



OPRA

Newsletter

Summer Ball

Following the success of last summers event and by popular demand, OPRA have decided to organise another Summer Ball on Saturday 18th June at The

Anchor. This 'Dress to Impress' event is a chance to don your glad rags, try your hand at the casino tables, enjoy a hot buffet and dance the night away. All this for £10 (£15 on the day). Tickets now available from the Post Office and the Anchor or any committee member.



This promises to be a very popular event once again so avoid disappoint-

- DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**
- May 18th** - 7.30pm Village Hall AGM
 - May 22nd** - 10am Sunday circular walk from the anchor
 - June Sunday 12th** - Walk
 - June Saturday 18th** - Summer Ball
 - July Sunday 12th** - Walk
 - August Sunday 10th** - Great Wood picnic site for walk BBQ and rounders
 - Coffee Mornings** - 10-12 every Friday morning in the Village Hall
 - Community Choir** - 2nd and 4th Thursdays Thursday in the Village Hall at 6.30pm
 - Most events are advertised on the village notice boards**

ment by buying your tickets early. Make this even more special by arranging a party with friends.

Our Community

Despite the uncertainty of the EDF proposals and the plans for wildlife habitat creation which will occupy a large part of the parish, our community is determined to carve its own future. A Community Plan has been created and volunteers found to help the village hall committee to update and improve the hall facilities. A community market will soon be established. A group dedicated to providing a cycle path network is beavering away and yet another is examining whether there is a local need for affordable or sheltered housing. Much more is in the pipeline. including the possibility of the provision of allotments for those whose own gardens are not big enough. If you want to get involved ring Maggy on 652423 or any parish councillor or OPRA committee member.

Otterhampton Parish Council Elections

On 5th May you elected Mervyn Brown, Paul Gripton, Barry Leathwood, John Marriott, Liz Sidebotham and new member Matt Nicklin, landlord of The Anchor, to the parish council. A warm welcome to Matt but sadly that meant that Bob Birkenhead is no longer a member of the council after 4 years of stirring work. Dick Best was returned unopposed for the Steart ward. Meetings are normally the first Thursday of the month except August when there is no meeting. Everyone is welcome.

Otterhampton Parish Recreation Association
Registered Charity No 1124017

OPRA Trustees

- Chairperson**
Robert Palmer 653464.
- Secretary**
Ann Leathwood 652399.
- Treasurer**
Sue Francis 653663.
- 100 Club Organiser**
Lyn Palmer 653464
Tina Gardener 652642
Liz Sidebotham 653028.
Barry Leathwood 652399

OPRA 100 CLUB
Interested in joining then contact Lyn on 653464 to support OPRA financially and a chance to win cash prizes in the weekly draw (drawn monthly) Results are displayed in the Post Office and the village notice board
Join the growing number of villagers contributing and benefiting from membership.

Easter Activities

Once again the Children's' Easter Egg Hunt on Good Friday morning was a great success with 70 children taking part and all earning their Easter Egg. The first prize of the large Egg was won by Owen Lewis. Thanks to Matt for allowing us to use the Anchor and Amy and David Gardener for drawing up the questions.



The Easter Sunday Quiz in the Anchor attracted 12 teams for a very enjoyable evening. An OPRA Committee (female section) team won a prize, unfortunately it was the booby prize.

Mayday

Mayday saw the gathering of some of the community to enjoy a day's knitting! Sponsored by The Borrowers Ltd (www.theborrowers.co.uk) and The Anchor Inn, a steady stream of ladies and gents dropped into the Comwich Knit-In and knitted squares to make blankets for Britain's homeless. A total of 46 were made/donated on the day and squares are still being knitted all over the village. Lynn Bunniss, Director of The Borrowers would like to thank everyone involved and looks forward to the next one.

Friday Morning Coffee Club

The coffee mornings in the Village Hall are going from strength to strength with thirty to forty local people attending each Friday morning from 10am to 12 noon. Tea, coffee biscuits and cakes all taken with a lashing of local gossip with friends and neighbours and occasional walkers and other visitors who stumble upon a local welcome. All for £1 per session.

Eggs and other local produce are usually available for sale and paperback books are exchanged on a loan basis.

Recently £78 was donated to Comic Relief and the next donation will be for "Help the Heroes" and following that Bristol Children's Hospice will benefit.

20th May - All takings to the Village Hall Fund

10th June - Fresh Strawberry Cream Tea by popular demand

8th July - Same again

30th September - All takings to MacMillan Cancer Nurses

Welcome Feature

Originally a millennium project the welcome feature was finally put in place at the entrance to the village in March this year.

Thanks to the parish council who funded it with a substantial contribution from OPRA and parish clerk Peter Shaw who project managed it.

Who knows, maybe we will get the Comwich Buoy back soon!



The Stockland Fete & (famous) Dog show will be held on July 16th at 2pm. It is a great fun day in the lovely gardens of The Old Vicarage Care Home so look out for the banners & posters. There will be a good mix of craft stalls, games for the kids, B-B-Q, and sales tables along with a tombola and Raffle with lovely prizes (All donations gratefully received- ring Carol on 652752). We hope you can come along for a cream tea and chat and make 2011 a bumper year for raising funds.

Stockland Flower & Veg Show will be held on Saturday 3rd September at Stockland Club. The detailed schedules and entry forms will be available at Comwich Post Office and Stockland Club (open every evening from 8pm) during August and classes for adults and children are open for all to enter, so do join in the fun and make it a great show with auction of produce entries after.

Royal Wedding celebrations supported by OPRA took place at the Anchor. The morning kicked off with live coverage on a big screen with ample supplies of tea and coffee and cakes. Martin Rackham and Baz Cross deserve a mention as they put the ladies to shame as they came dressed in their suits. The morning finished with a toast of bubbly. The afternoon was for families and everyone brought their own food and the Anchor provided live music. For some the evening had to end early as there was another big celebration on Saturday when Mel and Dave got married at Stockland Church. Warmest congratulations to you both.