



Newsletter No 88  
Summer 2025  
[www.osa.org.uk](http://www.osa.org.uk)



## OGBOURNE ST ANDREW, MAIZEY AND ROCKLEY NEWSLETTER

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

- ♦ **Village news**
- ♦ **VE Day celebrations**
- ♦ **Outdoor Theatre at Maizey Lodge:**  
*The Rivals*
- ♦ **News from the Pews**
- ♦ **Silks on the Downs news**
- ♦ **Dates for your diary**
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Please send contributions and ideas for articles to [alexandra.hegarty@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alexandra.hegarty@hotmail.co.uk)



# VILLAGE NEWS

## Ogbourne St Andrew VE Day Celebration

### A sunny afternoon of community spirit and fun

On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May, Ogbourne St Andrew was bathed in glorious sunshine as the village came together to mark VE Day in style. With not a cloud in the sky, the weather provided the perfect backdrop for an afternoon packed with community spirit, entertainment, and celebration.



Preparations began early, with a dedicated team of villagers assembling at 10am to transform the field into a festive hub. Gazebos, tables, chairs, flags and banners were set up with enthusiasm and teamwork, setting the stage for a memorable day.

From 3pm to 5pm, the field buzzed with activity. The event was opened by the stirring sounds of the Marlborough Sing Choir, joined by the talented Preshute School Choir. Their fantastic voices set a joyful tone and were met with rapturous applause.

One of the highlights of the afternoon was the Dog Show, which brought plenty of laughter and wagging tails. Special thanks go to Jo Parkinson-Hill for her expert judging. From a dog agility course to biscuit catching and the coveted "Owner with the Waggiest Tail" contest, the event had both dogs and owners beaming.



Throughout the afternoon, there were a variety of activities for all ages. Cam Moore kept young faces smiling with her face painting, while Oli Dutton hosted a bunting-making station that added a splash of colour to the field. Classic fair-style competitions such as Guess the Number of Sweets in the Jar, Guess the Weight of the Cake, and the VE Day Quiz kept brains ticking. Congratulations to Izzy Place for taking home the quiz crown! A special thanks to Bruce and Jane Fox for curating a fascinating history display.





No celebration is complete without cake, and the Best Decorated Cake competition once again impressed. Congratulations to reigning champion Sophie, who retained her title against some truly delicious-looking entries. Due to popular demand, next year will see the introduction of a Best Tasting Cake category – a treat for all!



The grand finale was the Tug of War, a fierce but friendly contest between teams from Ogbourne St Andrew and Maizey. With competitors ranging in age from 2 to 70, it was a true testament to the inclusive and spirited nature of the event.

A huge thank you goes out to everyone who made the day possible: the Leach family for the generous loan of the field and electricity; all the gazebo owners and an unsung hero for setting up and taking down all the gazebos and also collecting and returning the chairs and tables from Ogbourne St George; finally the Ogbourne St Andrew Parish Council and Ogbourne Community Benefit Society for jointly funding the event.

Another fantastic event for the village, full of warmth, laughter, and a strong sense of togetherness. Here's to next year – and to even more cake!

We are always looking for ideas for community events, if you have an idea for a community event please get in touch with Nicky Place, Karen Brown or Jo Dutton.





*Celebrating 20 years of outdoor theatre at Maizey Lodge*



*Will heiress Lydia Languish choose the penniless Ensign Beverly or the eligible Jack Absolute? Come and sample the sparkling wit and whirlwind plot of The Rivals*

In the garden at Maizey Lodge, Ogbourne Maizey, Marlborough SN8 1RY

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025**

**Performance starts 7.30pm (whatever the weather!)**

One interval of 15 mins.

**Gates open from 6.00pm for picnics. Bring your own chairs.**

Bar/coffee/ice creams/W.C./parking

**Tickets: Adults £16.00 Children (under 16) £8.00 Family £42.00 (2A 2C)**

**Tickets in advance only 01672 – 512125 / maizey50@gmail.com**

**Performance in aid of AgeUK Wiltshire**







# SILKS ON THE DOWNS NEWS

## News from the pub

Trade at The Silks is doing well, with both April and May much busier than the same period last year. Refurbishment of the snug and bar, the opening of the rooms, and improvements across food, service and ambience have helped drive regular and additional trade.

