

Old Sodbury Times

Issue 106

May 2024

THANK YOU RICHARD and PAULINE!

Much has changed in Old Sodbury during the past 17 years, folk have come and gone, we lost the Village Shop and Post Office, we gained the football clubhouse, the river has been moved (though flooding continues) and so much more. One constant has been Richard and Pauline Wilson's generous giving of their time and effort to the regular production of this newsletter. There have been 105



Photo: thanks to Rich McD

editions, appearing consistently every two months since November 2006. Of course, much of the content is written by contributors and there's a team who distribute it, all generously giving their own time and effort, yet it has been Richard and Pauline who have kept the show on the road. Now they are stepping back, having handed the baton on.

So we say thank you for their great contribution to village communication, welcoming newcomers, and bringing cohesion.

Thank you!

Dates for your Diary:

1 May WI 105th birthday meeting
23/24? May: School Plant Sale

Old Sodbury Village Day
15 June.

WILL WE EVER GET A PEDESTRIAN CROSSING?

South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) identified excess speeds on Badminton Road through the village as a reason for the decision to refuse the Planning Application to build the 35 houses now under construction. The decision was appealed, and while being considered, SGC agreed with the owners that if the appeal was successful, then **before development commenced** a pedestrian refuge in the centre of the road would be built west of the site entrance. **And before the first house is occupied ...** "Construction of a new gateway feature and of a controlled crossing both on Badminton Road as shown indicatively on Plan Number 5". The plan indicates a controlled crossing by The Dog.

In the Appeal Decision these agreements were noted as "...necessary, directly related to the development and of scale and kind relative to it to ensure the safety of all road users..."

Now, Sodbury Town Council have been informed that a SGC Road Safety Committee had deemed any proposed controlled pedestrian crossing by The Dog, was unsafe and would not be pursued. Sodbury Town Council resolved to request consideration be given to alternative locations for a controlled crossing. The need for a controlled crossing in Old Sodbury Village is essential and a solution must be found. *Chris Anderson*

A warm welcome to Becky & Jon. "We recently moved from Chipping Sodbury to 'Meadow View', our wonderful new home here in Old Sodbury where we are very happy and content already. We've recently welcomed our new baby girl to our family, a perfect start for us all. We look forward to meeting people and involving ourselves in the community"

Correction: In March we invited ideas for the name of the road serving the new houses. However this was decided after planning permission was gained. It will be Brooks Close, honouring John Edgar's grandfather.



Evening of Entertainment

Thank you to all those people who signed up to take part in our Evening of Entertainment to raise funds for Old Sodbury School.

We are planning for a performance in the Autumn, Oct/Nov, with rehearsal from September. I'll phone to organize a meeting with everyone to discuss specific acts before the summer holidays.

Looking forward to meeting you all. Any queries please call: Barbara Lloyd, Meadowsweet, Chapel Lane 01454 322509

The 200 club winners at March's social evening were as follows:

£50 prize.	No.59	Mrs Carole Rowland
£500 star prize.	No. 166	Mr Kevin Williams
The April winner was		
£50 prize	No. 129	Mr James Febry

Sodbury Woodland and Nature Update

In spite of the extremely wet weather, March proved a busy month for SWaN volunteers. On one of the unusually dry days at the beginning of the month mulch was applied to the new trees on the Sodbury Common field, where it was noted that the wildflower meadow planted last year is also beginning to take hold.

In mid-March we supported the Village Hall committee in planting a new hedge and two Rowan trees (See below).

Hopefully everyone will have spotted the updated SWaN noticeboard on the Badminton Road which now proudly displays that at least 7,825 trees have now been planted in our immediate area.

In the Community Orchard a second Information board has been erected providing visitors and Frome Valley Walkway ramblers with details of the various fruit and nut trees planted, plus the background to the creation and development of our Orchard.

Andrew Bell



Village Hall News

The Village Hall hosted a couple of events which have proved enjoyable and successful. The 200 Club annual members social saw an excellent turnout. Organiser Dave Mason, put on a great range of fun quizzes to keep people entertained. The finale of the evening was the draw for the £500 prize, won by Kevin Williams.

