



## CHURCH DIARY FOR October 2008

### Sunday, 5th October - Harvest Festival

10.00 am All-age Service  
*Gifts of fruit, vegetables and tins of food are very welcome and will be given to the Swindon Women's Refuge*

### Sunday, 12th October - Trinity 21

8.30 am Holy Communion

### Sunday, 19th October - Trinity 22

9.30 am Parish Communion

### Sunday, 26th October - Trinity 23

9.30 am Morning Prayer

**Next month's All-age service on November 2 will be a Toy Service, when our children are invited to bring toys for giving to under-privileged children via Home-Start.**

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

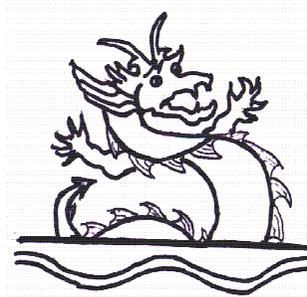
**From the Register  
Funeral  
24 September Les Wiltshire RIP**

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

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

**EDITOR** Wendy Reardon Smith  
Mill House – Tel 841270 e-mail: wendy@sbnexus.co.uk

Contributions for the next issue by 20th October please



# The Dragon

The Village Newsletter  
for Ogbourne St George



October 2008

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

### October

3 Harvest Supper 7.30pm in St George's Church. Tickets in advance only from Charlotte Frost (841361) Sarah Smith (841233) Sue McNally-Mills (841284)

7 & 21 Little Fishes 1.45-3 pm at St George's Church

**Advance Notice - Toy Service on November 2, 10.00 am at St George's Church**

### Speeding in the Village

At the last Parish Council meeting the issue of speeding through the village was discussed. Cllr Smith produced a draft discussion document outlining possible proposals that had been used in other villages. The alternatives ranged from a simple idea where residents have put 30 mph stickers on their wheelie bins so that they could be seen when the bins were out for collection to the more radical solution of width restrictions. Cllr Humphries offered to arrange to put any viable schemes for speed reduction on WCC's list for action although the areas concerned do not have accident records so will be low priority. It was agreed that simple solutions may be effective so costings for gateways to the village which would be situated at entrances would be sought for the next meeting. The Council will seek advice from Wiltshire County Council on solutions they may fund or contribute to after their assessment. This may include width restrictions as an eventual viable solution.

**New School Hall** After some delays it seems that the planning application for the new school hall will be before the Parish Council during October. If you have any specific views that you would like the Parish Council to take into account when considering this application please call the Clerk, Cliff Freeman, on 840011 (daytime) 841388 (evenings) or post your comments on the new village website at <http://www.ogbournestgeorge.org.uk> click on Community - Schools - School Hall Discussion.

### Village Hall 100 Club September winners

**1st: 21, Debbie Sandison 2nd: 53, Rob Pinkney 3rd: 86, Freddy Allen**

**The Inn with the Well.** The Pub is now closed on Sunday evenings - the winter Sunday opening hours are 12 noon to 3 pm.

## Parish Council Meeting

The Parish Council met on September 7 and seven residents attended. Councillors reported on matters arising: In the playground the new swings have not been fitted due to the weather and a RoSPA inspection on the playground was due to be carried out last month. The Chairman has now discovered the source of the foul water in the field and has attempted to arrange for an Environment Agency engineer to investigate. The Clerk will pursue this through Kennet Environmental services. BT is currently carrying out a review of telephone boxes and a decision on the future of the village boxes will be based on their use and viability.

In other business the Chairman reported that a feasibility study on work to be done on the parking area at the front of the school is being undertaken by WCC. The Planning Application for the school hall has been finalised by the school and submitted to WCC. It is expected that it will be received by the Parish Council during October and it was agreed to leave the consultation period for residents open until then and then decide whether a public meeting would be appropriate having analysed the feedback from the consultation.

