

# Old Sodbury Times

Issue | 12

May 2025

## Village Fire Cart Returns!

The eagle-eyed may have noticed the bright red wooden cart that has appeared in recent weeks on the Village Green. This is the Old Sodbury Village Fire Cart, believed to date from the early 1900's. It would have had a hand pump and hoses on it, and would have been wheeled by volunteers to wherever it was needed in the village.



The equipment is long gone and the cart has been in storage, only seeing the light of day when being moved to get to something else. That was until Angela Smith, one of our committee members decided that she could practice her newly honed joinery skills and restore it. Angela has painstakingly replaced rotten and damaged elements and given the whole cart a fresh coat of bright red paint. Ellie Wicks also from the Village has painted the village name on both sides.

Rather than put it back in storage, we thought it would be nice to have it on display and used as a planter. Dave Mason, also from our committee

has kindly made some planters to fit within the cart and Old Sodbury Tree and Plant Nursery have generously offered to provide the planting.

Our thanks go to all those involved in this project but particularly to Angela for promoting the idea in the first place and doing so much of the work. Hopefully this will remain a feature of the village for many years to come.

*Ian Rowland Old Sodbury Village Hall*



## Old Sodbury Village Day 2025 Saturday 7th June

We would love every villager to join us at Sugar Orchard Field (the village football pitch), as we celebrate our community with friends, neighbours and villagers. There is loads going on from midday until 5pm, followed by the after party at The Dog Inn with a BBQ and evening of live music.

## Crossing Update

You will probably have seen the road works near the new houses but sadly this is not related to a light-controlled crossing. These are works Redcliffe Homes have to install and the light-controlled crossing was a separate obligation. However, on 20<sup>th</sup> March South Glos Council decided to release Redcliffe Homes from that obligation in exchange for £150,000 to be paid by Redcliffe Homes. The Development Management Committee voted to agree a variation of the obligation (S106 Agreement).

The meeting received verbal confirmation from the officer, Myles Kidd, that a light-controlled crossing could be built near to the junction of Chapel Lane and Cotswold Lane, that £150,000 would be sufficient for the crossing to be built, and that it would take 19 months to design, go to consultation and build. Traffic calming would be required consisting of signage and this would cost very little extra (£2K-5K). It's a shame that none of these statements were written into the report that was submitted to the Councillors prior to the meeting. The relevant part of the meeting can be viewed ([https://southglos.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast\\_interactive/960855/start\\_time/12916000?force\\_language\\_code=en\\_GB](https://southglos.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/960855/start_time/12916000?force_language_code=en_GB))

We look forward to celebrating our Puffin Crossing in November 2026! It will probably be necessary to do a lot of badgering in the meantime! *Chris Anderson*

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

£50 prize. No.108 Mandy Lomax  
£500 star prize. No. 120 Mrs V Boucher

### The April winner was

£50 prize No. 45 Dawn Osborne-Tiller

## Old Sodbury WI

Our theme in March was all about dogs and our members shared their wonderful dog ornaments. We welcomed Alex, a volunteer speaker from the Medical Detection Dogs Charity who shared the wonderful and insightful work that they do. The charity was founded in 2008 by Dr Claire Guest OBE. It comprises the Bio Detection Dogs who are trained to detect early cancers and other diseases (e.g. Covid-19) by smell and also the Medical Alert Assistance Dogs who support people with life-threatening health conditions by warning them of impending collapse or crisis. This allows the owner to take some sort of action to avoid injury or hospital admission. The result is increased confidence, independence and freedom for the patient, giving them hope for the future. A really wonderful and knowledgeable speaker and our members were able to ask lots of questions.

We held a Craft Fayre and Coffee Morning on Saturday 8th March, and we were overwhelmed with the support from the local community. A wonderful day had by all. Thank you to everyone who visited and supported the event. Old Sodbury WI met again on Wednesday 2nd April when we welcomed an ambassador for Tropic skincare and makeup who came to tell us about the organization and her work. Tropic was founded by Susie Ma in 2013, and all the products are natural, vegan and cruelty-free. The "infinite purpose" of Tropic is a healthier, greener, and more empowered world and the organization has been carbon-neutral for 3 years. We enjoyed hearing about how the products are developed and manufactured from sustainably sourced ingredients and we tried out a lovely, scented hand cream. If you would like to know more, please visit the website. [www.tropicskincare.com](http://www.tropicskincare.com)

Our skittles team are through to the semi-finals of the Avon Federation Skittles Tournament and we wish them lots of luck. Well done, Ladies.

