



CHURCH DIARY FOR March 2008



Sunday, 2nd March - Mothering Sunday

10.00 am All -age Service

Sunday, 9th March - Lent 5

8.30 am Holy Communion

Sunday, 16th March - Palm Sunday

9.30 am Parish Communion

Wednesday, 19th March

7.30 pm Evening Service

Friday, 21st March - Good Friday

2.00 pm Good Friday Liturgy

Sunday 23rd March - Easter Day

9.00 am Family Communion - note earlier time

Sunday 30th March - Easter 2

10.00 am Team Eucharist

NOTE: CLOCKS GO FORWARD 1 HOUR

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

From the Register

Burial of Ashes, February 17, Amy Thorne

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

CHURCHWARDENS Charlotte Frost (841361)
Gordon Mudge (841338)

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Contributions for the next issue by 20th March please



The Dragon

The Village Newsletter for
Ogbourne St George

March 2008



WHAT'S ON IN OGBOURNE ST GEORGE THIS MONTH

March

- 4 & 18 Ogbourne Little Fishes 1.45 - 3.00pm at Ogbourne St George Church
- 8 Join a Working Party carrying out small maintenance work at the Church from 9.30 am
- 13 Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm at the Village Hall
- 15 Little Dragons Easter Fair 11.30am to 1.30pm at the Village Hall
- 22 Decorating the Church for Easter between 10 and 11.30am
- 30 Summer time begins and clocks go forward 1 hour today

**** Advance Notice: Marlborough Players present "Waiting for Panto" ****
from 16, 17, 18 and 19 April at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall.
Tickets on sale at £6.00 from the White Horse Bookshop

Decorating The Church For Easter

The decoration of the Church for Easter will take place on the 22nd March between 10.00 and 11.30am. Anyone who would like to help will be very welcome, especially children to join in setting up the Easter garden in the porch. Contributions of flowers will also be appreciated. If you would like to participate ring Richenda George on 841278.

Please Don't Be Ogbourne's Best Kept Secret!

This newsletter is written for the village in an effort to foster community spirit. It is becoming increasingly difficult to fill because of the lack of news coming to me and particularly dispiriting when I have used non village items to fill up the space then find out about fund raising activities after the events are over. The main information I receive on a regular basis is from the Parish Council and the Church but the only way I can keep it going is if people keep me informed of what is happening. If you have anything to promote or report - events, charity fundraising, special birthdays, anniversaries, sporting success or any comments - that you would like to share please get in touch on 841270 or wendy@sbnexus.co.uk. *Wendy Reardon Smith*

Robin and Paddy Sherrard

would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their offers of help, the get well cards and the caring support through a very difficult time.

We both particularly wish to thank the wonderful people who saved Paddy's life – Karen Mayell and Rob Pinkney – without their quick thinking he wouldn't be here. And, of course, we are most grateful to the ambulance staff who were so kind to us all.

Robin feels that all your kindness helped her a great deal during this difficult ordeal. Paddy is now home and, although he still has a long way to go, being the stubborn old boy that he is, we feel he will fight his way back to full health.

Michelle and Michael would also like to add their appreciation to this message. With many thanks from us all.

Robin, Paddy, Michelle and Michael

Ogbourne St George School

The School wishes to appoint a governor from the wider community of our two villages (i.e. ideally not a parent). This is to replace Gemma Murray who has moved away. Anyone interested in this challenging role should speak to Timothy George (841278) as Chair of Governors, or Celia Hicks (841318) as Head Teacher. The job involves six meetings of the Governing body each year, plus as many committee meetings, but we look for an ongoing interest in the school. No formal qualifications are needed, and training and mentoring are available. Good people skills are essential, and we would particularly welcome applications from people who might help monitor the financial management of the school.

Village Hall 100 Club

February's lucky winners (once again numbers drawn by the children after the all-age service on Feb 3) were:

1. No 15, Elizabeth Brockman
2. No 69, Paul Rouse
3. No 90, Rod Coplestone.

Church Maintenance On Saturday March 8th at 9.30am a working party will be carrying out small maintenance work in the Church. We would welcome anybody who can devote a couple of hours to help with this work. *Keith Wallace*

Little Dragons Easter Fair

Little Dragons Pre-school will be holding their annual Easter Fair on Saturday 15th March 10.30am – 1.30pm in the Village Hall. There will be lots of fun and games, a barbeque, home-made cakes, tombola, raffle, toys and books for sale and plenty of Easter eggs to be won. Please come and support your local pre-school. All offers of help on the day and donations (Easter Eggs and raffle prizes) gratefully received, please contact Rachel Davies (841305).



Proposed Woodland Planting

On Friday 22nd February, a good turnout of villagers attended the Manor House to hear Andrew Tuckey's plans to plant a woodland on land he has purchased that adjoins a number of villagers' homes.

There was some trepidation amongst villagers as to how the woodland would impact on their homes and the village as Andrew Tuckey and his specialist adviser explained the reasons for undertaking the planting. These are to: reduce road noise, promote wildlife and reduce the effects of climate change

Andrew Tuckey also highlighted that Terry Knight, who has sold him the land, has retained ownership of a parcel of land adjoining the rear gardens of villagers and he speculated that this may be for "strategic reasons". Then the meeting turned to what people wanted to hear.

He set out his proposal that, with the support of the English Woodland Grant Scheme, it will involve the planting of 4 hectares of land with a specified range of recommended trees, shrubs and plants, which will be planted randomly with glades, vistas, areas of shrubs and a minimum allowance of 20% open land. The predominance of Ash trees raised considerable concern due to their aggressive growing.

The new woodland will be surrounded by a 6 foot fence and entry/exit gates to protect it from deer and all the trees will be protected by plastic guards. Although there will be chemical spraying residents were assured that there would be no run off or drift. It was mentioned that within 5 years the height of the trees would be approximately 6 foot. The right of way through the field will remain in place and will not be fenced in.

Andrew Tuckey went on to explain that he was waiting for feedback from the meeting prior to progressing with the work due to be completed by the end of March.

There was considerable concern expressed that the woodland would impact on the views and light that villagers have enjoyed since their houses were built, and in response to the mood of the room Andrew Tuckey offered villagers the opportunity to influence the planting using canes to mark out residents' preferences. Finally Oliver Clawson agreed to collect contact details of those interested in participating in the planting so that they could be involved on the day.

Deliveries to Bytham

Since the early days of The Dragon Romaine Dawes has kindly delivered the newsletter to the properties in Bytham and I have been very grateful for her help. Romaine is now moving away and will be unable to continue doing the deliveries. If anyone is prepared to take this on please give me a ring on 841270. Alternatively I will leave additional copies at the Inn with the Well for collection.

Firewood Available. There are several large branches, ideal for firewood, in the front garden of The Police House, free for anyone to help themselves.