



A bright New Year for the Osgathorpe Stone

Osgathorpe
Village

Voice

January 2023

EDITOR: MARK ROBERTSON

News and Views

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Parish Council (PC) Website now live

A revamped Osgathorpe PC website has been developed. You can view this at: www.osgathorpeparishcouncil.org.uk
The PC wishes to include a variety of photographs of the village on the website and requests that anyone having any that they feel may be of interest for inclusion, please email them to: clerk@osgathorpeparishcouncil.org.uk

Osgathorpe shows its Christmas Spirit again!

Once again, villagers generously donated food and cash gifts to our local Food Bank for Christmas, with many donating a 'reverse advent calendar'. **Stefan Olsberg**, who coordinates collections in our village, said "It's fantastic that people in Osgathorpe have been so generous, especially at this time of year. Several



villagers also kindly make regular donations during the rest of the year.

The weekly collection of donations will continue through 2023, and villagers are asked to leave any food donations in St Mary's church porch by 9am on Monday mornings. If people wish to make a financial donation, they can do so as a one-off or regularly, to the Food Bank through their website: www.shepshedfoodbank.co.uk. Financial donations are really helpful as they give the Food Bank the flexibility to buy what's required in any given week and to buy fresh and frozen produce. Sadly, with the current cost of living pressures, more and more families need the help of food banks and so anything we can give, however big or small, really does help make a difference."

Santa's Grotto

Sharon and Dave Lowth organised a Santa's Grotto for the children of Osgathorpe on Saturday 17th December. They completely transformed the Harley Hall into a magical treat for the children, a wonderful sight.



Dave Marshall did an excellent impersonation of Santa (or was it the real Santa?) assisted by his helper, **Sue Marshall**. The Grotto was supported by Osgathorpe PC, and our thanks go to all those involved in creating something special for the children of the village.

Osgathorpe Heritage Group (OHG)

OHG has developed five Heritage boards, four of which were displayed around the village during the June Open Gardens and the NWLDC Hello Heritage celebrations in September. The new board is of St Mary's Church and will be ready in the New Year. The OHG successfully applied for a Small Grant of £500 from NWLDC, which will enable the group to develop a website-based Heritage Trail illustrating the historical aspects of the village, of which there are many. If you have any old photographs of the village, or can suggest items of historical interest that may be included in the website, please contact the Chair, **Martin Buczkiewicz**, at: martin.bucz@hotmail.co.uk

PC thanks go to:

- **Jim Elson, Kevin Atkins and James Emerson** for placing the Remembrance poppies around the village
- **Ian Bourne** for cutting the Play Area hedge
- **Mick Allard** for cutting the Breedon Lane Cemetery hedge
- **Liz Burrows** for maintaining the plants and grass at the Osgathorpe stone
- **Richard Flight** for watering and saving the Platinum Jubilee cherry tree in the Play Area
- **Henry Buss, Julie Buczkiewicz, Katie and Jill Ella** for distributing the Village Voice around the village
- all the **other individuals**, including the litter pickers, who voluntarily help to keep the village tidy and in such a fantastic shape.

It's a fair cop

North West Leicestershire's new Neighbourhood Policing Area Commander



is Inspector Wayne Nimblette, who said, on his appointment: "I'm looking

forward to the new challenge, to engaging with people in the community, and to helping to keep the area a safe place to live, work and enjoy".

Accident waiting to happen - please don't let it be you

There have been reports of the death of two more cats on the Snarrows, and of several near misses between cars and individuals. Please can you take care and drive slowly down the Snarrows before there is a serious collision and injury. Thank you.

Crappy New Year

Unfortunately, there have been reports of an increasing amount of dog poo around the village. **A few irresponsible owners still do not pick up their dog's poo.** The field over the style from the Jubilee Wood, the churchyard, and the brookside between Dawson's Road and Main Street appear to be 'hotspots' for increasing amounts of deposits and not collected by their owners. Indeed, the strimming of the grass by the brookside has been halted due to the amount of dog poo. A letter about this from NWLDC accompanies this

Village Voice. Osgathorpe dog owners must ensure that the poo deposited by their dog(s) is collected and deposited in one of the bins distributed around the village. Thank you.

NEWS FROM ST MARY'S

If you're new to the village and use WhatsApp, the Osgathorpe Support Group connects a large part of the village. It has evolved from a Covid information group set up in 2020 and is now a channel for other village information (road closures, internet performance problems, when the fish van arrives, etc.). If you would like to be added to the Osgathorpe Support Group, please contact **Nick Sydenham** on 07711 314294.

Social events in 2022

A huge thankyou to everyone in Osgathorpe who came along to, or helped out at, one of our social events in 2022. After the Covid lockdowns it was great to have the village come together with so many familiar faces and new arrivals supporting the church's social and fundraising events. In total we raised almost £5,000 through the Platinum Jubilee dance, Open Osgathorpe, the Pantaloon's performance of The War of the Worlds and the August Bank Holiday get-together. This money will support much-needed repairs to the church and, in particular, repairs to the church tower.

Social events in 2023

The church Fundraising and Social Committee is planning more social events for 2023, but we are always looking for new ideas. If you have any thoughts on what we could do in the village or would like to help out on the committee, please contact **Nick Sydenham**.

The Tote

The Tote has not been running since the start of the pandemic and the PCC has reluctantly decided that it is not viable to resume it now as we would need to identify new organisers and collectors, as well as a new venue for the draw. There will be some previous contributors to the Tote who have money still with their collectors. If you would like your money returned to you, please contact your collector; any monies not claimed by the end of February will be donated to the Church.

The PCC would like to thank **Mick Allard** for his organisation of the Tote over many years, all those who have collected the money, and everyone who has contributed. If you would like to make a regular donation to St Mary's you can join the Stewardship scheme where any contribution, however modest, will be gratefully received. For details of the Stewardship scheme please contact **John and Karen Froggatt** on 01530 222850 or john.froggatt@btinternet.com

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 Louise Corke** on 01530 588868, words.th@talktalk.net for details.

It's no Joke

I used to go out with a giraffe. Used to take him to the pictures and that. You'd always get some bloke complaining that he couldn't see the screen. It's a giraffe mate, what do you expect? "Well, he can take his hat off for a start!"

Thought for 2023

"I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're Doing Something. So that's my wish for you, and all of us, and my wish for myself. Make New Mistakes. Make glorious, amazing mistakes. Make mistakes nobody's ever made before. Don't freeze, don't stop, don't worry that it isn't good enough, or it isn't perfect, whatever it is: art, or love, or work or family or life.

Whatever it is you're scared of doing, Do it. Make your mistakes, this year and forever."

— **Neil Gaiman** Author