



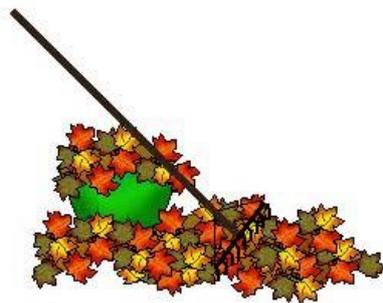
Newsletter No 73
Autumn 2021
www.osa.org.uk



OGBOURNE ST ANDREW, MAIZEY AND ROCKLEY NEWSLETTER

**Welcome to the Autumn edition of the Parish
Newsletter! Inside you'll find:**

- ◆ **Village news – Parish Council updates**
- ◆ **Churchyard tidy-up this weekend**
- ◆ **Ogbourne Christmas Market**
- ◆ **Peter Makin's 'Desert Island Discs'**
- ◆ **History Group update**
- ◆ **Save the Silks news**
- ◆ **Bay Meadows update from Wiltshire
Wildlife Trust**
- ◆ **Who lives in Ogbourne St Andrew**
- ◆ **Wiltshire Council & Climate Change**



Please send contributions and ideas for articles to alexandra.hegarty@hotmail.co.uk



VILLAGE NEWS

Parish Council Updates

We're happy to say that Elizabeth Wright has taken on the role of Parish Clerk, replacing Allison Holland (thank you Allison!). She can be contacted on ogbourneparishclerk@yahoo.co.uk.

The next Parish Council meeting date is 8th November 2021. You can find all sorts of information about the parish on the parish website osa.org.uk.

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust update on Bay Meadows

In the last issue, we featured the beautiful floodplain meadows at Bay Bridge next to the A346 on the way in to Marlborough, which were up for sale and at risk of development. This strategically important river wildlife corridor covers 1.3km of the River Og, a typical Wiltshire chalk stream, and 12 hectares of adjacent water meadows.

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust would like to thank everyone who supported the public appeal to save Bay Meadows. The site has now been purchased on the Trust's behalf by the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation, who are effectively providing the Trust with a loan. Now they must raise enough to pay off the loan, and carry out the essential work needed to enhance the site for wildlife and enable public access, a total of £435,000.

The Trust is applying to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for a grant and must demonstrate community support for the project. They were thrilled to reach their fundraising appeal target, raising over £60,000, which will provide match funding to help secure the lottery grant, and demonstrates the amazing support the Trust has had from the local community.

Of course this grant is not guaranteed, so the Trust is continuing to fundraise in order to improve and manage the site whatever the outcome; but rest assured it is now safe. Excitingly there are recent signs of water voles, sedge warblers and reed buntings having bred successfully along much of the river corridor.

Keep up with the latest news on the site, or donate to the cause, at: www.wiltshirewildlife.org/Appeal/baymeadowsappeal



Autumn Tidy Up

**Saturday 9 October &
Sunday 10 October 2021**

10am till 1pm

Ogbourne St Andrew
Churchyard

**Please bring gardening tools,
loppers, gloves and energy.
Main tasks will be to prune
the bottoms of the lime trees
and tidy graves.
Refreshments will be served.
Thank you for your support.**



OGBOURNE ST ANDREW CHURCH NEWS

'Desert Island Discs' with Peter Makin

On Friday 6 August an audience of 60 enjoyed a Desert Island Discs evening at Ogbourne St Andrews Church.

Roger Swan, acting as host, interviewed Peter Makin, retired racehorse trainer, who had owned Bonita Racing Stables in Ogbourne Maizey for 48 years.



Peter revealed a fascinating life filled with difficult challenges and setbacks but also amazing experiences, successes and triumphs.

As an infant he survived a bomb blast in an air pocket of a collapsed hospital in Braintree, Essex until he and his sister were rescued. Later as a young man he had a serious road accident, breaking his legs and ankles which needed many months of recovery. He was involved in transporting horses on aeroplanes around the world and told hair-raising stories of dangerous close calls from lack of fuel, ill pilots, and bureaucratic tangles.

A chance meeting with a beautiful girl in Paris in the mid-Sixties brought his wife Natalie into his life.

With determination and resourcefulness, he then achieved his ambition to become a top trainer in a highly competitive world, taking opportunities and risks along the way. Peter talked through the years, choosing music which included 'Jerusalem', 'Mack the Knife' and 'I Want to Break Free', stating that Queen were his all-time favourite band.

When asked how he had achieved so much success he replied 'patience and dedication'. His final choice of 'Non, je ne regrette rien' sung by Edith Piaf would seem to sum up his reflections on his remarkable and inspirational achievements.

The evening raised £577 for the church. Our grateful thanks to Gerry Brown for providing the music, and to all who attended.