The sold-out Comedy Night saw over 100 people enjoy a meal followed by three comedians from the national circuit, Tim Clark, Abi Carter-Simpson and Javier Jarquin. Thanks to Tracy Shipp who produced the superb meal, almost single handedly, having spent most of the week in preparation. She took consolation in not having to do the washing up! Thanks to the team who did (mostly by hand due to a temperamental dishwasher) and those who ran the bar. Feedback for the comedians was excellent, despite one of the biggest laughs being at the expense of our shabby piano!

In the car park a range of hedge species have been planted to replace the conifers and a couple of Rowan trees planted either side of the old ash tree stump. Thanks to Richard Wilson and Andy Sage-Bell for sourcing the plants and arranging the planting by members of SWaN and the Village Hall Committee, pictured. We are also grateful to the WI who have donated their Barn Dance raffle proceeds towards an artwork carving in the old ash tree stump. This now looks like a viable proposition but further donations (of any value) would be much appreciated. (speak to one of the committee or email OSVH@outlook.com for ways of donating).



We are delighted to welcome the **Tudor Bridge Club**

(www.bridgewebs.com/tudorchippingsodbury) to the Village Hall. They will start regular Thursday evening sessions from 6 June at 7pm after a preliminary meeting from 6pm on 16 May. Anyone interested in playing or learning Bridge, please contact the club through the website above.

Village Day, (Saturday 15 June): help is always needed so if you would like to get involved, to whatever extent you can, please get in touch. You could join the organising committee or just put your name down to help on the weekend. Any help will be appreciated, just drop an email to OSVH@outlook.com.

If you know of anyone interested in hiring the hall for one-off or regular events please do point them in our direction at OSVH@outlook.com *Ian Rowland Chair of the VH Committee*

OLD SODBURY W.I.

Our Barn Dance was a resounding success with lots of lively dancing led by 'The Bees Knees' caller. We had a lovely ploughman's supper and the raffle raised £238 which has been donated to the Village Hall to contribute to the carving of the ash tree. So thank you to everyone who came to support us, it was such a fun night!

At our April meeting we had an interesting talk by Hilary Macklin who gave us an insight about what being a Magistrate entailed. We learnt about how to become a practising magistrate, and she also gave us some case briefs to give 'our verdicts' on! There were also plenty of entertaining limericks in our competition. It was difficult to choose a winner.

This month, Old Sodbury WI will be 105 years old! At our birthday meeting we have invited other WIs to celebrate with us. We will be entertained by 'Elvis', have a light supper, and of course, some birthday cake!

Book club are currently reading *A Night on the Orient Express* by Veronica Henry. A story about a group of passengers on their journey from London to Venice, revelations, confessions and assignments. It should prove a lively discussion at our next meeting!

There are a number of social outings being planned, visits to the cinema, the theatre, lunches and afternoon teas (maybe even paddleboarding!)

The craft group are busy knitting and sewing for our Hawkesbury show entry and making recycled tote bags for the competition to be judged at the Sodbury Vale group meeting later in the month.

If you would like to know more or to come along to one of our meetings, you would be made very welcome. For more information give Sue a ring on 01454 315161 *Linzie Clark*



Revelers enjoying the WI barn dance.

FOSSA

A HUGE thank you to all who donated, bought tickets and auction lots at the Old Sodbury School auction in March. The event raised a staggering £4,477 for the school classroom. Combined with the sponsorship challenges the children completed in February, we've raised £6,000 putting us on track for £12,000 this year! Amazing but still short of the £30,000 needed to build the classroom.



"SOLD!" Nick Cragg running the auction

Jason Roberts (daughter is in Hazel Class) will be running 100 miles along the Cotswold Way and has kindly offered his sponsorship. Look out for ways to support him.

We are already planning some very exciting events for next year with a full calendar to the end of Summer term with Summer fair, cake sales, plant sales, refreshments at the end of school party and a stall with fun games at the Village Day this summer.

We are always looking for helpers and committee members who can help out too. Fundraising is a lot of fun but does take some time to organise and we rely on a network of parents and villagers - thank you

to everyone who helps and we welcome any new helpers. We will be presenting at the reception class new intake in July and setting up a 'come and meet us' session in September - please come and see what we do. We'd love to meet you and have as many people as possible involved plus there'll be coffee and cake. *James Bell*

Sodbury Short Mat Bowls Club Report May 2024

March winds and April showers, Bring forth May flowers!