As Romaine Daw has now left the village the Chairman of Poors Land Charity, Tim Frost, is seeking a replacement trustee to be appointed by the Parish Council. He has someone in mind, however if the Councillors know of suitable candidates they should inform Tim Frost.

It was reported that buses are often seen apparently speeding through the village. It was agreed that the Clerk will write to the Bus companies advising of the problem and that the PC will also take registration details, date and time of occurrence and report back to the companies for action. A resident reported that a number of motor bikes have been racing on the cycle path. The Clerk will report this to the Police. The next meeting will be held on **Thursday November 13<sup>th</sup>** at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

## New Chair of Governors -

Debbie Sandison has been elected as the Chair of Governors of Ogbourne St George & Andrew Church of England Primary School and takes over from Timothy George who held the post for 2 years (September 2006 to September 2008). The Dragon asked her for a comment on her recent election.

“I’ve been a Parent Governor for 5 years now and had narrowly escaped being nominated as Chair back in 2006! Two years on I’m ready for the challenge and whilst it does seem daunting (what worthwhile task doesn’t?), I know it’s going to be very rewarding. During Timothy’s time as Chair he invested a lot of time and effort into clarifying the structure of the Governing Body and its procedures. A legacy for which I am indebted.

I am so proud of our little school and the children in it. When we moved here over seven years ago I had little idea how big a part of my life the school would play. It is so much more to me than ‘the place where my children go to be educated’. It is a mini-community that provides a safe and stimulating environment for every individual child’s learning needs. It also, importantly, provides a welcoming atmosphere for all our parents and is a warm and friendly workplace for our much valued staff.

I feel very privileged to have been given this key role and need to thank my fellow Governors for their confidence in me and Timothy who has been an admirable role model and mentor. “

## £1,000 to spend in the Village - Your ideas needed

A few years ago a sale of surplus and end of line leisurewear sourced by Colin Stribling was held to raise funds for the Village. The purpose of the fundraising was to provide the means to hold community events within the village and three villagers, Colin, Megan Shaw, and Andy Wall formed a group – The Ogbourne Fundraisers - to determine how the money should be spent. The sale raised about £2500 and the money has been used to either purchase equipment or underwrite events including

- The ‘static triathlon’ in the pub garden that raised £1000 for the church.
- A computer projector for the computing for beginners classes previously run for 3 consecutive years in the school
- A barbecue in Savernake Forest
- Underwriting the cost of a barn dance

The Fund now stands at £1,000 and the Nationwide will no longer hold the money in a community account following the acquisition of the Portman Building Society and the money needs to be spent or deposited elsewhere. This is proving more difficult than had been anticipated without registered charity status. The organisers are looking for ways of spending the money within the village and will welcome any ideas you have. The School, the Church and The Little Dragons already hold their own fundraising events so the Ogbourne Fundraisers are looking to spend the money for the benefit of the village as a whole. There must be plenty of things that could be done where £1000 could be extremely useful whether it’s making use of the whole amount for one project, funding a number of smaller schemes or used to kickstart a large fund raising effort.

Do try and think up some ideas which would be good for the village and promote a sense of community. There is £1000 to be spent so this is money that can be used for something really worthwhile. Please contact Megan Shaw (841445), Colin Stribling (841155 ) or Andy Wall (841315) with your suggestions.

**No Smoking in Bus Shelters** Under the No Smoking legislation introduced last year it is illegal to smoke in Bus Shelters. Recently the No Smoking notices in the Bus Shelters that the Parish Council is obliged to install have been removed. It is a criminal offence to deface or remove them and the Parish Council will take appropriate action against culprits. YOU have been warned!!

**Retirement Service for the Railtons** As many of our readers will know John and Sandy Railton are retiring. Their last service will be on Sunday, 26 October at 11.00 am at Holy Cross Church, Ramsbury, followed by refreshments.

**Village Website** Since the launch of the Ogbourne St George Website there have been over 600 visits during the first two months. These are counted as unique visitors not necessarily totally different people. However it is considered that the number of people visiting the site must be well in excess of 100 per month.