

Old Sodbury Times

Issue 103

November 2023

Lots of Events to Cure the Winter Blues

Wow, what a lot of events happening towards the end of 2023. It is a sign of a flourishing community spirit. We hope this newsletter has contributed to that spirit over the hundred plus editions. Many thanks to all those who work so hard to set up these events and we hope all who can, will support them by going along.

Many thanks to The Chipping Sodbury Town Lands Charity who have once again given a generous grant of £250 towards continued production of this newsletter. *Editor*

Carols on The Green

Wrap up warm, as Old Sodbury comes together again to sing carols from the village green (next to the Cotswold Service Station). Bring along a mulled wine or hot chocolate to keep toasty, along with lanterns, candles or torches to add some Christmas sparkle.

Carols begin at 6.30pm and will last around 30 minutes. Hopefully we'll have a visit from a very special person in a red suit around 7pm!

If you are unable to walk to the green, please park in the village hall car park.

The carols take place next to the main road, so please keep children with you at all times.

Should there be any extreme weather conditions that means we need to cancel the event, messages will be put out on the village Facebook page/group.

If you or you know someone who might be able to help with musical accompaniment, please let us know. For further information, please contact Darren on 07739 562628 or email: darrenhales@me.com.

VILLAGE HALL NEW TABLES.

Come and have a coffee at the **Christmas Coffee Morning on Friday 1st December** and see the new tables.

Money raised at past coffee mornings, last year's Christmas craft fair and the sale of Old Sodbury calendars have funded ten tables for the bar area of the hall.

I would like to thank All who have helped and attended these events.

Look forward to seeing you at the coffee morning. *Laura Walker*

Dates for your Diary:

At the Village Hall

1 Dec Coffee and Craft 10.30-1pm

2 Dec Race Night 7pm

At Old Sodbury School

7 Nov Bags2School 9am

25 Nov Christmas Fair 12 -4pm

At Old Sodbury Church

26 Nov 2pm + 3pm Stir Up Sunday

At The Green

19 Dec Christmas Carols 6.30pm

At Football Field

5 Nov Bonfire Night 5- 8pm

200 Club Winners

September No 183 Dean Hale £50

October No 118 Lucy Culverwell £50



CHRISTMAS
COFFEE
MORNING
with Craft Stalls
OLD SODBURY
VILLAGE HALL
Friday 1st December
10.30 -1.00



SUNDAY
5TH NOVEMBER
OLD SODBURY
BONFIRE
NIGHT
• BAR •
• S'MORES •
• OLD SODBURY LAMB BBQ •
• MULLED WINE •
• 5PM GATES OPEN •
• 6PM BONFIRE LIT •
• GLOWSTICKS •
• CANDYFLOSS •
• FRIENDS OF OLD SODBURY SCHOOL •
• KIDS PARTY DISCO •
• BAKED POTATOES •
Sugar Orchard Field (Old Sodbury Football Field)



Join us for a night of horse racing
on the big screen at
Old Sodbury Village Hall
**OLD SODBURY
RACE NIGHT**
Saturday 2nd December
7pm start
7.30pm first race
9pm buffet supper
Tickets £10
includes buffet supper and first drink
Tickets available from:
The bar at Bonfire Night
The Dog Inn
Dave Mason 07930 690439

Old Sodbury School We have had a wonderful start to our new year. 15 new children have joined our school community and have settled quickly into school life. They have been learning all about what makes them special. Chestnut Class have been learning about what lives where and enjoyed a trip to Wild Place to see the animals they had been learning about. Sycamore Class are learning about where their water comes from and had a trip to Slimbridge. Both classes had a very informative and fun educational session. Oak Class are learning about what is out there and how do we know. This has provided some very engaging discussions. They have returned from their residential camp at the PGL centre in Swindon and had an amazing time completing various outdoor activities. There are many photos on our Twitter (X) page where you can see the fun



that they had. *Jenny Jackman*

Vacancy

Are you home during the day and like spending time with groups of children? Are you looking for a few hours working in a school environment? Are you considering a change in career and would like to see what is like to be in a school without committing to whole days just yet? We are looking for help during our lunch period from 12-1. It doesn't have to be every day- we only ask that it is regular days. Please contact the school if you would like to help out.



Bags2School donations We are having a Bags2school collection on Tuesday 7th November. This is a great fundraiser for the school as we receive 50p per kilo of collected items. Please drop off in bags (so they don't get wet) either the evening of the 6th or before 9am on the 7th along the school wall any of the following: clothes, paired shoes, handbags, hats, bags, scarves, ties, bras, jewellery, socks, belts, soft toys, household linen /curtains/ towels/ bedding. Items need to be clean and dry. **Please do NOT donate** - duvets, blankets, pillows, cushions, carpets, rugs, soiled/painted/ripped/wet clothes, school uniform, corporate workwear, textiles, offcuts, furniture or batteries.

