

Old Sodbury Times

Issue 108

September 2024



Graffiti at Old Sodbury School!

The end of term at **Old Sodbury School** was marked by some lovely graffiti by the entrance in appreciation of the excellent school production of "The Wizard of Oz", the staff and saying goodbye to the leavers.

Dates for your Diary:

5th November: Bonfire night 5pm
8 & 9 November: An Evening of Entertainment

GOODBYE YEAR 6'S
Olivia Ewan Betty Eva
Zara Charlie Millie Cameron
Rosalie Louis Isla
Lacie Leo

The cast of
The Wizard of Oz
you
SMASHED IT!



One book,
One pen
One child
One teacher
Can change the world
Malala Yousafzai

Thank you Bernice
& all the team
you are incredible

You are never too
small to make a
difference
Greta Thunberg

The stump of the Ash tree which had stood so proudly in the Village Hall car park has been transformed into a beautiful owl by Andy O'Neill, an expert chainsaw carver. The idea was suggested by Ben Wicks who told us about Andy and his amazing work.

It cost £1000, a large sum, but we feel it worthwhile and something that will be enjoyed and appreciated for many years. We thank the WI for their generous donation and also those who donated on Village Day and Polling Day, so far raising about a third of the cost. We are still seeking further funds and if you would like to contribute your donation will be gratefully received:

BACS to "Old Sodbury Village Hall", sort code 52-21-32 and a/c no. 25029614, ref: "Owl"
Cash or cheque to "Old Sodbury Village Hall" and post through the Village Hall letter box.



On-going Owl care:
Currently the owl is drying out and when fully dry Andy O'Neill will oil it with Danish Oil. It will then require further coats of Danish oil twice a year to keep it in good condition.
Anne Myers
OSVH Committee



An evening of Entertainment

We had an excellent response from residents wishing to perform in our village show to raise funds for the village community.

Rehearsals start: Wednesday 11th Sept 6:30pm and continue:
Wednesday 18th Sept 6:30pm
Wednesday 25th Sept 6:30pm
Wednesday 9th Oct 6:30pm
Wednesday 16th Oct 6:30pm
Wednesday 23rd Oct 6:30pm
Wednesday 30th Oct 6:30pm

Dress Rehearsal: Sunday 3rd Nov and Wednesday 6th Nov

Performances: Friday 8th and Saturday 9th November.

If anyone would like to participate either as a performer or backstage who has not signed up please contact Barbara Lloyd, Meadowsweet, Chapel Lane
01454 322509

The More the Merrier!

Thank you to all those who litter pick, trim hedges, and have cut the grass on the Village Green! Keeping the village and paths tidy and safe is appreciated



The 200 club winners, £50 prizes

July: No. 64 Pam Reed.
August: No. 123 Ash Morris

What's Up with the Church Clock? by Chris Cooper

Many must be wondering what is going on with the church clock. It seemed to have stopped for most of the time, occasionally running normally and sometimes striking the quarter hours and hours every few seconds!

The clock was made by John Moore of Clerkenwell, London in about 1840 but wasn't installed until 1887 to celebrate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee, so may have been purchased second-hand. It is of very sturdy construction and, with proper maintenance, should continue to run for another 180 years at least.



When Edna and I arrived in the village in 1991, the clock was unreliable and the PCC commissioned John Smith & Sons of Derby to take the clock to their works, clean and repair it. Smiths also repainted and regilded the clock dials and hands. When we moved to Yorkshire in 1998, Smiths had an annual maintenance contract and the clock was running well.

When we returned in 2018 to live in the Chipping Sodbury we were surprised to find the clock was again unreliable. The PCC commissioned a local clock repairer to clean and repair it. With the intervention of Covid, this work was not completed until 2022 but the clock still stopped intermittently. The repairer eventually identified a problem with the drive shafts to both

dials. After further cleaning and repair the clock ran satisfactorily for several weeks and we all breathed a sigh of relief! Sadly, the clock soon began stopping intermittently again. Despite many visits, the repairer was unable to find the cause so I sought the advice of a friend who had worked for Smiths for some 50 years before retiring to become Church Clocks Advisor for the Diocese of Leeds. He recommended the Cumbria Clock Company of Penrith.

