

Old Sodbury Times

Issue 119

July 2026

Village Day in the Village Hall

The wind and rain conspired to force Village Day off Sugar Orchard and into the Village Hall. Despite the weather, folk came together to enjoy the day especially the delightful singing by Old Sodbury School choir, introduced by the Mayor of Sodbury, Sonia Williams followed by the rhythmic and energetic routines performed by Yasmin's Dance. The Village Hall Committee thank everyone who attended, sang, danced and volunteered. The day brought villagers together to share food, drink and stories. Next year the weather will be perfect! Promise.



The WI provided a magnificent range of delicious cakes



Others coped with the wind and wet CA

Dates for your Diary

10 July School's Summer Fayre
21 July School's End of Year Party
15 August 'Inferno' at Camers
15 September Life Support Course

Old Sodbury Social Club

Did you even know there was one? Hiding in plain sight at the entrance to Church Lane from Badminton Road is a two-storey brick building with no windows on the ground floor. This is the Old Sodbury ex-Servicemen's club. Originally established after the war by local families, the club was intended to provide a social meeting place for veterans. Inevitably over the years the number of ex-servicemen members has dwindled and now it is more just a social club but numbers are still dwindling and the currently only opens on a Friday night from 8.30, first and third Saturday nights each month and Sunday lunchtimes. If you would be interested in finding out more about the club, just come along during one of these times, and anyone is welcome, or you can **contact Ann Browne on 01454 501205.**

9 more houses?

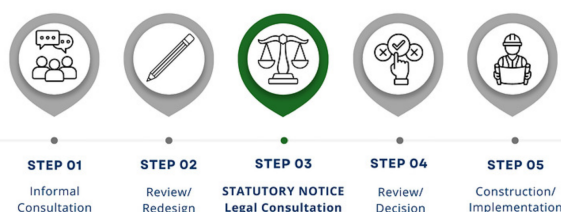
A planning application has just landed for 'up to nine residential dwellings' on the field up from The Dog Inn, accessed from Badminton Road, about 160 metres from the junction with Chapel Lane. You can see the application on the South Glos portal with the reference P26/01428/PIP CA

Crossing Update

Fantastic Overwhelming Community Support

Just after the last newsletter, the Consultation Feedback Report was published (it can be viewed on the South Glos Consultation website). In summary, there was overwhelming support for the proposed crossing. 86% agreed with the proposed location, 69.8% agreed with the consequential narrowing of the mouth of Chapel Lane, 79% agreed with the proposed bus stop location, 93% agreed with the proposed warning signage.

There is now a Statutory Notice of the proposal, open until **11 July**, **AGAIN INVITING COMMENT! So please do at:-** <https://consultations.southglos.gov.uk/PT.8881crossing/consultationHome> This surely must be the last time we need to say "We need a crossing!" Meanwhile, the detailed design plans are being drawn up. We're getting there!



CA

200 Club Winners

May

£50 winner. Number 173. Mrs J Cape

June

£50 winner. Number 95. Mr P Clark

£200 winner. Number 177. Mr A Febry

Friends of Old Sodbury School Association (FOSSA)

FOSSA would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported our fundraising efforts over the past year. We are delighted to share that our brand-new classroom is now completed and is ready to be enjoyed by the children.

This fantastic addition to the school would not have been possible without the incredible support of our school staff, parents, families, local businesses, and the wider community. We are extremely grateful for the generosity and enthusiasm shown throughout the fundraising journey.

The new classroom will provide a valuable learning space for many years to come, and we are proud to have played a part in helping bring this project to fruition. On behalf of FOSSA, thank you to everyone who supported us in achieving this significant milestone.

Looking ahead to the new academic year, we are excited to welcome our new cohort of Reception children starting in September. We hope they and their families will quickly feel part of the wonderful Old Sodbury community and enjoy the opportunities and experiences that make our school so special.



