

# Old Sodbury Times

Issue 94

May 2022

## Celebrate Village Day on 5th June with the Queen

We hope you will all turn up for The Queens Jubilee Village Day on 5th June in the Old Sodbury Football Field. Bring your picnic and bunting. There will be lots of food to buy and stalls of interest and entertainment. For more information visit the village website at [www.oldsodburyvillagehall.com](http://www.oldsodburyvillagehall.com)

Persimmon Homes want to build 725 houses on countryside which was a mediaeval deer park off St. Johns Way. This rapid expansion of the population of Chipping Sodbury will mean a great deal more traffic coming along the A432 and through our village. These days all developers have to have a consultation exercise prior to putting in a planning application. It does not replace the consultation when plans are submitted to the planning authority (South Glos Council). Nevertheless it is important that as many people as possible give their opinions on such a huge development. For further details go to

<https://eastofchippingsodbury.co.uk/>

and do please write to give your comments by 27 May.

### Dates for your Diary:

#### At the Village Hall

18 May W.I. 7.30pm

15 June W.I. 7.30pm

Every Monday Short Mat Bowls 6.30pm

#### At Camers

20 Aug Abba's Angels 6pm

#### At The Football Field

5 June Queen Jubilee Village Day 12 noon

### 200 Club Winners

April No 15 Miss Betty Maggs £50

FOR SALE - A Roger Black Cross Trainer In good working condition. £45 Happy to deliver!

For details please contact Laura on 07939 098092

### Reverend David Bowers Retires

On Friday 22nd April, the Old Sodbury Church was turned into a desert island with palm trees and a sand dune in order to mark the retirement of the Reverend David Bowers, the Rector of Sodbury Vale Benefice. Our resident compère, Frank Gray, interviewed David in a very professional manner in the style of Desert Island Discs and the audience enjoyed David's selection of eight pieces of music and his recollections, memories and anecdotes from his life. Over 100 parishioners and friends attended and the evening marked the end of a career of 40 years in the church.

He will be a sad loss to all our local parishes and will be badly missed. The evening ended in a party atmosphere with excellent canapés and drinks provided by members of the parishes. We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the evening including Chipping Sodbury Players who donated the palm trees and the Old Sodbury Village Hall who loaned the stage.

### Bristol Water create a new water feature in Chapel Lane 27/3/22



Photo by John Leah



**Many Thanks** to Peter Ball, and Sue and John Leah who are stepping down from delivering the newsletter after 93 separate deliveries. Peter, who delivered to Cross Hands and Westmoreland Terrace, hands over to Wendy and John Ottaway, who live on the Terrace. Sue and John Leah delivered to Coombs End and Lyegrove House area. Their route is to be taken on by Wendy Dando

## Village Hall News

With the new kitchen now fully functioning (and looking great!), the hall is fully back in business and doing well. We are delighted to see both the WI and the Short Mat Bowls Club now back in the hall for their regular meetings and holding social events. The regular weekday toddler groups have been back in the hall for some time, but we now also have a local choir group on Tuesday mornings. The Yate group of Govocal had been struggling to find a suitable venue, but have now been with us for a couple of months. Several locals have already joined the group and if you are interested, look for Govocal on Facebook.

Enquiries for the hall for events have definitely been on the rise. Positive feedback and recommendation through the school run chat seems to be fuelling a steady stream of children's parties, but we have also had a variety of other events including family birthday parties, weddings, anniversaries and memorials.

At the time of writing we have just held the long delayed Comedy Night, postponed from April 2020. This proved to be as popular as ever and a great fundraiser for the hall. The Committee catering team used their new kitchen to great effect, providing a sit down hot meal for nearly 100 and then the Comedy Club came up trumps with some great comedians to round off the evening. This is certainly an event that we will continue to run, so get your name down early!

The Village Hall Committee are also involved with the plans for Village Day which this year will be incorporating the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. More details on this event are included elsewhere in the newsletter.

### **New members please!**

Although our committee was originally established to manage and maintain the Village Hall, we tend to take on a wider role in the Village linking up with other groups to promote community activities and benefits. If you would be interested in joining the Committee, we would love to hear from you. We are looking for people with an interest in our local community who are prepared to put in some time for the benefit of others, and you might find that more enjoyable than you expect! If that is you, drop us an email to [OSVH@outlook.com](mailto:OSVH@outlook.com)

*Ian Rowland*

## **Sodbury Woodland and Nature (S.W.a.N.)**

Old Sodbury Community Orchard and Woodland is now all planted thanks to the help of a considerable number of people. We have been particularly pleased to have had the help of individuals and groups from outside the parish without whom we could not have achieved the planting of 4,600 trees on 3 sites in the village.

