DRAGON

November 2024



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

Autumn Quiz Fun

The Village Hall Committee was delighted to see so many friends and villagers at the Autumn Quiz last month, who in genial Host Colin's words, '*caused chaos*' in an evening of good-natured rivalry and cheerful competitiveness.

Team 'Inn Without The Well' proved the value in reading your Dragon by securing full marks in this bespoke round, whilst creativity truly flowed in the varied and amusing responses to the '*What question can you not answer 'yes' to?*' However, the debate on whether a cucumber is a vegetable or fruit continues...

As ever it was a close-run thing, resulting in a tie for the top spot between 'Oggy Bottom Beauties' and 'Oggy Bottom Beasts', once adjustments for additional team members had been made!

This is one of our key fundraising events in support of the ever-rising costs of keeping the Village Hall in working order on behalf of the village, and thanks to everyone's generosity, we raised nearly £600. Two new modern fire extinguishers and some new heaters will top the list of purchases we will be able to make. The Committee thanks everyone who donated so generously in advance and on the night at the bar and on the raffle.

Wear it Pink Fundraising Success

Friends and residents turned out for a great Pink Friday in support of Breast Cancer Now, hosted by Roz, Mike and Megan at The Well Guesthouse. It was a scrumptious morning of cake, coffee and chat, and donations raised a fantastic £465 for this worthy cause.

Thank you to everyone who came along, wore a rainbow of pink, baked and donated delicious cakes, donated to and played the raffle, and to Mike and Megan for hosting and providing the liquid refreshments. We hope our colleagues at Ogbourne School enjoyed the leftovers too!

Parish Council News

The Parish Council is looking for someone with a little spare time to join them as a Parish Councillor. This active group meets every two months for a couple of hours and is seeking someone with energy, enthusiasm and new ideas to take things forward and help improve the village for all of us.

If you would like more information on the role, visit the PC website at: www.ogbournestgeorge.org.uk, and select 'The Parish Council' tab. Here you will also find contact details for the current Parish Councillors if you would like to discuss the role with one of them. You can also read all about them and their achievements in the June to August 2023 editions of the Dragon which are under 'The Community' tab.

To apply for the role please contact the Parish Clerk on:
parishclerk@ogbournestgeorge.org.uk

The PC thanks everyone for using the new dog waste bin on Jubbs Lane. It is aware that it is full and has contacted the contractor numerous times to empty it. It has been assured that this will be done as soon as possible.

Little Dragons Update

The children have been enjoying activities linked to learning more about the fruits of autumn. We went on a walk to collect apples and conkers, and we have been cutting up apples and pumpkins to examine inside. The children were fascinated to find lots of seeds which they enjoyed counting.

Cutting up pumpkins and apples enabled them to handle the flesh and explore the vocabulary of description and feeling. Comparing the size of apple and pumpkin seeds offered an opportunity to talk about size.

As usual, Little Dragons organised an autumn party for the last day of half-term and gave the children an opportunity to dress up, play games and sing along with one of our very talented parents.

Little Dragons is recruiting again, and we would like to hear from a qualified, Level 3 applicant who would like to join our friendly and outstanding preschool.

Christmas Tree Lighting – 1 December 2024

The Parish Council and Village Hall Committee are pleased to invite everyone to the annual lighting of our Village Christmas Tree from 5:00pm on Sunday 1 December at the Village Hall.

The Parish Council will be serving free mulled wine (plus a tasty children's version), and the Village Hall will run a cash bar serving bottled lagers, cider, wine, non-alcoholic and soft drinks plus nibbles.

Doors open at 5pm, and we'll start with our unmissable Christmas jumper competition for adults and children, so start decorating that knitwear now.

The tree will be lit up at 5.30pm. That will be followed by some rousing Christmas Carols, and we are delighted that Ramsbury Silver Band will be there to accompany us.

The Hall will stay open until 9pm for you all to continue the festivities and enjoy a catch up and some social time with friends and villagers.

If anyone would like to donate mince pies, sausage rolls or other sweet / savoury festive treats for us all to share on the night, then these will be very welcome. They can be dropped off at the Hall from 4.30pm.

This event is now a firm favourite in our Christmas calendar, so come along and make this year's equally as good.

Ogbourne Motor Group – 6 November 2024

The roving OMG met at Barn View on 2 October. It was a quiet and select meeting, perhaps better called the 'A45 Owners' Group'. And a pleasant evening it was too.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 6 November, and will be hosted by Brian Utton at Grey Wethers on Coles Meadow from 7pm. Bring your favourite tippie. Contact Kevin Howard on 07534 679944 to be added to the WhatsApp Group for up-to-date news.

November Church Services

3 November, All Saints' Day, Cafe Church, 10.00am

10 November, Remembrance Sunday Service at 10.45am

17 November, Second before Advent, Parish Communion, 10.00am

24 November, Christ the King, Evensong (BCP), 6.00pm

100 Club Membership Still Open

The 100 Club raises funds for our village Church, which costs over £27,000 a year to maintain. The Club runs from October to September and is open to all locals. Each number costs £12 for the year, and they are entered into a monthly draw for cash prizes of £25 and £15 each month. At the time of writing there are c.30 numbers up for grabs for Oct 24-Sep 25, so please contact Lesley or Rebecca on laayres@talk21.com or 07775 517138 to take part. See last month's Dragon for more details.

Autumn Church Maintenance Morning – 16 November

This will take place at the Church on Saturday 16 November from 9.30am-12.30pm. Volunteers and helpers are kindly requested to tackle the usual maintenance jobs both inside and out. Please bring outdoor tools, such as rakes, loppers etc as these will be useful. There will be refreshments to say thank you to everyone.

Chiseldon Local History Group

Our next meeting is on 20 November 2024 in the Church Hall, Butts Rd, SN4 0NN at 7.30 p.m. on "The Abolition of the Slave Trade", presented by Martin Collinson. The Slave Trade Act 1807 prohibited the slave trade in the British Empire, and although it did not automatically emancipate those enslaved at the time, it did encourage British action to press other nation states to abolish their own slave trades. It took effect after 18 years of trying. However, slavery remained legal in most of the British Empire until the Slavery Abolition Act of 1833. Martin will take us through this with reference to the key personalities involved such as William Wilberforce and Henry Dundas.

Contact The Dragon

To include your village news in The Dragon, please write to the Editor, Claire Heald, on osgdragon22@gmail.com