Play Areas Two new pieces of children's play equipment have been installed by Sodbury Town Council on The Ridings. One, a Galaxy free play unit, in the existing play area, the other is a Bloqx boulder climbing structure aimed at older children, at the end of the football pitch. Funding for this equipment came through South Gloucestershire Council from the housing development on Trinity Lane. The equipment is already in use and a formal opening took place on Tuesday 24th October at 11am in the play area.



Galaxy Free Play Unit



Bloqx Boulder Climbing

Sodbury Short Mat Bowls Club

Autumnal weather and dark evenings are here, and our regular players look forward to a friendly game of Short Mat Bowls and a social time together on a Monday evening. We have recently held our Annual General Meeting and have a new Treasurer. Our past Treasurer is unwell, and we send her our best wishes and thanks for her support and care of the accounts in recent years. Christmas and New Year festivities were discussed, and members were consulted on future competitions and trophies.

Prospective new members and visitors are very welcome to join us on a Monday evening at the Village Hall 6.30pm. For more information, please contact Richard on 01454 321323.

OLD SODBURY W.I.

The season of Autumn started well with a very informative talk about the early life of Queen Victoria by Susan Symons. We look forward to having this excellent speaker again to tell us the rest of the story! A few days later members enjoyed a balmy, warm evening walking to the Community Orchard and plantation followed by supper in the President's garden.

We should now be better equipped to avoid nasty scams and the trickery of fraudsters as we had Megan Haldene from the Police Service at our October meeting warning us about Cyber Crime. We were given guidance on managing scams and how to report them.

Our AGM will be held on November 1st and we look forward to electing some new members on to the WI committee. We are very grateful to those members who have served in the roles of Secretary and Treasurer for many years and are now taking a well-earned rest.

Members continue to enjoy reading a variety of literature and are currently reading "Maureen Fry and the Angel of the North" by Rachel Joyce. This is an account of one woman's search for the meaning of life and how to cope with life's many difficulties. The autobiography of Julie Walters received mixed reviews from members.

Several of our Craft group ladies accepted an invitation to visit Badminton Craft Group and enjoyed a social evening with their members. We are busy now making items to sell on our Christmas Craft Stall at the Village Hall Coffee morning on Friday 1st December.

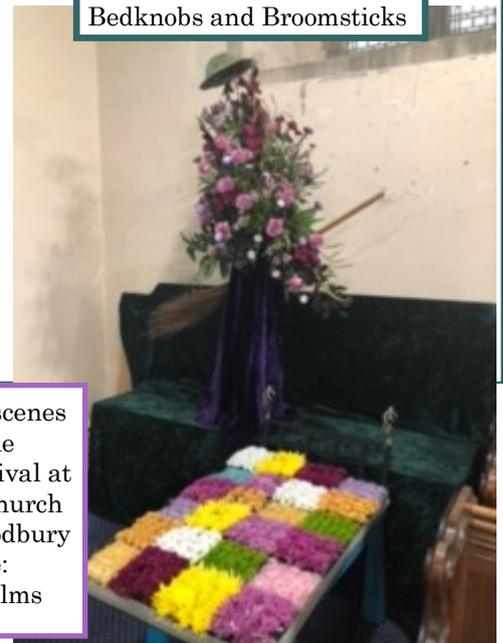
Recent events and outings include members attending the Federation Annual meeting, a tour of Arno's Vale cemetery and cheese tasting at L'Affinage sampling an amazing range of cheese with a glass of wine!

In December we look forward to afternoon tea at "The Gables" with entertainment by the "Bluebird Belles" and on Wednesday 6th December our Christmas Party.

Old Sodbury WI has recently welcomed several new members and we are always pleased to have visitors at our meetings on the first Wednesday in the month.

For more information about Old Sodbury WI please contact Sue 01454 315161

Bedknobs and Broomsticks



One of the scenes from the Flower Festival at St Johns Church Chipping Sodbury
Theme:
Disney Films

Village Hall News

The past few months have been relatively quiet in terms of Village events but we are now back into the swing of things. Hopefully you will be reading this before Bonfire Night and full details of this event to be held on Sunday 5th November are included elsewhere in this newsletter.

On Saturday 2nd December we will be holding a Race Night following on from the success of last years event. Tickets will be £10 per person to include finger snacks and will be available through members of the Committee or by emailing davelindamason@btinternet.com. This is a great fun evening so don't miss out.

Comedy Night has been provisionally booked for Saturday 13 April 2024. Further details will be available early in the New Year, but tickets go quickly so if you want to register interest, please email OSVH@outlook.com

In the hall itself we are delighted to have been able to buy some new lounge tables. The funds for these have been raised by Laura Walker, Anne Myers and Hayley Dash who have organised a number of well patronised coffee mornings and a craft fair. Our thanks to those individuals, the many bakers who have contributed cakes and all those that have helped at the events.