Sue Parry

Ogbourne St Andrew PCC



OGBOURNE CHRISTMAS MARKET

*Ogbourne St Andrew Church
(on the Green at the church)*

Saturday 4th December 2021

11.00am – 3.00pm



*Colourful potted bulbs
Festive Hamper Raffle
Free Entry & Parking*

*Christmas produce, cakes, jams,
chutneys etc
Fizz & Spirits Raffle*

Donations to the following stalls would be appreciated

Edible Christmas Produce: Jenni Clarke 841345

Items for Hampers: Janice Hetherington 514712

Bulbs for Spring: Marion Gordon-Finlayson 512125

TABLE TOP HIRE FOR STALL HOLDERS - £25.00

Refreshments including mulled wine & mince pies

Ford Fuel Oils: Village Consortium



The village has an arrangement in place with Ford Fuel Oils at Membury near Hungerford (tel. 01488 72929). We are called the 'Cygnet Consortium' and the idea is that because Ford can deliver to more than one customer at the same time, we get a cheaper rate. As an added bonus, at the end of the financial year, the Parish Council receives a rebate from Ford Fuels based on the number of litres bought from them over the year. When calling to order oil, quote 'Cygnet Consortium' to secure a preferential rate.



100 CLUB WINNERS

July 2021

1st prize Charlie Usher

2nd prize John Hooper

August 2021

1st prize Brian Wood

2nd prize Yvonne Parsons

September 2021

1st prize Karen Heaven

2nd prize Bruce Fox

Why not join the 100 club?

A 100 Club is a form of lottery. Subscribers pay £2 per month and are entered into a monthly draw. All profits go to Ogbourne St Andrew Church.

First prize is 75% of the available pot, while second prize is 25%. There is no limit to the number of shares held by any one person, but no individual can win more than one prize per month. The more shares you own, the greater your chances of winning! Apply to Ian Gordon-Finlayson, Treasurer, at iangf@f2s.com, if you wish to join the 100 Club or to increase your holding.

**CLIMATE
CHANGE
AFFECTS
US
ALL**



Have your say on our Climate Strategy and help us to protect Wiltshire for future generations.

www.wiltshire.gov.uk/climate



Wiltshire Council

Help shape Wiltshire Council's Climate Strategy

Wiltshire Council would like your say on its Climate Strategy to help shape the next five years of the council's action on climate change. Until midnight on Sunday 17th October, you can comment on the draft strategy, which covers transport; the built environment; waste; the green economy; energy generation, storage and distribution; the natural environment, food and farming; and the aim to become a carbon-neutral council. Read the strategy online and comment via a brief survey at: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/climate.

A hard copy of the climate strategy is also available at all Wiltshire libraries.



OGBOURNE ST ANDREW HISTORY GROUP UPDATE

We have been somewhat reluctant to rush into re-starting the History Group meetings but haven't been totally inert. Various internet enquiries have opened up new aspects of parish history and we are re-assessing the oral history project, collecting reminiscences from people with long memories. An example of some of the earlier recordings throw light on the policing style before WW2, recounted by Nan Simmons and Dicky Brown (who sadly passed away last year).

Nan:

I remember the village policeman. I was with my brother (who was always in the forefront of any trouble) and two others, and we got in under the wire of Jimmy Brangwyn's orchard (opposite Tresco), apple scrumping. It was getting quite dark, and I was scared stiff to go past the vicarage and those trees – I was terrified when Mum sent me to the shop (now Field Cottage) when it was getting dark to get the afternoon's baking on a Saturday. As I came under the wire, all I could see was policeman's boots! He clipped me around the ear and booted the boys up their backside. That's all we heard about it – the policemen would give you a telling off, a clip round the ear and that was it.

Dicky:

You talk about clips round the ear: it was Ernie Atwell, the policeman. He was leaning on his bike on the road down to Maisey, when I came down Coach Road. I always had to be home by 12 o'clock for my dinner. He said, "Come here, young Brown". I went across the road and he gave me such a fourpenny one. I thought a horse had kicked me. "What was that for, Mr Atwell? I haven't done anything." "I know you haven't, but when you do do something, I probably won't be there to catch you."

These and other anecdotes we hope to make available on the History Group website in due course. You can already hear Dicky recounting some quips in a Wiltshire dialect, at: osahg.org.uk > Parish > [Voices from the past](http://osahg.org.uk).

Bruce Fox, 01672 512867 www.osahg.org.uk



SAVE OUR VILLAGE PUB



**Good news
about the
Community Pub
project!**

We were delighted to announce at the end of the share offer period that we have met our target of £240,000, raising a total of £243,000 – £223,000 from our share offer and £20,000 in member loans. A huge THANK YOU to everyone who has contributed and made this possible by investing, by spreading the word and by supporting us.

We've now submitted our application for the Government's Community Ownership Fund, which offers us the potential to match the funds we raise with a Government grant and will soon hear whether we have been successful.

In the meantime we're continuing to plan refurbishment and opening and we'll be reaching out shortly with details of how you can get involved in volunteering across a range of activities as we get ever closer to being able to confirm the reopening of The Silks on the Downs for the benefit of the community.

For more information, see our website savethesilks.org, or email info@savethesilks.org.

You can also follow us on Facebook at SaveTheSilks or Twitter @SaveSilks.