We have exciting events planned for the remainder of the school summer term:

- Summer Fayre – 10th July
- End of Year party – 21st July

Please keep an eye on school communications and our social media channels for further details. Thank you for your continued support of FOSSA and Old Sodbury Primary School. Together, we can continue to create wonderful opportunities and experiences for our children.

FOSSA Committee

Sodbury Short Mat Bowls Club Report **July 2026**

Come rain or shine our members meet at the Village Hall, 6.30pm until 9pm on Monday evenings for a friendly game of Short Mat Bowls. Just occasionally if we have too few players we have to miss our Monday game so we really need some more players! Visitors are very welcome.

Unfortunately it was rain and no shine on Village day so for the second year our Bowls Challenge on the field was not able to happen, but look out for us next year!

A Summer Party is being arranged for members and friends in August when we hope to have lots of sunshine.

If you would like to know more about the Bowls Club, please contact
Richard Gilpin 07860 334191.

Sue Leah

Basic Life Support Training Course – places available!

The Village Hall Committee is hosting a Basic Life Support Training Course in September.

Participants will learn how to recognise life threatening emergencies such as cardiac arrest, how to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), how to use of an automated external defibrillator and how to manage choking.

The course, over one evening, will be delivered by Luke who is an experienced Urgent Care Practitioner and a GP practice trainer.

Date: Tuesday 15th September. 6:30pm - 8:30pm approx

Cost per participant: £12.50

There are limited places available which will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

To book a place please call **Anne Myers 0779 069 8976**



Old Sodbury WI

We are looking forward to an energetic July meeting with Clare from Evolution Fitness coming to demonstrate Pilates. I'm sure we will be all feeling fitter and stronger by the time she has finished!

At our June meeting Sean Suleman told us The Story of the Blonde Angel Steet Team, a most interesting talk about the selfless work done by the volunteers in this award-winning organization. It is a non-profit Facebook group of over 8,000 members, formed in 2019 and named in memory of Rachel, Sean's cousin's wife who died suddenly from Leukaemia. They provide support to the homeless people on the streets and give out essentials such as toiletries, clothing, hot food and drinks, all donated by the public. Our ladies did a good job, bringing bags of supplies for Sean to take on his next drop.

The WI provided refreshments including delicious cakes at Village Day. It was well attended despite the stormy weather, raising money to contribute to Village Hall funds.

Our book club is reading Sorrow and Bliss by Meg Mason, a sharp, heart wrenching exploration of mental illness, family and the dark comedy that can arise from life's most challenging moments! We shall have to see what our ladies make of that!

We had a good trip to Kew Gardens despite the inclement weather and are looking forward to visiting Sherborne Castle and Gardens in August. We still have a few seats available on the coach and if any **non-members** would like to join us, just contact Lesley at lesleyring@googlemail.com. (£13.50pp for the coach plus the entrance fee to the castle and gardens www.sherbornecastle.com).

If you'd like to find out more or join us at one of our meetings, you would be very warmly welcomed. We meet on the first Wednesday of each month at Old Sodbury Village Hall.

For more information, you can find us on Facebook or please contact Linzie on 01454 320065 or email woldsodbury@gmail.com.

Linzie Clarke

CAMERS Old Sodbury
Saturday 15th August 2026
Fabulous live music & picnic Bring your own food, drink and chairs
Gates open 5:30pm **Music starts 6:30pm**



INFERNO
THE UK'S HOTTEST
ABBA TRIBUTE BAND

Adult Ticket £22 No Booking Fees
Concessions available
www.ticketsource.com/camers2026

All proceeds in aid of Old Sodbury church and its future

Contact or queries to:-
old.sodbury.friends@gmail.com



Bristol Aid 4 Ukraine to the rescue!

John Edgar had accumulated quite a collection of medical appliances and equipment before he died. When efforts were made to return them to the NHS and several charitable organisations, they were not wanted. That was until **Bristol Aid 4 Ukraine** were approached. They were delighted to take everything and will send it all to Ukraine. They were especially pleased with John's almost new scooter. It will be used in a hospital to enable injured soldiers to get about. Kevin Williams said that John would have been very pleased as he was a strong supporter of Ukraine.

