**LAST OF THE SUMMER WINE**



Osgathorpe Village

Voice

*OCTOBER 2017*

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News and Views

Crime prevention event

“I am pleased to report a successful first Neighbourhood Watch event, held at the Storey Arms on October 15th, with nearly 30 villagers attending. Villagers not only received helpful advice regarding crime prevention but also free goodies!” reports [Kevin Legg](mailto:k.legg@hotmail.co.uk), who has taken the lead for the Osgathorpe [Neighbourhood Watch Scheme](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk/). Pictured are Police officers Nicola Russell and Jason Underwood and with Parish Councillors Mike Fairlamb and Jim Elson.  


Burglaries are more prevalent in the winter months.  So please remember to ensure alarms are always set, leave a lamp on a timer if going away, ensure all windows are locked when not at home, side gates are secure. It's also helpful sometimes to leave the radio on when you go out. If you are away, ask a neighbour to park their car on your driveway every now and then and just be more aware of your property. For further security advice speak to Leicestershire Police on 101.

Please slow down!

The local road deaths of several loved pets this summer prompts a timely reminder that you please slow down when driving in and around the village. Speeding concerns can be reported at: [speed@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:speed@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk)

Box of tricks

Four years ago, the Parish Council decided to remove the old red telephone box from its original location to refurbish it after purchasing it from British Telecom for the princely sum of £1. A red telephone box is regarded as a quintessential element of a typical English village scene. David and Ian Stanley agreed to remove and store it. After identifying several potential sites to relocate it, and several years of negotiation, Leicestershire County Council (LCC) eventually agreed to provide a licence for the site opposite the Storey Arms, which the Parish Council felt was the most appropriate location. David and Ian Stanley relocated the refurbished telephone box on 17th October.

Rachel Stone has agreed to develop the telephone box as a Community Library and she will be sending a flyer around in November to explain the set up. Permission and a licence was also granted by LCC to place a bench next to the telephone box, paid for by an extremely kind donor who wishes to remain anonymous, so that anyone walking through the village, or anyone who wishes to sit and checkout the books in the Community Library, can rest themselves and watch the world go by! The Parish Council would like to thank David and Ian Stanley for undertaking the removal, storage and replacement of the telephone box and Carter Construction, in particular the foreman Andy, for organising and laying the base for both the telephone box and the bench (ably assisted by Jim Elson). All their services were provided for free.

Mind the Gap

The Osgathorpe Parish Council has successfully applied for additional hedging to ‘fill in the gaps’ of the hedge surrounding the Breedon Lane cemetery. The Parish Council would like to thank Derek and Hazel Summers for maintaining the cemetery in such excellent condition, despite having to constantly chase the pesky moles!

Youth development

The Parish Council would like to thank Luke Ashman (and his mum, Alison) for volunteering around the village. As part of his Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award, Luke has delivered numerous pamphlets and the VV, plus tended the garden in our cemetery as well as helping at the Defib events held recently and regularly litter picking around the village.

News from St Mary’s

Social Events

*Did you know?*

The gold in jewellery you are wearing now was formed in a ‘kilonova’ explosion - resulting from a collision of two neutron stars, billions of years ago.

Neutron stars (collapsed large stars which can collapse further and form a black hole) are tiny - only 20 km in diameter - but are *really* dense. A match box size lump of neutron star would weigh about 3 billion tonnes!

**Festive Shopping in the Harley Hall**

On Saturday 18th November, there will be a Festive Shopping Event in the Harley Hall. You can pop in anytime in the afternoon from Midday to 6.50pm (just in time for the Severn Trent Choir concert – see next item) to buy Christmas gifts and get into the Christmas spirit. Entry is £1, £2 for families. For more information, or to book a stall, please call Faye on 07702 977011.

**Severn Trent Choir**

On the same day as the Festive shopping the Severn Trent Choir, winners of the BBC series ‘The Choir – Sing While You Work’, will be appearing in the church at 7pm. The choir is made up of Severn Trent workers who were brought together by Gareth Malone to take part in the series. Tickets are £12, £6 for under-16s, and the ticket price includes refreshments. There are only 100 seats in the church so, if you’re interested, get your tickets as soon as possible. Call 07795 958980 or contact [osgathorpevillage@gmail.com](mailto:osgathorpevillage@gmail.com) for tickets.

**Open Gardens 2018**

Following very successful Open Gardens events in previous years, St Mary’s is planning another fundraising weekend on 9th and 10th June 2018. Some previous ‘Open Gardeners’ have already expressed an interest in opening their gardens next year and, if you have opened your garden before, we would love to have you involved again. In addition, we are keen to add gardens which have not been open in past years. We will contact everyone in the village in January with more details, but, in the meantime, please put these dates in your diaries now.

*Joke of the Year competition*

More examples from the Osgathorpe resident’s mountain of mirth - but keep them coming in, prizes will be awarded in Xmas issue of the VV:

*Doctor: ‘Just try to avoid eating anything fatty’*

*Patient: ‘What, like bacon, cheese and puddings?’*

*Doctor: ‘No fatty, just try to avoid eating anything.’*

*I went to the doctor and he gave me 2 months to live. So I shot him. Judge gave me 30 years. (*Ed. That’s what I call a great second opinion!)

Reverse Advent Calendar

In December, Osgathorpe church is sponsoring the Osgathorpe Reverse Advent Calendar, to collect food for the Shepshed Food Bank in time for Christmas. The principle of the Reverse Advent Calendar is that every day, from 1 December until 16th December, you put an item of food in a box which might make Christmas a bit nicer for someone. More details of the Reverse Advent Calendar will be provided to everyone in the village shortly.

Remembrance Day and Christmas Services and Events

* **Remembrance Day service** – Sunday 12th November 2017 at 10.45am. If you would like someone remembered at the service who served or is serving in the armed forces, please contact Mary Handley on 01530 223698 or [mary@osgathorpe.plus.com](mailto:mary@osgathorpe.plus.com)
* **Christingle** – Sunday 3rd December 3pm.
* The traditional Carol Service – Sunday 17th December at 4pm.
* **Christmas Eve Midnight Mass** – Sunday 24th December at 11.30pm **Christmas morning service** – Monday 25th December at 9am.
* In keeping with tradition, The Kids Christmas Party (5.30-7pm) will be followed by Carols for All (7pm onwards) at the Storey Arms on Thursday 21st December.