The book club is currently reading Behind the Seams by Esme Young.

Old Sodbury WI are looking forward to the Old Sodbury Village Day in June and Hawkesbury Fayre in August. We also have lots of planned visits including Blenheim Palace, The Guide Dogs National Centre at Bishop's Tachbrook, Organic Blooms and Old Sodbury Tree and Plant Nursery.

We meet on the first Wednesday of every month. Our next meeting is on Wednesday 7th May 2025 at Old Sodbury Village Hall at 7.30pm and we will be celebrating our 106th Birthday with a Drum workshop by Drumnation.

If you would like to know more or attend a meeting, do get in touch. You will be most welcome. *Sam Newick. Old Sodbury WI. 07534 930 630*

## Sodbury Short Mat Bowls Club Report May 2025

Our small group of members continue to enjoy playing Bowls and particularly now that we have lighter evenings. We are impressed by the freshly decorated hall and are taking great care to avoid any damage when we move our equipment. Our games are very sociable and we welcome any visitors to come and play. All equipment is provided and no previous experience is needed.

Look out for our members this year on Village Day Saturday 7th June. We will be setting some challenges for adults and children to raise funds for our club and the Village Hall.

Please come and find us on the field and have a go! You could win a prize!

Please contact Richard on 01454 321323 if you are interested in our club which meets on a Monday evening from 6.15pm to 9pm.

*Sue Leah*



## SHOWTIME 2025 SUCCESS!

Enormous thanks to all who took part in the show, the helpers, the cast, the bar staff, and especially to Barbara Lloyd who managed to bring it all together! Well done everyone. More than £2000 was raised to be shared between the Village Hall and Bristol Area Kidney Patients Assoc. in memory of Jeremy Ross.



**OLD SODBURY SCHOOL**

The children have been enjoying lots of trips as part of their learning. Sycamore class had a wonderful trip to Caerleon for their mission "How did the Romans change life in Britain?" Chestnut class went to We the Curious for their mission to learn about different materials and Oak class went to Cheddar Gorge to learn about Prehistory.

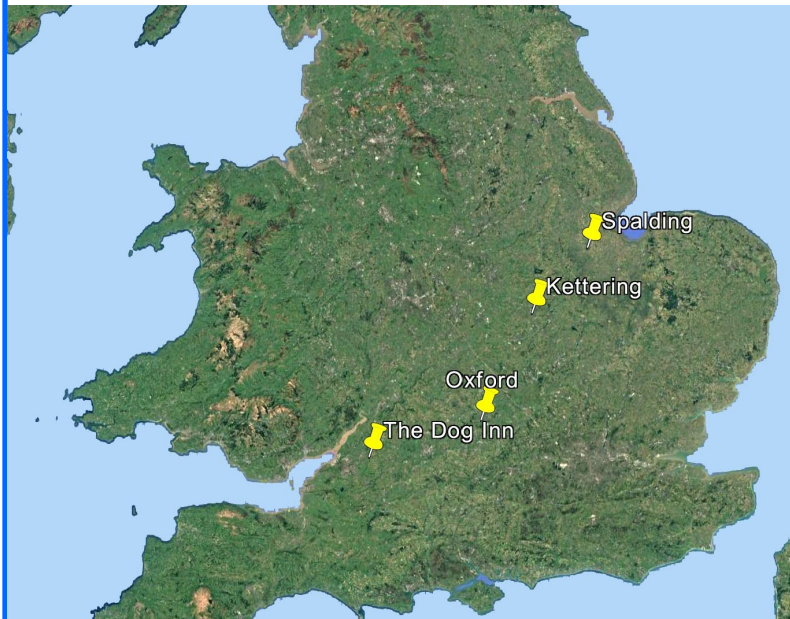
The whole school performed a beautiful Easter service at the Church with contributions from all the classes. They then enjoyed an Easter egg hunt around the field. A huge thank you to FOSSA for providing the eggs, and for the Year 6s for hiding them all!