With Thomas now in the kitchen, the menu changes regularly to reflect the seasons and the best produce available. Summer favourites joining the menu in June include Roast Cod with Smoked Bacon, Braised Peas & Lettuce, Buttermilk Fried Chicken Burger with American Cheese & Thomas's Buffalo Sauce, and Skirt Steak with Caramelised Shallots & Green Peppercorn Sauce.

### Five Pound Friday

And on Fridays, The Silks is the new place to be! Every week Five Pound Friday kicks off at 5pm with £5 drinks until 7pm, and there's something for everyone with house beer, wine, gin and even cocktails available for just £5 each.

Follow us on Instagram [thesilkspub](#) for offers, events, news and more, or go to the Silks' website, [www.thesilks.pub](http://www.thesilks.pub).



## 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



# NEWS FROM THE PEWS

## The latest from Ogbourne St Andrew Church

### Events in the church

We are pleased to report that the recent talk in the church by Mike Stokes was enjoyed by 30 people and raised over £400 towards church running costs. This followed the presentation in March by the author Sally Coulthard which was attended by 60 people and brought in over £1,000, partly due to the sale of her latest books, kindly donated by Sally.

We plan to arrange more of these informal talks, probably in the autumn. We would be glad to hear your suggestions for potential speakers in this Local Voices series.

### Project Andrew

Project Andrew has reached a critical point.

We have now successfully secured eight grants of varying amounts, and our plans to make the 900-year old church fit for the next couple of centuries by improving its facilities to enable greater community use are attracting support. But we need more.



We are most grateful to those who have made donations and pledges so far but we are looking for a further £10,000 to unlock access to the major grant givers, who require us to have at least 50% of our projected costs already covered. With this amount we will attain this threshold.

If you have not already done so, please consider making a pledge to contribute towards the preservation of this ancient building, whether you currently use it much or not; it is part of our community heritage.

Do not delay: at the end of June the Parochial Church Council (PCC) will have to decide whether to proceed with the plans or to scale them back or to abandon them altogether. This moment is critical.

See our website [www.ogbournestandrewpcc.org](http://www.ogbournestandrewpcc.org) for further details and how to pledge or donate (or email [iangf@f2s.com](mailto:iangf@f2s.com)).

*Ogbourne St Andrew PCC*



## Join the 100 Club and support our church!

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](mailto:iangf@f2s.com), to join the 100 Club or to increase your holding.

### 100 club winners:

#### **March 2025**

1<sup>st</sup> prize Roger Swan  
2<sup>nd</sup> prize Elfriede Graham

#### **May 2025**

1<sup>st</sup> prize Matt France  
2<sup>nd</sup> prize Bruce Fox

#### **April 2025**

1<sup>st</sup> prize Sharon Priest  
2<sup>nd</sup> prize Jane Fox

## Sunday walking group

The monthly Sunday walking group runs on the second Sunday of the month.

All are welcome, with routes shared via social media and village WhatsApp groups the week before. Walks start and end at The Silks on the Downs.



Perfect weather  
for May's  
community  
walk



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

**Weds 25<sup>th</sup> June: Quiz Night** at the Silks on the Downs

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 10am-12pm: Community Café** at the Silks on the Downs

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025, 7.30pm: Outdoor Theatre** at Maizey Lodge: The Rain and Shine  
Theatre Company presents Sheridan's '**The Rivals**'

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July, 5pm-7pm: Community Drinks** at the Silks on the Downs

**Weds 30<sup>th</sup> July Quiz Night** at the Silks on the Downs

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August, 5pm-7pm: Community Drinks** at the Silks on the Downs

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> August 10am-12pm: Community Café** at the Silks on the Downs

*Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August: August Bank Holiday*

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 10am-12pm: Community Café** at the Silks on the Downs

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September, 5pm-7pm: Community Drinks** at the Silks on the Downs



## Useful contacts:

Ogbourne St Andrew, Maizey and Rockley website: [osa.org.uk](http://osa.org.uk)

Facebook page: 'Ogbourne St Andrew, Maizey and Rockley Community'

History Group website: [osahg.org.uk](http://osahg.org.uk)

Silks on the Downs website: [thesilks.pub](http://thesilks.pub)

New Church website: [ogbournestandrewpcc.org](http://ogbournestandrewpcc.org)