Included in this total are 20 Sponsored Trees which line the sides of one of the avenues through the main planting. If you would like to also buy a tree to celebrate the Queens Jubilee then more will be planted in the Autumn at a cost of £40 each. It is hoped to have the sponsors' names on a board nearby. Please email Steve Spooner at [trevone112@gmail.com](mailto:trevone112@gmail.com) for details or :

If you would like to sponsor one or more of these trees, then donations can be made to Sodbury Woodland and Nature via the bank account below

Sort code: 30-98-97

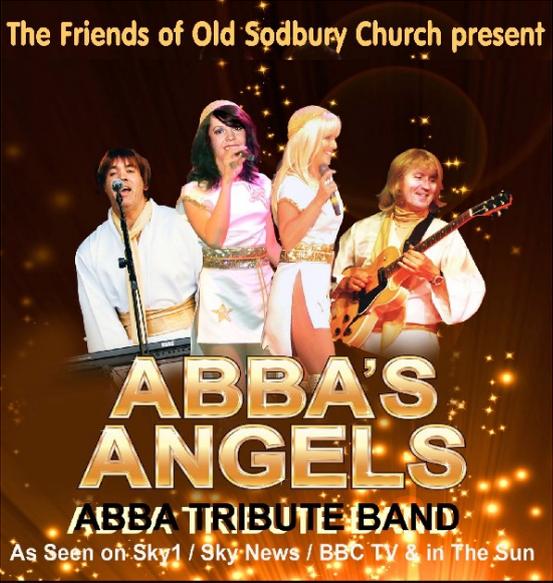
A/c no: 62536163

or by contacting the Wilsons on 01454 310540

**Many thanks to Landcare Nursery for all the support they have given us through the planting season.**

## Save The Date

**The Friends of Old Sodbury Church present**



**ABBA'S ANGELS**  
**ABBA TRIBUTE BAND**  
As Seen on Sky1 / Sky News / BBC TV & in The Sun

**Camers Garden, Old Sodbury**  
**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2022 at 6:00pm**

Photo from Drone by Rich McD



**OLD SODBURY W.I.**

There has been a revival in attendance at our meetings now that Spring is here and we can use the Village Hall and the splendid new kitchen. More than 30 members enjoyed stories of the Minack Theatre in March and in April we were entertained by a presentation by Debbie Millar, about the history of women's costumes in the Regency, Victorian and Edwardian era. There were many illustrations from familiar TV dramas such as Downton Abbey and Poldark which showed the amazing skill of the costume designers to match the styles to the era.

Mysterious murders took place at the beginning of April when members and guests were entertained by "PC Bailey" and his cast at a 1930's Public School Reunion dinner. A delicious meal was served and there was an opportunity to question the suspects. Many guests were dressed in fine costumes and everyone enjoyed the "Murder Mystery".

Creating decorations called "Dorset Buttons" has been the newest challenge for our Craft Group where we have made angels and trees with embroidery threads on metal rings. Our next challenge will be "Zentangling". Discussions will soon be taking place for our contribution to Hawkesbury Show. The subject this year will be "Autumn" with different elements to be entered in the WI display including handicrafts and cookery.

Our Book Club members have enjoyed "Hold on Edna" a biography by Aneira Thomas telling the story of her own birth at 5 minutes past midnight on the day that the National Health Service was born. She relates how her forebears in South Wales were poor mine workers who could not afford the services of doctors. Families were large and putting food on the table was a struggle. The NHS made a huge difference to all communities and those who worked in it were very proud to be part of this life saving organisation.

On Village day this year, when we celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, look out for our tent where we will be serving tea and cakes. To celebrate the Jubilee our WI members will be sponsoring an avenue tree in the Community Woodland.

Members of our Skittles team are pleased to be going on to the third round having recently defeated Rangeworthy WI in a very close match. An evening at the Redgrave Theatre was another highlight when several members saw the Dolly Parton Musical show, 9 to 5. An evening at Chipping Sodbury Town Hall for the Spring meeting of Avon Federation proved very informative with a talk by Avon and Somerset Police Fraud Squad warning us of Cyber Crimes and suggesting ways to keep safe online. This was followed by a young lady, Mary Jess who won the Xfactor Show in China with her beautiful singing voice in 2009. She told of her journey to stardom and her motto was "I can, I will, just watch me!"

Our 103rd Birthday will be celebrated on Wednesday 18th May with Birthday Cake after "Music and Mayhem" provided by Geoff Woodland. Visitors are welcome to join us at our meetings which take place on the third Wednesday of the month. For more information please ring 01454 315161. *Sue Leah*

**Old Sodbury School** It is so wonderful that restrictions have eased within the school. With the longer spring days, we have been able to make the most of our beautiful surroundings and get outside. Children have been able to go on trips again at long last. As part of their missions to discover why rainforests are so important, Sycamore class went to the Living Rainforest and were able to experience what a rainforest is really like including the plants and animals.