One of the Cumbria Clocks team duly visited in June and within minutes had discovered the problem, excess friction in the drive to the hands on the South dial. He disconnected the drive shaft and since then the clock has kept very good time. Thanks to the excellent response to the appeal for people to wind the clock, I am now training a team of 8 clock winders to do this job.

Clearly the hands on the South dial need to work correctly, as this is the dial most people see. The PCC has a quote from Cumbria Clocks to fix this, but the work is costly since it involves abseiling down the side of the tower to disconnect the hands. This work has to be added to the list of outstanding repairs to the church fabric and contents. Until the PCC finds the funds, the clock will continue to run with the hands on the West dial working and those on the South dial set to 12.00.

Old Sodbury Bonfire Night Tuesday 5th November, from 5.30pm

Old Sodbury Bonfire Night returns on Tuesday 5th November at Sugars Orchard Field (home of Old Sodbury Football Club). There will be food, drink and music, to the backdrop of a huge bonfire for the villagers and friends of Old Sodbury to get together for another knees-up. Entry is free, although donations are welcomed.

To stay up to date, please join the village Facebook community group, follow the village Facebook page (OldSodburyVillageNews) or visit the website www.oldsodburyvillagehall.com.

Can you help us?

This event is being run by the Old Sodbury Village Hall Committee along with volunteers. If you can spare a small amount of time to assist with setting up, running the event or helping clear up, please get in contact. Also, if you have wood to donate to the fire, please get in contact. To help or for more information, please contact Darren on 07739 562628 or darrenhales@me.com



OLD SODBURY WI What a busy couple of months we have had! At our Fabulous Fizz evening we tried Babysham, Prosecco, Cava, Cremant and Champagne, all with lovely canapés. We learnt about the differences, the methods used and also about the grape varieties. It was a fabulous evening!

In August some of our ladies had a lovely day out visiting Pam Lewis’s garden in Marston near Devizes. Pam is a NAFAS national demonstrator and a member of Devizes Flower Club. She gave us a tour around her beautiful 2 acre garden entertaining us with tales about her garden and all the plants in it. This was followed by a delicious afternoon tea with sandwiches, home made sausage rolls and cake. The afternoon was finished with a flower arranging demonstration. Everyone was given a free raffle ticket with a chance to win one of the arrangements. Nine of us went home lucky winners, with beautiful arrangements to remind us of a lovely day.

At our next meeting in September, Sarah Weaver, a holistic therapist is coming along to tell us all about Reflexology. She will be explaining about the ancient art that uses reflex points on the face and the feet which are connected to the various bodily systems and parts. It follows the flow of the body identifying and addressing imbalances. It sounds really interesting.

Our book club read is “Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine” by Gail Honeyman. It is a heartwarming story of friendship, challenges and the realization that not everything is always fine, as Eleanor discovers what she’s been missing whilst also letting go of her past.

We always have a number of social outings being planned, visits to the cinema, the theatre, lunches and afternoon teas. The craft group are looking forward to learning some new crafts in Autumn.

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

Sodbury Short Mat Bowls Club Report September 2024

On a very warm and sunny afternoon recently, Bowls Club members and friends gathered at the home of Lorraine and Mike for a delicious cream tea in their beautiful garden.

Lorraine has been a valued member for many years and we thank her and husband Mike for their kindness and generosity.

Attendance has been good this summer and we are pleased to welcome another new member, John who will play when he is not singing with his choir! More new players are welcome to come and join us.

For more information please contact Richard 01454 321323.

