



Newsletter No 81
Autumn 2023
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
- Community walk for our footpaths
- Silks on the Downs 1st Anniversary party
- Pub news, Wine Tasting and themed nights
- Family Bingo!
- History Group update
- 100 Club winners
- Christmas Wreath workshops at the Silks
- Dates for your diary



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



Christmas Wreath-Making at the Silks

Last year both workshops filled quickly, so this year there are four workshops to choose from, all held at the Silks on the Downs:

Monday December 4th: 10.30am - 12.30pm or 1.30pm - 3.30pm

Tuesday December 5th: 10.30am - 12.30pm or 7pm – 9pm

The cost per person is £60, and includes all materials and equipment. Emily, of Grace and Ivy florists, will do a demonstration, before letting us loose on our own creations.

If you would like to join us, please email me at davisian51@btinternet.com with your preferred workshop, and I will add you to the list. I will advise you when payment is required, which will probably be early November.



Carol Davis

100 Club Winners

July

1st prize Elfrieda Graham

2nd prize John Horsey

August

1st prize Bruce Fox

2nd prize Karen Heaven

September

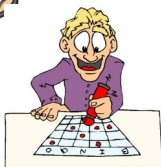
1st prize Joy Penn

2nd prize Nando Jimenez

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, to join the 100 Club or to increase your holding.



Family Bingo Night!

5:30 – 7:30pm Sunday 15th October

at The Silks on the Downs

£2 per adult, children free, all welcome

The bar will be open for drinks

There will be a snack supper on offer for children

Come and try your luck!

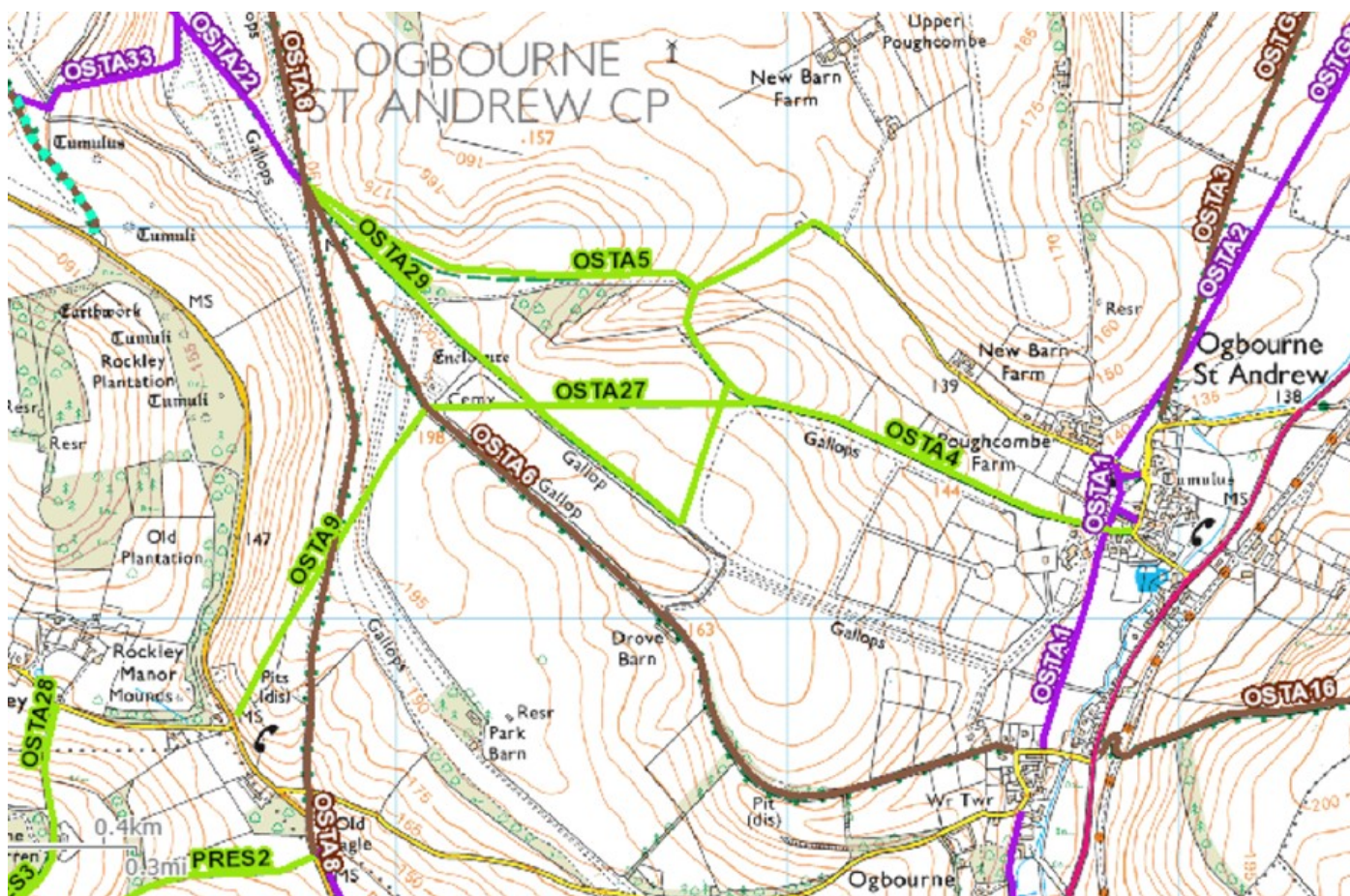




Community walk for our footpaths

Join a community walk on Sunday, 15th October to keep our local footpaths open

Meet at The Silks on the Downs pub at 11am



After a very successful community walk back in June we've decided to do another in October. This time we're going to go a little bit further as we know some fresh air will be very much welcomed after what we hope will be a very successful Silks Birthday Party the night before.