We are delighted to say that March and April have brought forth 4 new players! We welcome Dennis and Gill, Elaine and Anita. More players meant that our second mat has come back into use again. More help also came our way when we had two sets of second-hand bowls donated to us by the family of past members Margaret and Terry.

We continue to seek further sets of Bowls and also a new scoreboard. The future looks brighter for the Sodbury Short Mat Bowls Club!

We welcome new members so if you would like to know more, please contact Richard 01454 321323. *Sue Leah*

Old Sodbury Football Club

After yet another long lay off, the team got back to a good win against Nicholas Wanderers. After going down 0 – 2 at half time, Old Sodbury came back strongly scoring 3 goals to win 3 – 2.

Top of the table Shaftsbury came to the village and ran out winners 5 – 1. Old Sodbury were three down inside 15 minutes due to errors by the home keeper. The boys fought back and a Liam Barrett penalty made it 3 – 1 but Shaftsbury increased their lead to run out worthy winners. In the local derby against Chipping Sodbury the boys were two up early on and also missed a penalty while Chipping Sodbury scored on half time. Two more goals, one in the last minute, saw the home side edge a 4 – 3 win. Josh Field, Simon Durnell, Liam Barrett and Darren Bell were the home scorers.

The home game against Greyfriars was switched to Greyfriars and with players away over Easter the boys went down 2 – 0. The game against Hambrook was also switched and the team lost by the odd goal 2 – 1 in a game they could easily have won. In the night game away to AEK we were back to winning ways with a 6 – 3 victory, Jon Morgan weaving in a brace. Playing at home, the team took a two goal lead against Thornbury yet went down 5 – 2 at the end. *Laurence Walker*

Old Sodbury Village Day – Saturday 15th June – midday to 5pm

We would love every villager to join us at Sugar Orchard Field (the football pitch), as we celebrate our community with friends, neighbours and villagers. Arrive for midday to set up your picnic blankets, gazebos, outdoor tables and chairs, along with garden games, and anything else required to enjoy a leisurely afternoon with friends!

Entertainment: Local party band **For the Record** will be providing the soundtrack for the afternoon, along with The Rock Choir, Old Sodbury School choir, Street Cred and a mini disco for the kids. There will also be Sheep shearing / Stencil graffiti workshop / Face painting / Zumba / Stalls / Tug of war / Classic cars plus more...

Kids' Zone: This year there will be a dedicated kids' area hosted by DJ Bridgee'o. Wristbands will cost £5 per child, giving them 5 hours of unlimited access to the area, containing a 43ft inflatable assault course, toddler soft play area, inflatable slides and ending with a mini disco by DJ Bridgee'o!

Food & Drink: Old Sodbury Lamb will once again be firing up their barbecue, along with Romeo Pizzeria serving up their authentic Neapolitan pizzas, plus Marshfield ice creams, tea & cake from Old Sodbury W.I, and Pimm's, ice cold ciders and more from Old Sodbury Village Hall who are running a licensed bar.

From 6pm, things shift to **The Dog Inn** where there will be live music and a BBQ until late. *Darren Hales*

Paying for Old Sodbury Times.

Each edition of Old Sodbury Times, which aims to be delivered to every address in Old Sodbury costs £60 in paper and printing.

Everything else is achieved by our wonderful volunteers.

If you would like to sponsor an edition, perhaps to mark a special family event or anniversary, for example, please get in touch (see below).

Landcare Tree and Plant nursery thank all the residents of Old Sodbury for their support over the last 18 months as we (Tom and Charlie) took over the business and settled in. We'd like to offer all Old Sodbury residents **10% off everything for the month of May**; just bring in a letter or something with your address on. We are now stocking more herbaceous perennials, wildflowers, shrubs as well as our usual wide range of trees. Our shop also has a range of tools, seeds wildlife food and houses as well as ice cream!



Please send your news to Chris Anderson Tel: 07860 155528 Email ca@chrisanderson.co.uk or Michelle Dash Tel: 07955 170321 THANK YOU TO ALL who have helped with this edition. Deadline for July edition is **15th June** WE WELCOME MORE CONTRIBUTORS For Village Hall bookings go to: <https://oldsodburyvillagehall.com>
Disclaimer: Any opinions expressed or implied in this publication are not necessarily those of the editors. Any articles submitted are on the basis that they can be edited and must not be anonymous.