



The great gates of St Mary's

Osgathorpe
Village

Voice

August 2022

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News and Views

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Parish Council Clerk

Sian Sheldon has been appointed as the new Parish Council (PC) Clerk replacing **Lisa Clarke** who has now retired from this role after many years of excellent service. Contact details can be found at: www.osgathorpeparishcouncil.org.uk

The Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

A children's Platinum Jubilee event, supported by the PC, was held in the Harley Hall on Saturday 4th June. It was



very well attended. There were various games and other interesting activities for the children to enjoy, which they certainly did. In

addition, all children were provided with a medal to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Many thanks to those

volunteers who organised this very successful event.

Storey Arms Update

On 30th June 2022, North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC) posted a notice on the Storey Arms indicating that the landlord intends to sell the public house. The process started by this notice meant that the PC had 6 weeks from this date to 'make known an intention to purchase'. The PC has already notified its intention to NWLDC to buy the pub. However, during a moratorium (lasting until 30th December 2022), the PC will be able to make an actual bid, but the landlord does not have to accept this bid or sell the pub to the PC.

Many residents, particularly those new to the village, have been asking about the pub situation. To clarify, on 25th April 2014 the landlord sent a letter to the Chair of the PC and other members of the community stating that, 'I feel very confident in bestowing the honour of the Storey Arms Mantle upon you and your partners...I trust that we can all rise to meet the occasion of the furtherance of the establishment to the community'. In accordance with the process of transferring the pub to the community, instigated by the current landlord, the PC

established the Osgathorpe Community Pub Limited (OCPL) to represent the community as a vehicle to enable this transfer to be facilitated. The PC had already registered the pub as an Asset of Community Value (ACV), which basically gives the community the right to bid for an asset that is intended to be disposed of. Over several years the OCPL, supported by the PC, has continued to make offers for the pub to enable it to be bought by the community and retained as a village pub. These offers have been based upon professional independent valuations of the pub. There is still an offer 'on the table' from the community. If the current offer were to be accepted, and the OCPL purchased the pub on behalf of the community, the strategy would then be to raise additional funds, through a community share issue and other avenues, to establish the pub as a future treasure for our community.

Osgathorpe Heritage Group

The OHG researches, records, documents and publicises items of local historical interest about our village. Established in March 2022, its initial task was to develop four Heritage Boards outlining aspects of the village. These are: *The Charnwood Forest Canal*; *Thomas Harley - a generous*

benefactor; Three notable sons of Osgathorpe (Sgt Samuel Smith, John and Thomas Boulbee); and Buildings that once served the community. The boards were displayed on the Open Gardens weekend at various relevant points throughout the village and were extremely well received. The next task of the OHG is to develop a Heritage Trail on a dedicated website.

It's a mess!

There have been numerous reports and complaints about the increasing amount of dog mess being left around the village by irresponsible dog owners. This is particularly along the brookside between Dawson's Road to Main Street, but also in the track to and through the Jubilee Wood and beyond over the style into the next field. This is totally unacceptable. Whoever it is, and you know who you are, please ensure that any mess deposited by your dog is picked up and placed in one of the several bins distributed around the village. NWLDC have been informed and will take appropriate action.

Parish Council thanks go to:

- **Sara Mace and friends** for organising the Children's Platinum Jubilee Party
- **The Church Fundraising and Social Committee** for organising the Open Gardens, the Ockbrook Big Band Concert and the Pantaloons show
- **Simon and Christabel Blunt** for the use of Osgathorpe Hall and gardens
- **Barry Simms** for helping to put up the Heritage Boards around the village
- **Stevie Billau** for regularly weeding and tidying up the entrance to Orchard Close
- **All the others, including the many litter pickers**, who volunteer to make Osgathorpe a fantastic place to live.

NEWS FROM ST MARY'S

Food Bank support needed!

Shepshed Food Bank is always most grateful for the generosity shown by the residents of Osgathorpe at Christmas. However, foodbanks are a lifeline for many people of all ages all year round, especially in these extremely difficult economic times. A reminder that donations of non-perishable food, toiletries, washing powder, household cleaning products and food for pets are always welcome. You will find a box for

your donation in the porch of our church. This will be delivered to Shepshed food bank on a fortnightly basis. At this time of year, those of you who grow vegetables and have fruit trees, may well have an excess. Fresh fruit and vegetables are always much appreciated. If you have an excess, please leave this by the back door at the top of the steps of No. 2 Church Lane, over the weekend, but by 9.00am on any Monday morning.

Many thanks on behalf of Shepshed Food Bank.

The Ockbrook Big Band at Osgathorpe Hall - 4th June

It felt more like December than June but, despite the cold and the biting wind, the return of the OBB over the Queen's



Platinum Jubilee weekend was a great success. As always, Osgathorpe

residents rose to the occasion with some fantastic 1950s-themed outfits and some enthusiastic dancing. The OBB are always fantastic and enjoy their visits to Osgathorpe, so we're sure it won't be too long until we see them again.

The War of the Worlds at Osgathorpe Hall - 24th July

It was definitely not Steven Spielberg, but the Pantaloons managed to recreate the magic of 'The War of the Worlds' with four actors, a laundry basket and a broom



handle (amongst other things). It is always a lovely setting in

the garden at Osgathorpe Hall and, despite a blustery wind, a lot of people turned out to enjoy a most energetic theatrical performance.

Open Osgathorpe - 18th and 19th June

Open Osgathorpe made a welcome return in mid-June. An enormous amount of work goes into preparing for this weekend, but the feedback we get is brilliant. Visitors from outside Osgathorpe often remark on what a lovely village we

live in (which we know, of course!). Many people said how nice it was to enjoy tea and scones in the church and in the churchyard; something we will definitely be doing again. Thanks so much to all those who took the time to get their gardens just right and to everyone who helped out.

Thank you to everyone in the village

The success of our fundraising and social events is down to everyone in the village who contributes, and this summer has been a particularly busy time. Thanks to everyone who has worked so hard in preparing for, or helping out at, our fundraising and social events. A huge thank you must go to the Fundraising and Social Committee for putting these events together and to **Simon and Christabel Blunt** who have let us use their barn and garden again this year.

Church services

There is a service in St Mary's Osgathorpe on the first Sunday of every month. For the remaining Sundays, services rotate around the Benefice churches (Osgathorpe, Belton, Long Whatton, Diseworth, Hathern and Kegworth). Service details are available on the Church noticeboard, as a Weekly News sheet post on the 'Kegworth and Hathern Benefice' Facebook group, or you can contact **Revd Lauretta Wilson** (01509 678966, ljwilson33@btinternet.com) or **Revd Louise Corke** (01530 588868, words.th@talktalk.net) for details.

It's no Joke

- I sent a food parcel to my first wife. FedEx
- I used to live hand to mouth, but do you know what changed my life? Cutlery
- My poor attempts to combine nitrous oxide and Oxo cubes made me a laughing stock
- I decided to sell my Hoover, well...it was just collecting dust.

Thought for the Day

Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful.

Albert Schweitzer