As always we are still keen for new bookings, particularly regular slots for local clubs or exercise classes. If you are interested in booking check the website booking system to see what is available

(<https://oldsodburyvillagehall.com>) The 'Book Online' tab shows what bookings we have and when we have slots available to book. You can then choose your date and time, provide some details of the event and submit a booking request. We look forward to welcoming you soon. *Ian Rowland*

THE FRIENDS of
OLD SODBURY CHURCH

STIR-UP SUNDAY

MAKE YOUR OWN CHRISTMAS PUDDING

OLD SODBURY CHURCH
SUNDAY 26th November 2023
Stirring starts at 2:00pm and at 3:00pm
Booking essential. Ticket only event
Tickets £7.50 for a BIG STIR!

All ingredients, bowls and instructions provided by our resident Chef

Telephone Tracy 01454 324673 or
Richard 01454 5014241 or
email old.sodbury.friends@gmail.com

Refreshments and seasonal bites available at £2 per person on the day

Old Sodbury Football Club Playing the first game in the Bristol Combination League, the team came away with a well deserved point in a six goal thriller. After drawing level just before half time Iron Acton dominated the second half and again drew level 2 minutes before full time with a well struck free kick.

On Wednesday night against Hambrook the boys were undone by a quick free kick when the home side broke away to score. In the gloom we hit the crossbar and also missed a golden opportunity at the very end. Away to Oldland, Josh Field scored two great goals with Simon Purnell adding a third in a performance that deserved all three points against the top of the table team. The team were well beaten by a good Thornbury side going down 3-1.

In the G.F.A. Cup the club had to give the game to Little Stoke with 8 players unavailable. In the Premier Cup manager Liam Barrett came on as sub and scored 2 goals in the last five minutes to clinch a 2-1 victory against Cribbs. In the first home game against Shirehampton the team went down 1-0 in a game where a point each would have been a fair result. On 14th October Greyfriars came up against Old Sodbury in fine form and so lost 4-0 with goals from Josh Field, Jordan Miller, Simon Purnell and Lewis Bezer for the village side. *Laurence Walker*

<u>Fixtures</u>		
4 Nov	A.E.K.Boco	H
11 Nov	Nicholas Wand.. Res	A
25 Nov	Shirehampton	A
2 Dec	Chip Sodbury Res	H
9 Dec	Oldlands Res	H
16 Dec	Thornbury Res	H
6 Jan	Patchway	A
13 Jan	Cribbs A	A
20 Jan	Shaftesbury	A

Concert at "Camers"

Thanks to the generosity of the Denman family, the Friends of Old Sodbury Church once again held their annual concert and picnic in the beautiful grounds of "Camers".

The Rulettes, a local band, helped many of us to relive those unforgettable sounds of the 60s and 70s with hits from the Beatles, the Beachboys and many others; the ages of those on the dance floor ranged over eight decades! Having sold 250 tickets and completed all preparations, the only thing we couldn't organise was the weather. Despite light showers as people began to arrive, followed by lightning and thunder in the distance, when the band started to play the rain stopped and it remained dry for the rest of the evening. It was a very successful evening and we are very grateful to all those who came along to support it. *Lynne Watts*



The Reason for the Season

Christmas Services at St. John The Baptist Church, Old Sodbury.

Sunday 17th December 5pm Carol Service followed by Christmas refreshments

Christmas Eve - Sunday 24th December 3pm Crib Service - a service especially for the children telling the story of the first Christmas.

Christmas Day 11.15am Holy Communion service

Everyone is welcome to join us to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

Sodbury Woodland and Nature

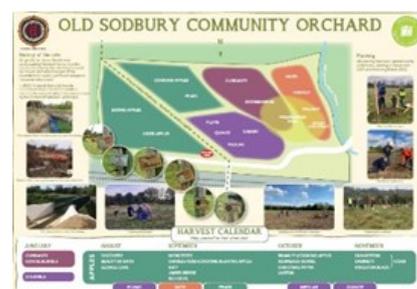
On 7th October a number of volunteers joined us to help plant nearly 4,000 native wildflower plants in the field on Sodbury Common. This followed the seeding of what will become a new wildflower meadow on the 14 acre site, supported by a grant from the West of England Combined Authority. Wildflowers are not only a visual delight but also play a crucial role in supporting local biodiversity. The new meadow will provide essential resources for pollinators, such as bees and butterflies, which, in turn, contribute to the health of our entire ecosystem and in the years to come we can look forward to a vibrant tapestry of colour as these entirely native wildflowers bloom.



Photo by Robert Adams

Over in the Community Orchard, another exciting development is on the horizon as we are in the process of creating an information board to help visitors identify the different areas and varieties of fruit and nuts found in the orchard, when to pick them, as well as the history of the site.

Finally, we hope to carry out some further tree planting in an area off Mill Lane early in the New Year – look out for updates on the Swan and Old Sodbury community Facebook pages. *Andy Sage-Bell*



Please send your news to Pauline Wilson Tel: 310540 Email r.pwilson@yahoo.co.uk or Michelle Dash Tel: 07955 170321 Deadline for January edition is **15th December** For Village Hall bookings go to: <https://oldsodburyvillagehall.com> THANK YOU TO ALL who have helped with this edition. WE 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.