



## CHURCH DIARY FOR APRIL 2007

### Sunday, 1st April - PALM SUNDAY

10.00 am All-age service

### Wednesday, 4th April - Holy Week,

7.30 pm Evening Service

### Friday 6th April - GOOD FRIDAY

2.00 pm Good Friday Liturgy

### Sunday, 8th April - EASTER DAY

9.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) (Please note the earlier time)

### Sunday, 15th April, - Low Sunday

9.30 am Parish Communion

### Sunday, 22nd April - PATRONAL FESTIVAL

3.00pm All-age service for St George's Day

### Sunday, 29th April - Easter 4

10.00 am Team Eucharist at Holy Cross, Chiseldon

There will be a midweek service of Holy Communion each Wednesday at 10.00 am at Holy Cross .  
Wednesday Worship - April 18th. Topic: "The Prodigal Son".

**PRIEST-IN-CHARGE** The Revd Roger Powell (01793 740369)

**CHURCHWARDENS** Charlotte Frost (841361)  
Gordon Mudge (841338)



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Contributions for the next edition by 25th April please:



# The Dragon

The Village Newsletter for  
Ogbourne St George

APRIL 2007

## WHAT'S ON IN OGBOURNE ST GEORGE THIS MONTH

### April

- 7 Children will be welcome to help with the Easter Garden in the church porch from 10.00am Please contact Richenda George for more details on 841278.
- 20 St George's Dinner. 6.30 at the Village Hall for parents and children. All welcome . Carry on the weekend celebrations at ,,,,,,.....
- 20 The St George's Quiz. 9.00pm at The Inn with the Well.
- 20-23 The 4th Annual Beer Festival at The Inn with the Well to celebrate St George starting 10.00 midday on Friday 20th. 10 cask ales to choose from. Live music on the night of the 21st.
- 23 Annual Parish Meeting (Parochial Church Council) 7.30pm in the Church.
- 24 Little Fishes. 1.45-3.00pm at Ogbourne St George Church.



## Running for Charity

If you see a tired-looking dad running through the village, it might well be Keith Macdonald, trying to lose weight and desperately aiming to get fit in a very short time. Keith will be running the London Marathon on April 22nd to raise money for a local charity called IMPS. That's the Injury Minimisation Programme for Schools, and it teaches accident prevention lessons, in school and at hospital, for 10 and 11 year-old primary school children.

All sponsorship will be gratefully received, either by the traditional pledge, or online to get a tax refund! [www.justgiving.com/keithmacdonald](http://www.justgiving.com/keithmacdonald). More information on IMPS at their website [www.impsweb.co.uk](http://www.impsweb.co.uk)





## **St George (? - 303)**

It's St George's Day on April 23rd. As well as being the patron saint of England, St George is clearly of great significance to this village and there are celebrations to mark the day. A special Church Service, a dinner and a Beer Festival! But how much do we actually know about him apart from the medieval legend that portrays him as the gallant soldier slaying a dragon and rescuing an innocent maiden from death? One source suggests he was born into a noble Christian family in the late third century in an area which is now Turkey. He followed his father's profession of soldier and became part of the retinue of the Emperor Diocletian. The emperor ordered the persecution of Christians and George refused to take part. In 303 he was tortured and executed in Palestine and became an early Christian martyr. The celebration of St Georges Day is reputed to be the day of his martyrdom. This is just one account - does anyone know any different?

**Church Electoral Roll** - Every six years the Church Electoral Roll has to be completely renewed and 2007 is such a year. The Church Roll is important - it demonstrates support for something that is an integral part of our village and the community. To be on the roll gives you the right to stand for and vote at the election to the Parochial Church Council (PCC). This takes place each year at the Annual PCC Meeting which is on Monday April 23 this year at 7.30pm in the church. Whereas the Parish Council administers village affairs the PCC looks after church affairs both physically - the building - and spiritually - working with the vicar in the organisation of services and so on, and in outreach to the wider community. Forms for enrolment on the Church electoral roll have been delivered throughout the village but if you haven't received one there are some in the church porch or they are available from Charlotte Frost. Please return the forms by April 8th to Charlotte Frost, the Electoral Roll Officer, the Church or ring 841361 for collection.

**Family Bingo Night** - Although we always like to support the village hall in Ogbourne St George, the Bingo Night has become increasingly cramped as the event has become more and more popular over the years. We therefore decided to try a new venue this year. After much research we were delighted to invite everyone to The Assembly Room, upstairs in Marlborough Town Hall. It was a decision that we were not to regret! The feedback from the evening was 100% positive and everyone was bowled over by the venue and the food (both the quality and quantity). Thank you everyone who supported the event, and those whose effort made it possible. We raised a massive £732.38 and had some fun whilst doing it. Thank you. *Debbie Sandison*

**Pre School Easter Fair** - A big thank you to everyone who helped with and supported the Easter Fair this year. The homemade lunches were a big success and there was much to buy - from cakes and plants to gifts and a lucky dip for the children. We raised over £700 for the Pre School - our best yet! *Ruth Fraser*

## **PARISH COUNCIL REPORT**

The Parish Council met in the Village Hall on March 15 at 7.30 pm, apologies received from councillor Terry Knight and WCC/KDC councillor Chris Humphries. Two members of the public attended.

There was not a great deal to discuss. The clerk reported that, following representations about the removal by KDC of public litter bins in the village, he had ascertained that these would not be replaced, as the new system of refuse management does not accommodate them. With reference to the broken noticeboards at the top end of the village, he confirmed that repairs are in hand.

Planned work in the Bell Field to clear rubbish, prune the ash tree and then put up football goal posts has had to be delayed until much later in the year. Access has to be across the neighbouring field, but the continued wet weather meant it was not possible to bring in the necessary equipment before the field had to be cultivated, and so nothing can now be done until after harvest.

Other topics included planning decisions, rights of way (following a complaint from a representative of the local Ramblers Association about two blocked paths) and in response to a request from the floor, there was a discussion about the street lights and how carbon neutral they are. The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting, on **TUESDAY, MAY 8** at 7.30pm which all parishioners are encouraged to attend.

## **Local Government Reorganisation**

The move to replace Kennet and the three other Wiltshire district councils with one authority has moved a step further with the government announcing that Wiltshire County Council's bid for unitary status will be put forward for consultation. The first stage of the consultation process will be with local organisations such as the fire, police and health authorities.

The proposed reorganisation of local government in Wiltshire would see the four district councils of Kennet, West Wilts, Salisbury and North Wilts abolished with all services provided from one centrally managed county wide-organisation.

The three district councils of Kennet, West Wilts and Salisbury strongly oppose the unitary proposal. The Deputy Leader of Kennet, councillor Dominic Campbell said "We do not feel that the proposal is in the best interest of local people. One huge council based in Trowbridge would be more remote and less accessible for our residents and will cost millions to implement". He went on to say that although the government has said that it will consult widely there does not appear to be scope for local people to give their views and he has urged Wiltshire County Council to hold a referendum to allow all Wiltshire residents and parish councils to have their say.