

THE DRAGON

September 2023



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

Parish Council Website

Updates have been made to the Parish Council website which is accessed here:

www.ogbournestgeorge.org.uk/community/ogbourne-st-george-parish-council-20256/home/

There's a Planning Tracker which includes planning applications for locations within Ogbourne St George Parish Council.

In addition, there is a Calendar which residents can use to find out about village events and plan their own to avoid clashes with other events. To add your event to the Calendar, please email the Dragon Editor on osgdragon22@gmail.com

Neighbourhood Policing Team

In an update to July's changes to Wiltshire Community Policing, our new Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) is Emily Johnson who can be contacted on Emily.Johnson@wiltshire.police.uk

There is also a QR code that can be scanned via your mobile phone camera to take you to a page with the following information:

- Meet your local Community Policing Team (CPT) police officers and PCSOs
- Find out about crime stats in your area
- Learn about local policing meetings and events
- Read the CPT priorities
- Contact us



‘My head is still in the clouds’

August saw local resident Louise Stewart join a group of professional Wingwalkers called AeroSuperBatics and fulfil a decades-held ambition to take to the skies for her first Wingwalk and raise funds for our local hospice.

Following a safety briefing and instructions on how to climb onto the aeroplane, she found herself standing upright on the second wing, strapped in with bolts. She was given signals to use to communicate with the pilot. And then the engine roared, the propellor whirred, and the 1940s Boeing Stearman biplane bumped along the grass, before suddenly she was airborne and travelling at speeds which reached 120mph.

She describes it as exhilarating, as the plane worked with the force of the wind and tilted her from side to side, rendering her weightless for a few seconds as it dipped down and then whooshed upwards. The pilot dipped the wings so that the waving crowds below could see her, and she could appreciate the breathtaking views of the countryside below. Even dodging the flies as they collided with her goggles did not detract from the amazing experience, which lived up to her long-held expectations. After about ten minutes in the sky, the pilot put on the smoke trail behind her for the grand finale, reassuringly warning her, ‘You’re not on fire’!

Louise used her event to raise funds for the Prospect Hospice in Wroughton, a local organisation that she already supports which provides vital end of life care. She raised the grand total of £1,255, and paying for the Wingwalk herself, means that every penny from sponsorship, the quiz night at the Inn with the Well and the raffle with prizes donated from local businesses will go to the Prospect. Louise says a huge thank you to everyone whose generosity contributed to this fantastic sum.

She particularly wants to thank Rachel and Martin Stannard for creating entertaining and unique quiz rounds, notably on famous and infamous Police Officers, as well as the ‘Wings of Prospect’ which cleverly wove in questions about wingwalking as well as the Prospect. Her thanks also go to Megan and Mike Shaw for hosting the quiz and serving the tasty half-time hot dogs. Congratulations to Team ‘Late Again’ who were first time quiz winners after a small ‘Stewart’s Enquiry’ (!), and last but by no means least, a shout out to Mark Bevan, whose generous auction bid nailed the colossal 5kg jar of chilli jam! We hope that wasn’t too hot to handle.

The Inn with the Well & Old Wellonians

Opening hours are Monday to Saturday from 4-10pm from September onwards.

Men's Rugby World Cup matches will be shown as follows:

Friday 8 Sept - France v New Zealand 20.15

Saturday 9 Sept - Ireland v Romania 14.15

England v Argentina 20.00

Sunday 10 Sept - S Africa v Scotland 16.45

Wales v Fiji 20.00

Saturday 16 Sept - Wales v Portugal 16.45

Ireland v Tonga 20.00

Saturday 23 Sept - England v Chile 16.45

S Africa v Ireland 20.00

Sunday 24 Sept - Scotland v Tonga 16.45

Wales v Australia 20.00

Saturday 30 Sept - Scotland v Romania 20.00

Sun 10 September – Avebury Ridgeway Walk

Meet at the Inn for breakfast and be driven to Avebury by the Old Wellonians minibus, Chantelle, and enjoy this 10-mile iconic walk along 'the oldest road', the Ridgeway back to the Inn for dinner.

The Inn will open at 10.30am for coffee and bacon or sausage baps. The bus will leave at 11.30am. Return to the Inn for meat & vegetarian chilli with jacket potato or rice from 4-6pm and reflect on your ambulatory achievement! For a seat on the bus, put your name down at the Inn.

Sun 24 September – What doesn't NASA stand for?

Settle in for an afternoon of quizzing entertainment from 2pm with Ben and his End of Season Everlasting Quiz. Join Kevin for his 'Relativity Round', as villagers are invited to host Guest Rounds. See Ben in the pub to put your name down for one (or more!).

The Inn will be serving its legendary roast beef and roast pork baps from the pizza oven from 4pm. Bring an unwanted gift wrapped for the lucky dip raffle, but beware passing on unwanted gifts you may have received from the neighbours ...

Ogbourne Motor Group

A village of our size seems to be blessed with a considerable (some would say disproportionate!) number of residents with old even 'classic' vehicles. If you are one of them, or if you have a mild, moderate or major interest in 'infernal' combustion engines or older vehicles, whether you own one or not, then the newly formed Ogbourne Motor Group (OMG) might be for you.

This is a relaxed opportunity to get together and share knowledge, stories, tools, and time with like-minded folk about all things automotive. And who knows, we might even coordinate visits to vehicle events and shows in time.

We'll be at the Inn with the Well on the first Thursday of the month starting from Thursday 7 September from 7pm onwards, so if you are interested, wander down for a pint and a chat.

Little Dragons News

The Staff and Management Committee of Little Dragons are delighted to have our "Outstanding" achievement recognised in the Gazette this week.

