



OPRA Newsletter

September 2012



www.combwich.org.uk



OPRA bring you a brand new sparkly website - www.combwich.org.uk.

The site has been carefully designed and created to provide the residents of Combwich, Otterhampton and Steart with a wealth of detail about this lovely area of ours.

It's a snapshot, a history, a story in pictures, a pinboard, a collaboration of information, a diary of events, a tale of its residents, an update of ongoing concerns, an online community and a place to find just about everything relating to the Parish.

We hope you'll enjoy the read and hope you'll visit the site on a regular basis to keep up to date with the latest hot-off-the-press news. We'd love to hear your views and comments about the website and if we've missed anything, or you have some village news to share, or if you find any errors, please don't hesitate to let us know by emailing admin@combwich.org.uk.

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

Robert Wright 652277

Chris Hancock 653939

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.

www.combwich.org.uk

serving

Combwich
Otterhampton
Steart

Take a look today

Summer was not quite what we hoped for in terms of the weather, but it was certainly one to remember for other reasons. The Diamond Jubilee was celebrated in this parish with a weekend of activities for all. Whilst the London Olympics and the Paralympics were awe inspiring events which had us glued to our television sets. We hope it will encourage all young people to raise their personal horizons not only in sport, but in whatever challenges life presents. The Paralympics was a wonderful example of what can be achieved.

The OPRA Summer Fete had the potential for a complete washout as weeks of rain made the Common unusable. However thanks to Matt at the Anchor and the Village Hall Committee we were able to move almost everything inside at the last minute. Our thanks to all the volunteers, stall holders and activity organisers for doing a tremendous job in trying circumstances. We made well over £1,400 which will be spent within the parish.

The Firework Display on Sunday 4th November is not too far away so put the date in your diary. Please



support this village activity which will take place on the Common at 6pm. Hot dogs and burgers will help make this a memorable occasion. If you can help with this activity please let a member of the committee know.

The Seniors' Christmas Dinner will this year be held on Saturday 1st December in the Village Hall. This is a very popular event for the over 60s and last year we had the maximum number we could accommodate in the hall. Invitations will be sent out in early November and will be dealt with on a first come first served basis. If you are over 60 and have not been invited before please let a member of the committee know so that you can be added to the list.

The New Combwich Website does not mean the end of this newsletter, but it is an exciting new development which will provide up to the minute information on what is going on in our community. We will be exploring ways to help those without an internet connection to have access to the website and also to provide training. Please let us have your views. Our sincere thanks to Graeme Wigley webmaster who has designed the site and continues to administer it and Lynn Bunniss who designed the front page of this newsletter.



The Steart Wildlife Habitat Creation Scheme is under construction as anyone visiting the area can see. A 200m breach in the River Parrett flood bank to allow tidal inundation is planned for July 2013. The existing footpaths will be diverted and new car parking will be provided together with toilets and a small visitor centre. For more information you can visit the project compound on the Steart Drove at 6pm on the last Friday of each month.

EDF's proposals for Combwich have been presented to the Planning Inspectorate and the parish council and others have made their views known by written submissions and at meetings and hearings. The examination process has now closed and the Inspectorate will be considering the recommendations which will be put to the Secretary of State at the end of the year and a decision is expected at the end of March 2013.

OPRA Sunday Walks now in their eighth year are normally held on the third Sunday of the month although for various reasons this sometimes has to change. Some are easy and designed for all abilities and ages and others are a little more challenging. All are enjoyable and usually end up with a Sunday lunch. Details are on the Notice Board at the entrance of the village and emails sent to those on the list.

Otterhampton School Christmas Fair will be held at the school on 16th November at 5pm

In the village hall: -

OPRA Talks

This season's Talk programme will start on Tuesday 20th November at 8pm with a talk by David Bunney on "Clay tobacco pipes their history and variation, indicators for dating" (Unfortunately the October Talk had to be cancelled for reasons beyond our control).

Looking forward to Tuesday 15th January, Tom Jacobs - The Accidental Painter - will describe how he started as a painter and will be an illustrated, practical talk.

Happy times with John Bailey as the Combwich drawing group meets 2 pm-4 pm every Monday. See you there.

Choir If you love to sing and would like to join a like minded group come along at 7pm 2nd and 4th Thursdays each month.

Coffee Mornings 10am-12 noon every Friday—all welcome.

Chat & Chill 7.30—9pm every Friday in term time. All 11—17 year olds welcome.

For a full list of what's on, go to www.combwich.org.uk.