



Sunday, 4th March - Lent 2

10.00 am All-age service

Sunday, 11th March - Lent 3

8.30 am Holy Communion

Sunday, 18th March - Mothering Sunday

10.00 am All-age service

Sunday, 25th March - Lent 5: Passion Sunday

9.30 am Morning Prayer

Remember!! Clocks go forward one hour today

There will be a midweek service of Holy Communion each Wednesday at 10.00 am at Holy Cross

Tuesdays, 13 & 27 March

Little Fishes 1.45-3pm in Ogbourne St George Church for pre-school children, toddlers and babies with their parents and carers. Contact Richenda George on 841278 for more details.

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

CHURCHWARDENS Charlotte Frost (841361)
Gordon Mudge (841338)



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Contributions for the April edition by 25 March please:



The Dragon

The Village Newsletter for
Ogbourne St George

March 2007



WHAT'S ON IN OGBOURNE ST GEORGE THIS MONTH

March

- 10 Family Prize Bingo** organised by Friends of Ogbourne School at Marlborough Town Hall. Doors open at 5.00pm. Eyes down for 5.30pm.
- 15 Parish Council Meeting.** 7.30pm in the Village Hall
- 17 Help make posies for Mothering Sunday.** 10.00am at the Martlets. Gifts of spring flowers will be welcome. Contact Richenda George on 841278.
- 22 "Antiques Roadshow"** . A free valuation session by Kidson-Trigg auctioneers from 3-6.30 pm in the Village Hall
- 24 Little Dragons Pre-school Easter Fair.** 11am - 1pm at the Village Hall. Easter Egg Hunt, Raffle, Bottle stall, homemade quiche and soup available for lunch and much more. Donations of bottles, gifts and time will be much appreciated. Contact Rachel Davies 841305

March 25th
Summer time begins and clocks go forward 1 hour today

Ridgeway Team Choir

We are very fortunate in present times when very few village churches have choirs for their services, that within the Ridgeway Team of churches, although we do not have the resources for a choir in all Sunday morning services, we do have a group of singers from the two Ogbournes and Chiseldon who make up the Ridgeway Team Choir. Members of the choir sing in all of the three churches within our team for special joint services and also at weddings, funerals, and special occasions, such as Christmas Carol Services. We are always happy to welcome new members. There is no commitment to sing at every occasion and lists of dates are notified well in advance as far as possible. If you are a singer and would be interested in joining the choir or wish to know more details please contact me - Rosemary Wallace Tel. 841405 Email: ros.wallace@dial.pipex.com



The Revd Roger Powell writes

I like the month of March, the days are getting longer and the promise of spring is all around us. Daffodils and other flowers are bursting into bloom and the trees are getting their fresh green leaves. By the time you read this, Lent will be well and truly under way and as a church we will be using this time to think and reflect on our spiritual lives.

There are several elements to keeping a 'good' Lent. It ultimately provides us with an excellent opportunity to do a bit of 'spiritual spring cleaning', and you will find leaflets in all of our churches providing details of what is on offer to help us do that this year. As Lent progresses and Holy Week and Easter approach, we are challenged to prayerfully reflect on both our life and faith.

Later this month on 18 March we celebrate Mothering Sunday and each of our churches will have services to which children and young people will be especially welcome. Mothering Sunday provides brightness in the midst of the seriousness and challenges of the Lenten period. I shall leave you with a prayer that you might like to use this Lent.

I wish you well in keeping a 'good' Lent. All good wishes Fr Roger

*Lord Jesus, as we go through Lent
we ask for the power of your Spirit
that we may become
more thoughtful towards others,
more honest with ourselves,
and more faithful to you.
Help us to walk in your presence and grow as the
people you want us to be. Amen*

Join the Bellringers

The origins of change ringing lie in the sixteenth century when church bells began to be hung with a full wheel. This gave ringers control of their bell which allowed rings of bells to be rung in a continuously changing pattern.

Music is created by moving bells up and down the ringing order to a defined sequence of "changes" known as a Method. Learning a few methods allows ringers to join in with other bands in towers around the world.

Ringing is well within the capabilities of most people. Teaching takes place at the Church on Thursday evenings from 7.30pm. If you are interested in becoming a bell ringer call in on a Thursday evening or contact Mike Clark on 841344 for more information

An Opportunity to Support the Village

On May 3rd this year elections are due to be held for Kennet District Council and our own Parish Council. This is an opportunity for everyone to participate in the running of the village through their vote or through active participation by standing for election as a Parish Councillor.

The Parish Council has responsibility for the well being of its local community. It has three main areas of work. Decision making; how money is spent, what activities to support and what services should be delivered. Monitoring; checking that services have been delivered effectively. Getting involved; taking up issues on behalf of parishioners by making representation to relevant bodies such as the District or County Council.

Parish Councils are the most local part of the democratic system and closest to the public. They can make decisions that affect everyday life such as commenting on planning applications, maintaining footpaths, open spaces and street lighting. As an example of how local democracy can make a difference one Parish Council followed up its local parish plan by sending out a questionnaire to young people in the village to find out their needs. The result was that they received grant funding and were able to build a youth shelter and upgrade the village hall.

If you are interested in standing as a Parish Councillor there are a number of ways you can find out more. You can contact the Parish Clerk, Cliff Freeman on 841388, or visit the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) website which has a large amount of information on becoming councillor and details of the work of Parish Councils, or attend the next meeting of the Parish Council on March 15th to see the councillors in action. Nomination forms will be available from March 27 from Kennet District Council's election office.

Whatever you decide, the most important thing is that you take this opportunity through your vote or by standing as a local councillor to become involved and ensure the future of the village. (*Note: Parish Council elections will only be held if more people stand as councillors than there are seats available.*)

Traffic congestion outside the school

Celia Hicks, Head Teacher writes Dear Neighbours. We are trying to improve the congestion outside the school gate at the beginning and end of the school day and when coaches have to pick up or drop off children. We have already introduced a campaign called "Walk to School" on

Wednesdays that has been very successful. We even have some families, who do not live in Ogbourne St George driving to the village and then parking at the bottom of the High Street to enable the children to walk to school. We have also introduced cycling proficiency lessons for pupils and send out regular reminders asking parents to show consideration for local residents when they park. We would really welcome any suggestions you may have on how to improve the situation to make it safer for everyone and to help reduce the number of cars on the road. Please do pop your ideas through the letter box or contact one of the school governors who will pass on your suggestions. Many thanks.