The summer holidays have been a good time for the staff to have a good break, but they have already started thinking about the coming academic year. Toys are being washed and sorted for another busy year of wear and tear. The Staff have also arranged a "stay and play" for all the children attending in September. This will be held from 9.00-10.00 am on Monday 4 September, before term begins on Tuesday 5 September. This will also be an opportunity for staff to welcome their new families.

We are still looking for a new member of staff and would love to hear from anyone who is interested in working for Little Dragons. The post is part time and initially for 10 hours a week, but this will be increasing throughout the year as the new children turn 2 years of age. We also anticipate a considerable increase in hours when government funding is introduced for two-year-olds next Easter 2024. Applicants should have a level 2 qualification if possible. Please contact us for further details

helen@littledragons.org

Wiltshire Local History Network

Are you an individual or group interested in Wiltshire's history?

The Wiltshire Local History Network aims to provide a welcoming connection, to meet and engage with others who have a shared interest in the history of our county, to share knowledge and provide a valuable point of contact. You'll also hear all about what's going on in the county's heritage organisations such as the Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre, Wiltshire Victoria County History, Wiltshire Museum and more. We meet four times a year online via Zoom on a Wednesday evening at 7.30pm. Why not join us? Membership is free and includes a free place at our upcoming conference on Saturday 23 September at Rowdefield Farm Training Centre 'Bread or Blood: Social Protest and Unrest in Wiltshire'.



Contact the Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre at 01249 70550 or archives@wiltshire.gov.uk to join the Network or to find out more.

Wiltshire has a new and updated online portal for anyone interested in the county's history

You will discover historical information for the 261 communities covering the Wiltshire Council administered area on the Wiltshire Community History website. There is a general history of each parish with further information on schools and churches. Maps, details about local authors, literary and creative associations in the county can also be found, alongside many photographs, to help you discover just what makes each community unique.

To help, each community also contains administrative information such as the most useful newspapers for research, population statistics and a list of sources in the Local Studies Library at the Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre.

You can access the site here: <https://apps.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityhistory>

Wiltshire Victoria County History

The Wiltshire Victoria County History (VCH) Trust continues to progress work on its multi-volume comprehensive history of the county. With 18 out of an eventual 25 volumes already published, Volumes 19 (covering the area around Mere) and 20 (covering Chippenham and its surroundings) are both close to completion, and Volume 21, covering Alderbury and the far southeast of the county, is underway.

Read all about the work on their website www.wiltshirehistory.org which also gives details of this year's programme of online talks. The website also offers access to current and past volumes online.

Chiseldon Local History Group

Our next meeting is on 20 September in the Church Hall on “Cellars, Towers and Tunnels”. Join local professional photographer Jon Ratcliffe, as he shares some of his unseen pictures of Swindon’s recently demolished buildings and new developments. From hidden cellars, to lost tunnels and rarely seen rooftop views, see familiar parts of Swindon as you’ve never seen them before. Jon is a talented photographer of architecture, portraits and landscapes. He has completed projects for Forward Swindon, First Great Western and London Underground among many others. Jon is also Local Studies Officer at the Central Library and has presented The Home Run on Swindon 105.5FM.

Membership subscriptions are £20 per year, with the subscription year starting in October. Visitor fees for non-members are £5 per meeting. Our website www.chiseldonlhg.org.uk contains forthcoming meetings as well as general information on the History Group and local historical links and information. Other events will be published here when available.

Chiseldon Museum is open for the summer season, on Saturdays until 30 September from 2.00-4.00 pm. New displays include the Chiseldon Windmill, a display of 20th Century technology, local maps through the ages and a special feature on past Coronations. Come and visit before the winter break!

September Church Services

3 September, Trinity 13, 10.00am, Cafe Church

10 September, Trinity 14, 8.30am, Holy Communion (BCP)

17 September, Trinity 15, 10.30am, Zoom Service

24 September, Trinity 16, 6.00pm, Evensong (BCP)

The 100 Club

Congratulations to August's winners M Tattersall and T Holmes.

Thank you to all who supported the 100 Club in 2022/23. Lucky winners shared £480, £420 was raised for church maintenance, and earlier this year we replaced the path to the church that had become unsafe. The church is open on Wednesday and Sunday for private prayer, and service times are advertised in the church porch.

The 100 Club is now open to all locals for year 2023/24. For an annual subscription of £12, members are allocated numbers which are entered into 12 monthly draws. Membership is limited to 100, and there are two cash prizes of £25 and £15 each month. It's a 'first come, first served' basis.

To join, please see details on the back page.

Messages from the Village

Event organisers are kindly requested to remove posters and signs advertising village events promptly after they have taken place so that they don't look tired and out of date.

Contact the Dragon

To include your Village news in The Dragon and/or to receive a copy by email, please write to the Editor, Claire Heald, on osgdragon22@gmail.com

Ogbourne St George 100 Club 2023/24 Membership Form

To join the 100 Club church fundraiser as a new member or to renew your subscription, please complete the slip below and send with your cheque for £12 made payable to 'Ogbourne St George PCC' to:

- Lesley Ayres, Southdown, Ogbourne St George, SN8 2NS or
- Rebecca at The Sanctuary, Ogbourne St George, SN8 1SQ.

Alternatively e-mail laayres@talk21.com and we can provide bank details.

If you have a preferred number, we will try to accommodate you, but don't delay in applying!

Please note that by completing and returning your details, you are consenting to Ogbourne St George's PCC storing and processing data in relation to the administration of, and your participation in, the 100 Club (only) and the publication of your name (only) in the event that you have a winning number. For more information, please refer to or request a copy of Ogbourne St George's PCC's Data Privacy Notice.

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Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

My preferred number/s are:

E-mail address:

I enclose a cheque payable to 'Ogbourne St George PCC' for £_____ (£12 per number)