PARKINSON'S UK WALK AT WELFORD

I just wanted to say a big thank you to everyone in the village who sponsored me for my walk at Welford in early July. I woke in the morning to be greeted by rain, not auspicious but then I recalled the saying: "Rain before seven, fine after eleven". This proved true; there was some drizzle as I drove to Welford but the walk started in the dry and it wasn't long before the sun put in an appearance, turning it into a perfect summer's day for a walk, with a refreshing breeze.

The walk started from the Welford grain dryers and then through the car park used when we are able to visit the snowdrops in spring. The route skirted two sides of the snowdrop wood, then over the stream and across the valley where we left Welford Park for a steep ascent up a field of permanent pasture, which was topped by Welford village cricket ground. They must have some fit fielders if anyone hits a boundary!

Leaving the cricket ground the route took us over parkland hedged by woodland; we had to aim for a large dead tree on the periphery. Then, walking on into the woods we emerged onto arable headlands, which led eventually to an underpass beneath the M4. Shortly after, the route took us over the motorway on a farmer's private track. It was good to note the excellent crops of wheat and barley growing and to encounter a new hedge being planted. Much of the route was around field headlands and through woods used for pheasant rearing, such a privilege to be able to go through private farmland. The last mile or so followed the fencing around Welford Camp and so back to the grain barns. The 6.5 miles took me 3.5 hours through some beautiful countryside; the only downside was the accompanying roar of the M4 traffic.

So once again very many thanks for enabling me to raise £900 for Parkinson's UK research. This sum was doubled by another charity and over half of the donations were gift aided, so I think I was just short of £2,000 at the end of the day. So an enjoyable and profitable time, much enjoyed by Flora the dog.

Liz Wright





WHO LIVES IN OGBOURNE ST ANDREW, MAIZEY AND ROCKLEY?

Nick and Yvonne Parsons, Ogbourne St Andrew



We are Nicholas (Nick) & Yvonne Parsons and we have lived at 4 Wet Pits Lane since moving into the Village in September 2008 after Nicholas retired as a Military Policeman following 23 years of Army Service. Unfortunately, further uniformed service with the civilian police was not an option, as Nick had sustained a few medical injuries, so you'll

see him pottering about the village walking our 1-year-old sprocker spaniel Monty with his walking stick in tow.

We met in 1989 in Leconfield, near Hull, whilst Nick was on a military driving course. Yvonne was an Army Medic at the time who treated him after he 'fell' down a flight of steps whilst on a night out with his mates...the rest is history and we celebrate 30 years of marriage next year.

In 1993 we had our eldest son, Aaron, who initially gained a degree with Bournemouth University and is now a Policeman with Thames Valley Police Service. Then in 1995 along came Rhys who gained his degree also from Bournemouth University and is now a Junior Cyber Security Consultant.

After retiring from the forces, Nick took employment at the Defence Academy in Shrivenham as a Logistics Manager, where he continues to work today. Nick enjoys Military History and in his spare time set up a WW2 living history group called The Echelon, which attends events across the South West running talks on WW2. Nick is continuously researching the history of past parishioners, in particular the persons commemorated on the village war memorial. Nick is also a PTSD advocate and as such set up a support group



called Models for Heroes which military, police, fire and NHS staff can attend in order to take their minds away from stressful situations, current or past.

Yvonne left the Army in 2003 when we decided to start a family and has since had various jobs working around family life. From managing a pub to working from the civil service, I've done it all. For the past 3 years Yvonne has been the Health & Safety Officer for RAF Brize Norton. For many years Yvonne has made celebration cakes for friends and family, and during lockdown she decided it was time to give it a go properly, so she set up her own celebration cake business called 'Artisan Cakes'. When not baking, Yvonne enjoys being in the garden and researching family history.

Both Nick and Yvonne are Parish Councillors, Nick having recently stepped up as Chairman, and we would like to see the village brought back to life with events and places to meet up. As such we were so happy when the Community Pub venture started. Community is really important to people living in a rural village, a space for relaxing with current friends and making new ones, so we can't wait to see where that venture ends up. We loved the village fetes that we used to have, such good fun and it was always great to see everyone together having a good time.

MULTI-MEDIA PROJECTOR FOR HIRE

The Parish and the History Group have a multi-media projector available for hire within the Parish. The modest hire charge of £5 funds the purchase of a replacement lamp.

Contact: Bruce Fox 01672 512867.





For your Diary

*More on many of these events can be found
inside this issue, or see the village website
www.osa.org.uk*

Sat 9th and Sun 10th October, 10am to 1pm: **Autumn Tidy-up**,
Ogbourne St Andrew Churchyard

Mon 8th November: **Parish Council Meeting**,
Ogbourne St Andrew Church

Sun 31st October: Deadline for secondary school applications

Sat 4th December, 11am – 3pm: **Ogbourne Christmas Market**,
Ogbourne St Andrew Church

Sat 15th January 2022: Deadline for primary school applications



Join our Facebook Community page to stay connected, offer help, ask for help or to simply chat.
Look for 'Ogbourne St Andrew, Maizey and Rockley Community'.

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Please send contributions and ideas for articles to alexandra.hegarty@hotmail.co.uk