Please meet at The Silks on the Downs pub at 11am where our wonderful baristas will prepare you the most amazing coffee before you head off. We're aiming to leave the pub by 11:30am and the route will be as follows:

Leave the pub and go up through Ogbourne St Andrew village to join the OSTA4 footpath. We'll then join OSTA27, cross over the Green Lane and join OSTA9. At the end of OSTA9 we'll retrace our steps back to join OSTA8 then follow the OSTA5 and OSTA4 back to the pub for a well deserved beverage.

The pub serves an outstanding Sunday Roast so please remember to book in advance to save disappointment. We look forward to seeing you on the day.

Remember – we have to use it or lose it – footpaths as well as our local pub!



News from The Silks – Your community pub

October is the time to get down to The Silks. We have a packed activity calendar this month, so please join in with your friends and neighbours. If you are feeling energetic, our gardening and maintenance teams are looking for more help.

What's on at The Silks?

Wednesday is theme night at The Silks

The popular pub quiz starts at 7 pm on the last Wednesday of every month. October dates include Pie Night (4th), Wine Tasting (11th), Pub Anniversary Party (14th), Thai Night (18th) and Quiz Night (25th). Book now to ensure a table!

Have a drink on us!

Now, there's an offer you can't refuse. Join us at The Silks on a Thursday evening in October to enjoy our new offer – get a glass of wine or beer on the house when you order a 3-course meal. Terms do apply. Book now and share the news with your friends and neighbours.

Silks Anniversary Party!

Join us on Saturday 14th October to celebrate the one-year anniversary of The Silks on the

Downs re-opening! Hog roast, vegetarian and gf options, music and fun, kids' corner with arts and crafts, and more! Booking essential: Adults £20, children under 16 FREE. Email hello@silksonthedowns.co.uk to book your ticket; payment in advance by bank transfer.

Rugby World Cup

By popular demand, the men's Rugby World Cup is coming to The Silks. We are screening all the home nation's matches live throughout the tournament up to the final on Saturday, 28th October. Join us for all the live action while enjoying a drink and a snack in a friendly atmosphere. For those not following the rugby, note that it is shown in a separate area of the pub so won't affect your lunch or dinner bookings!

Community Activity

Our community activities are going from strength to strength.

Community Café

The Community Café is full steam ahead. Our volunteer baristas Jan, Helen and Ruth are experts at serving excellent teas and coffees, and if you fancy a slice of their homemade cake, then please bring some cash as we accept donations towards our community fund in exchange for a slice. Doors open on the first Tuesday of every month at 10.00am-12.00pm.

Silkworms Book Club

The ever-popular Silkworms Book Club meets the first Wednesday of every month, 7.30pm-

9.30 pm at The Silks. If you'd like to become a Silkworm please let Ruth know by emailing jonandruthfleming@gmail.com.

Bridge Group

We are delighted to confirm the first Bridge Group meeting took place on 31st August. Join the friendly and gentle bridge group, which welcomes players of all abilities. The meetings will run from 1pm to 3pm, and we ask for a donation of £2 per player. If you would like to join the group, please contact Pam Mack via pam.mack62@gmail.com.



The Pub Gardening & Maintenance Teams

The gardening and maintenance teams are making us proud. The teams are a great band of volunteers: our thanks to them all for their

hard work and dedication to making the outside spaces so attractive and keeping the pub in good order to welcome our guests.

Get in touch

If you'd like to help out as a community volunteer or you want to give us your feedback and ideas, you can get in touch with the Ogbourne Community Pub Society (OCtyPuS) by emailing info@octypus.org.

History Group Update

More effort has been made in putting together the history of the Silks (formerly the Wheatsheaf) and understanding the rather involved land exchanges over the last 170 years. We now have a reasonably complete list of owners and licensees up to the 1970s but we are having some difficulty in filling in the more recent details.

As a spin-off from this research we have a much clearer idea of the activities carried out in the village – two bakeries, at least five forges, two carpenters (or a change of venue for one), a rare chicken breeds specialist (with prizes not only for the birds but also the size of their eggs!) and a snippet from the Marlborough Times of 1877:

Fire and Mayhem in Ogbourne St Andrew

The danger of fire in thatched buildings has been noted before, but between 9 and 10 o'clock at night on Friday April 6th 1877 a chain of events occurred which ended in a fight in St Andrew. A Mrs Draper, whilst going to bed, knocked over an oil lamp which set fire to a screen, bed furniture and then the thatch on her cottage. Her children were led to safety, but the fire spread next door to Sawyer's cottage. An invalid, he was carried out to the adjacent Vicarage. The fire was by now quite serious, setting light to some outhouses and stores of oats.