CA



The historic Lychgate War Memorial at the entrance to the Old Sodbury Churchyard is in a very poor state of repair. We will soon be launching an appeal to help raise the funds needed to restore it. Interestingly our Church has a significant link with American Independence, as distinct from the Declaration of Independence in 1776, currently the subject of 250th anniversary celebrations, and the ensuing War of Independence which dragged on. Peace eventually followed negotiations between David Hartley MP (commissioned by King George III to represent The Crown) and the Americans John Jay, future President John Adams and Hartley's friend Benjamin Franklin. They drew up and agreed the Treaty of Paris, signed in 1783, making way for Britain to recognise the sovereignty of the United States. A memorial to the remarkable David Hartley is set in an inner north wall of our pretty 900 year old Church for all to see and his body is buried in the churchyard.

Thanks to Joy Fussell

Old Sodbury Football Club

The presentation evening in early at Chipping Sodbury Golf Club was a great success, with Terry Upton from the Bristol Premier League presenting the cup and medals to all the players. Jon Thompson from Southern Plasticlad and Liam Cook Team Manager were handing out the awards.

President Laurence Walker gave a short speech thanking supporters and the sponsor. He then went on to pay tribute to Steve Clapp who is retiring after playing for the club for 27 years, during this time he has taken on the role of Captain, Secretary and Chairman. His support and loyalty will be very much missed and Laurence went on to wish him and all the family well.

Thanks we're also made to Jon and Sarah Thompson for their ongoing hard work and support and for organising such a wonderful event.

The pitch is currently having drainage works done and will not be ready for use until September. This summers training will be held at the Ridings in Chipping Sodbury. Keep an eye on the Clubs Facebook page for more information.

Laurence Walker



Dave Cape

Many of the longer standing residents of the Village will have known Dave Cape and his wife Julie who have lived in the Village for around 40 years. Sadly Dave passed away at the end of May. Many will remember Dave for his dry sense of humour, never more so than after a few pints in The Dog or in the Social Club where he had been an active Committee member. Our thoughts and condolences go to Julie.

Christina Smith

Full of fun, a sharp tongue, a bit naughty, a good cook – phrases which come to mind when remembering Christina, who died in May aged 85. Once Nanny to the children of Sir Simon Codrington, and cherished cook at The Dog Inn for 36 years, Christina and Melvin lived in Chapel Lane for more than 40 years. She kept a beautiful home and garden there before moving to Melksham in about 2018. Our condolences to her daughter Sharon, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

SWaN Update June 2026

Have you noticed the field of white over on Sodbury Common, and which can be seen clearly from Old Sodbury? This is the wildflower meadow that was sown and planted in Autumn 2023 by SWaN. The Ox-eyed Daisies are giving a wonderful show this year and helping suppress the grasses to allow the other wildflowers, such as Yellow Rattle, Ladies Bedstraw, Wild Carrot and Betony to flourish. A trip over to the field earlier this month showed how important this area is for bio-diversity with plenty of butterflies and moths, along with bees and other insects, all accompanied by the Skylarks singing overhead!



Whilst not connected to SWaN, the fields over by Camers this year have also been spectacular

and the plethora of Gatekeeper and Meadow Brown butterflies amongst the huge variety of plants, grasses and flowers just shows what happens when areas are

allowed to grow. I have also spotted the Barn Owl hunting there on a couple of occasions and flying into the copse surrounding the pond.

Follow [Sodbury Woodland and Nature](#) on Facebook to keep an eye on future planting and working party events; we would love to see more of the community getting involved. *Andy Sage-Bell*

Please send your news to Chris Anderson (07860 155528 or ca@chrisanderson.co.uk)

THANK YOU TO ALL who have helped with this edition. Deadline for September edition is **15th August** 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 editor. Articles are accepted on the basis that they can be edited and they must not be anonymous.