Great Work by the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens

Recently the wardens completed the third renovation to paths around Old Sodbury. Above the school the Cotswold Way had a particularly muddy, slippery section where cattle gathered. This has now been fenced off, a surface put down and an extra gate added. Many thanks to John Edgar for permission to do this work and to Andy Roach for his support. A similar improvement was made at the Chapel Lane entrance to Camers.



Service for the Bereaved Sunday 3rd November

On the 3rd November at 4pm, the Parish Church of St John’s Chipping Sodbury, on behalf of Sodbury Vale Benefice, invite you to a service for the bereaved (also known as All Souls Service). It is a time when we remember, individually and as a community, those who have died. This is different from the Remembrance Service when we remember those who have died in wars. It is a time to remember more personal losses.

The service will offer time to remember and to light a candle in memory of anyone we wish to commemorate. You are very welcome whether you would say you have a faith or not.

If you wish to attend and would like a specific name read out please send the name to Michelle in the Church Office (sodburyvalebenefice@gmail.com, or phone 01454 325160). If you are unable or prefer not to attend and would like a link to a YouTube version of the service, please let Michelle know at the contact above.

Teas on Sundays
(and Bank Holiday days)
throughout the summer
EXTENDED TO THE END OF SEPTEMBER
Old Sodbury Church
2.30pm - 4.30pm
(27th May - 26th August)

Come and enjoy tea, cakes and entertainment from local groups on certain Sundays, either inside our beautiful church or outside with the amazing view over the Severn valley to the Welsh hills.

Old Sodbury Football Club

The new season will be soon upon us!

The training has been going well. A few new faces have joined the club and a couple of lads have moved on to new clubs. Liam Bennett along with Stephen Clapp will be in charge of the team for the new season. The Premier Division 1 have 5 new teams this season while a few teams have folded.

The club have played one friendly game by 10 August with a few more to play. The first game of the new season will be away to a new side, Lion F.C. on Saturday 7th Sept. at Little Stoke Park. Saturday 14th Sept. is an open date as Wick Res have withdrawn from the league due to a lack of players. On 21st Sept. it's a cup round. *Laurence Walker*

FIXTURES

7 Sept	Lion F.C.	A
11 Sept	Bedminster Down	A
14 Sept	Open	
21 Sept	Cup round	
28 Sept	Greyfriars	H
5 Oct	Open	
12 Oct	Oldland Res	A
19 Oct	Cup round	
26 Oct	Henbury	A
2 Nov	Bendix	H
9 Nov	Bristol Barcelona	A



Tiles stolen from Lychgate

On the night of Sunday 11th August thieves stole some of the Cotswold stone tiles from the lychgate to the Churchyard at Old Sodbury. There was a report of a white van being seen nearby. If anybody saw anything, even if apparently insignificant, please pass it on to the Police by ringing 101.

Better news:

The Community Orchard is slowly becoming established and there has been the first harvest of some blackcurrants.



A watch was found

after the recent concert at Camers. If you think it was yours, contact Joy Fussell. Chris Anderson (see below) can provide contact details.

Christmas Wreath Making Workshops are back by popular demand!

Come along and create your very own Christmas Wreath for the 2024 Festive season with Ellie Wicks from Gable Studios as seen on Kirstie's Handmade Christmas on Channel 4!

No experience necessary, All you need to bring is yourself & some festive cheer. All the materials & tools you need will be provided. For further information contact me at gableartstudio@gmail.com or [@etsy.com/shop/gablestudios](https://www.etsy.com/shop/gablestudios)

Tickets available at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-wreath-making-workshop-tickets-952775947507>

or scan the QR Code



Choose from 4 sessions at Old Sodbury Village Hall:

Wed 27th November: 7pm

Fri 29th November: 7pm

Sat 30th November: 10am or 2pm

Please send your news to Chris Anderson (07860 155528 or ca@chrisanderson.co.uk) or Michelle Dash Tel: 07955 170321
 THANK YOU TO ALL who have helped with this edition. Deadline for November edition is **15th October** 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. Any articles submitted are on the basis that they can be edited and must not be anonymous.