The Chestnut class mission has been looking at "What grows near us" and have been flexing their green fingers by growing a variety of plants both in the classroom and in our raised borders to help identify the parts of a plant. As part of the Tower of London Superbloom Jubilee event, they have sown many seeds in the newly refurbished Spiritual Garden and we are very excited to see them bloom over the coming months. They also continue to grow their links with Childcare Primary School in Uganda including sending videos to each other showing what our schools look like.

Oak class have been researching how the ancient Greeks have influenced the modern world and were able to enjoy an online workshop with the British Museum. They also had great fun re-enacting the story of Odysseus. They also looked into soup making as part of their DT and researched, designed and made their own soups. Some were more successful than others.....

We wish to extend our huge thanks to our fabulous PTA who have funded our new Ipads which have finally arrived. The whole school have been enjoying using them and the children are very excited to see what apps they will be using next. By the time you read this the whole school will also have been on their trip to see the West end production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat in Cardiff. Hopefully it will inspire our pupils in their annual "end of the year" show in the summer.

**"Burst the Bubble" and Active Travel** You may have noticed some stickers and signs popping up around the village. We are actively encouraging our families to walk to school by parking outside the "bubble" and walking, cycling or scooting the remaining distance. Not only is this great for mental and physical wellbeing as a whole, there is proven research that the children benefit from this different start to the day and it also means there will be less congestion and pollution around the school. We are having several great initiatives over the coming term linked in with this and would love to work closely with the village as a whole to make this a positive change.



**Old Sodbury Football Club** On 26th February the team played Bradley Stoke at home. By half-time the lads were 3-1 up. Unfortunately in the second half they were outfought and outplayed by the visitors who ran out worthy winners at 5-4. At bottom of the table Hanham we won 6-0 with six different scorers.

The following week at Brinsham a solid performance resulted in a 4-1 win. Again there were four different scorers on the goal trail. Home to Hambrook the game ended 1-1 but Old Sodbury should have taken all the points. Away to Bristol Barcelona the team put in a hardworking display. With seven players out injured and some working, the hard work on the pitch was rewarded with a valuable point in a 0-0 draw.

The last home game on the 9th April saw the team have an easy victory against Brinsham, winning 5-1 with five different scorers. Against neighbours Tormarton, it was a comfortable win 4-1. Tom Bidder scored a couple. Tom was at it again with another brace in a 2-0 win against Alveston. Afterwards the referee thanked both teams for a good game of football.

There is just one more game against Hambrook on 30th April. It looks likely that Old Sodbury F.C. will get a third finish in the league which has been a good season. The club is hoping it will be enough to take them up into the senior league.

We hope everyone enjoys the summer ahead.

Lawrence Walker

### Path Improvements in Old Sodbury

Above Church Lane, the footpath towards Badminton has had some improvements put in by the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens. Here we see the partially broken stile has been changed to a Kissing Gate.

Further up the hill 3 trees brought down across paths by the storms have been cleared also by the Cotswold Wardens.

Funding has been granted from the Cotswold National Landscape office towards renovations on the old kissing gate in to the churchyard by the viewpoint, drainage and stabilising the adjacent box tomb.



If you know of any problems along paths please report them to Richard on 01454 310540.

## OLD SODBURY VILLAGE HALL ELECTRIC BICYCLE SCHEME



PLEASE  
SUPPORT THIS  
FREE TRIAL.

NO SPECIAL EXPERIENCE  
NEEDED

HIRES CAN BE  
HOURS, A DAY  
OR A WEEKEND

Climate Action Yate and Chipping Sodbury has secured funding from South Glos Council to run a community e-bike scheme trial for local residents. E-bikes are available for anyone to borrow. Please call David George 07984 877 626 to reserve your ride. Collection and return is currently at Beggar's Roost in Colts Green. If the trial is successful the bikes will have a permanent home at the village hall.

### Sodbury Short Mat Bowls Club

Spring is sprung and the Bowls are running again! Play resumed at the Village Hall at the beginning of March and members were welcomed back after a break of two years. We have not forgotten how to play but some of the rules and quirks of the game have had to be remembered! A Special General Meeting has been arranged for the beginning of May to discuss subscriptions, arrangements of play, safeguarding and future competitions.

Our members and guests enjoyed a social evening of a meal and skittles at "The Old Royal Ship" in April and look forward to similar events in the future. Prospective new members are very welcome on a Monday evening in our Village Hall where we start play at 6.30pm. Please contact Richard on 1454 321323 for more information.

Please send your news to Pauline Wilson Tel: 310540 Email [r.pwilson@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:r.pwilson@yahoo.co.uk) or Michelle Dash Tel: 07955 170321 Deadline for July edition is **15th June**. For Village Hall bookings: Carol Rowland Tel: 314923 or [OSVH@outlook.com](mailto:OSVH@outlook.com) THANK YOU TO ALL who have helped with this edition. WE ALWAYS WELCOME MORE CONTRIBUTORS **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.