We are looking forward to the very busy final two terms. The school are off to the Bristol Hippodrome to see Chitty Chitty Bang Bang ready for our famous whole school production at the end of the school year. *Jenny Jackman*



**Intrepid Sodbury Boys Bike Ride**

Also known as the 'Old Codgers', the 20 riders will cover a total of 200 miles from 11 – 13 July, riding from Spalding to Kettering, then Oxford and finally to The Dog in Old Sodbury. This year they are raising money for the Bristol Area Kidney Patients Association. in memory of Jeremy Ross who organised the first ride in 1996. <https://www.justgiving.com/page/chris-foster-2>



**Last year's riders**

**Can you help?**

Are you a parent or a grandparent?  
Do you enjoy sharing stories with the children in your family?  
Can you spare 2-3 hours a month?

Bible storytellers is a group from Old Sodbury Church who go into our local school every two weeks to tell Bible stories using simple drama and lots of fun.

We are looking for new people to join the team.  
For more information contact Shelia on 07470 890500

**Sunday Teas**  
in  
Old Sodbury church

**2.30pm - 4.30pm**  
from 11th May until  
the end of August  
(including bank holidays)

**Old Sodbury Football Club**

The club would like to thank **Southern Plasticlad Ltd** for their sponsorship and support. In March the club were presented with new kit and there will be track suits to follow.

It looks very impressive and the team and committee were very pleased and grateful. Southern Plasticlad’s help and support has been very encouraging and has put the club in a strong position for the future.

**Results**— The February game against Hambrook was called off. In the next game away to Cribbs the team were 2 - 0 down at half time then heroically fought back and Steve Clapp scored a last minute equaliser. Away again for a local Derby against Chipping Sodbury Reserves saw Old Sodbury take an early lead but the home side scored 2 goals in the second half and claimed the points.

In the next game against highflying top of the table Greyfriars the team lost 4 - 1 but the result did not reflect the close game and Old Sodbury deserve to be proud of their performance. On 18th March the team played Bedminster at home and lost 4 - 1. The lads were 3 - 0 down at half time with a disappointing performance then rallied in the second half, scored and only conceded 1 more goal.

The team were home again for the game against Lion FC . An own goal and deflected shot gave Lion the points. Goal keeper Cain Hatherall made 3 outstanding saves and was man of the match.

In the final 2 games of the season we lost 1 - 0 in a close game against Hambrook who just had the edge over us. The Oldland game gave us the second win of the season with a score of 6 - 1. The forwards were on fire and Josh Field scored 2 fantastic goals .

After a difficult season the club have had interest from someone offering to help manage the team and take it forward. Thank you to the villagers who come along to support us. *Laurence Walker*



**SWaN update**

We have been busy straightening the tree shelters in the woodland and replacing any dead trees, including two or three in the Jubilee Avenue.

Additional planting has also seen Alder, Elder and Oak, amongst others planted in our community woodland.

Meanwhile over on Colts Green there are signs of some of the wildflower planting coming to life with some beautiful Snakes



Head Fritillaries. This plant, which is a member of the lily family was once a common sight, but today, the carpets of this flower that once straddled our rivers and adorned our wet meadows have become a rare sight. It was particularly abundant in the Thames Valley and parts of Wiltshire, where it was collected in vast quantities to be sold as a cut flower. However during World War II most of our ancient meadows were ploughed up for the production of food which destroyed much of the plant's habitat. (Photo courtesy of Steve Spooner) *Andy Sage-Bell*

**SWaN** offer many thanks to the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens for installing 2 seats at The Community Woodland. They also erected a ditch crossing bridge at Walnut Corner, providing more flexibility of routes through the area.



Many thanks to Andy Williams for providing the timber transport.



Please send your news to Chris Anderson (07860 155528 or [ca@chrisanderson.co.uk](mailto: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 editor. Articles are accepted on the basis that they can be edited and they must not be anonymous.