Someone ran to Marlborough and rang the alarm, a bell on the Town Hall. The fire brigade readied the horse-drawn engine and then waited for half an hour. Apparently, they couldn't move without authority from a 'responsible' official. A crowd in the town apparently voiced their concern, but until the Town Cleric [sic] had visited the fire and sent back suitable instructions, the fire brigade didn't move!

On arriving at Ogbourne they were met with 'yells of execration and shouts of derision' and some were assaulted! Fights broke out and one fireman was 'savagely bitten on the throat'.

Apparently, the cottages were insured by their owner, but it is doubtful if the Drapers or Sawyer would have had any cover. It is not certain which cottages were involved, but they must have been close to the Vicarage (now Tresco House).

Bruce Fox (01672 512867), Ogbourne St Andrew Parish History Group



The SILKS *on the Downs*



COUNTRY PUB
& DINING

- Locally sourced fresh cooked food
- Excellent range of drinks
- Legendary Sunday roast
- Beer garden

Community owned since reopening in 2022 means all profits generated are used to improve the pub and its offering or to support community initiatives



Open Wed – Sat
12pm-3pm & 6pm-11pm
Open Sunday
12pm-5pm



Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to be the first to know about our regular events and offers



Book online:

www.silksonthedowns.co.uk

Contact us:

hello@silksonthedowns.co.uk
01672 705 064

The
SILKS
on the Downs

[OCT 11 - 7 P.M.]

WINE TASTING

JOIN US FOR A
4 COURSE SPANISH FEAST
WITH WINE FROM REGIONAL SPAIN.
BOOKINGS ONLY LIMITED AVAILABILITY
£60 PER PERSON

EST 2003
TALKING WINES
OF CIRENCESTER

WINE EXPERT | FOOD PAIRING | GOOD COMPANY

The
SILKS
on the Downs

**ANNIVERSARY
PARTY**

SATURDAY 14TH OCTOBER
5PM - 11PM
TICKET ENTRY ONLY
Adults £20 | Children under 16 FREE
HOG ROAST | MUSIC & DANCING | CHILDREN'S CORNER



Recycling: sort before you bring to the tip

Wiltshire Council data shows that more than a third of the items put in the general rubbish skips at its household recycling centres (HRCs) could have been recycled. So please sort your waste before you visit so that it can be recycled.

Some of the items you can recycle at the Marlborough HRC include:

- textiles and clothing
- plastics
- paper
- wood
- metals, cans and aerosols
- electrical items
- cardboard
- soil and rubble

So, whether you have been clearing out the garage, moving house, or just having a tidy up, please take the time and care to sort out your recycling before you visit the tip.

Kerbside collection for small rechargeables

You can also now recycle small rechargeable electrical items as part of your fortnightly kerbside collection service. These include:

- MP3 players
- electric toothbrushes
- shavers/trimmers
- all vapes and e-cigarettes
- wireless earphones
- smart watches
- mobile phones
- digital cameras
- charging devices/power banks

All you need to do is place these items in a carrier bag next to your blue-lidded bin. Note that any mains-powered electrical item that needs to be plugged in to work, or individual rechargeable items larger than a shoe box, still need to be taken to the HRC (tip).

You can also put out small household batteries in a sealed clear sandwich bag (please store batteries until you have enough to fill the bag, making sure it can be securely closed). Place on top of your blue-lidded bin or beside your blue recycling sack so that the collection crew can see them, and never in the bin.

Find more information and FAQs at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/hrc-waste-sorting and at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/electricals-collections



For your Diary

*More information on planned events can
be found inside this issue, or see the village
website: www.osa.org.uk*

Tuesday 3rd October, 10am - 12pm: Community Café at The Silks

Wednesday 4th October: Pie Night at The Silks

Wednesday 11th October: 7pm Spanish Wine Tasting evening with 4-course dinner at The Silks – see inside to book

Saturday 14th October: Pub Opening Anniversary Party at The Silks – see inside to book

Sunday 15th October: Community Walk for our Footpaths, meet at The Silks at 11am

Sunday 15th October, 5:30 - 7:30 pm: Family Bingo at The Silks – all welcome!

Wednesday 18th October: Thai Night at The Silks

Tues 24th Oct Rockley: Hibernation & Migration Marlborough Downs Space for Nature Family Event (free, booking essential at www.spacefornature.net)

Wednesday 25th October: Quiz Night at The Silks

Wednesday 1st November: Beer & Pie Night – meet Ramsbury's Head Brewer at The Silks

Thursday 2nd November, 10am - 12pm: Community Café at The Silks

Monday 4th December: Christmas Wreath Workshops at The Silks – see inside to book

Tuesday 5th December: Christmas Wreath Workshops at The Silks



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Join the Facebook Community page!
Look for 'Ogbourne St Andrew, Maizey and Rockley Community'.