



OPRA Newsletter

September 2014

www.combwich.org.uk

We hope you have enjoyed what has been a lovely summer, although August when the children were off school was not so good. Irrespective of the weather it has been an exciting time for those interested in wildlife and the countryside. The River Parrett was breached last week allowing the tide to surge in through a



The critters are in here somewhere

Otterhampton Parish
Recreation
Association

Registered Charity No
1124017

OPRA Committee

Chairperson

Robert Palmer 653464.

Secretary

Ann Leathwood 652399.

Treasurer

Sue Francis 653663.

100 Club Organisers

Ann & Sue (above)

Lyn Palmer 653464

Tina Gardener 652642

Barry Leathwood 652399

Robert Wright 652277



Sweepers enjoying a well earned break

200 metre gap in the sea defences creating what will become a lovely salt marsh. Immediately before this local people were invited to help sweep the area to encourage

the animals to seek shelter away from the rising tide water. This is the result of many years planning by the Environment Agency, and WWT who manage the project. And finally the new salt marsh landscape starts to develop.

This Autumn and Winter

Our usual series of Village Hall

Talks started on Tuesday 16th September, with an excellent and well received presentation by Alys Laver, WWT Senior Conservation Warden at Steart Marshes, with stunning views of the breach and the newly created wetlands. The monthly Sunday morning Walks will normally be on the third Sunday of the month. Check the notice boards, sign up for our email alert (barry.leathwood@btinternet.com) or go to www.combwich.org.uk for up to date information.

The Annual Firework Display will be on Sunday 2nd November on The Common and the ever popular Senior Citizens' Christmas Dinner will be on Saturday 6th December. And on the following day the lighting of the village Christmas tree will take place at 6pm.



The new landscape

Chat & Chill

After several years running the Friday evening Chat & Chill group for our young people, Sandie and Reg Wilkes have finally decided to call it a day. The Parish Council and OPRA would like to record their appreciation of the efforts they have made for our young people.

If you are interested in taking over this role please let us know. Reg and Sandie are more than willing to advise and help you get started.

OPRA urgently needs volunteers young and old to suggest activities and to help make them happen. If you can help in any way and it does not have to mean attending committee meetings, please contact one of the committee above. And don't forget to check the website www.combwich.org.uk for all that is happening in the parish including photographs of the new salt marsh.

DIARY of OPRA EVENTS

Walk Sunday 19th October tbc

Talk 7.30 pm Tuesday 21st October the return of Jean Kibby with more hilarious stories of old Combwich.

Fireworks Sunday 2nd November lighting the Beacon and fireworks from 6pm on the Common. Burgers and hotdogs available.

Walk Sunday 16th November tbc

Talk 7.30pm Tuesday 18th November Inspector Nic Crocker Avon and Somerset Constabulary.

Seniors Christmas Dinner Saturday 6th December 7.30pm.

Christmas Tree Lighting Sunday 7th December 6pm by a surprise special guest. Kids - don't forget to drag your mum and dad along.

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

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—are very well attended and a good way to keep up with all that is going on. Profits are donated to local charities. All welcome.

Please support: -

The Post Office and shop, the Anchor, Village hall and the Harbour View Social Club and a host of other organisations all help to make this a great place to live. Make sure we keep them by giving them your support.

Up-to-date information on all that is happening in the area is always available on our website www.combwich.org.uk

Parish Newsletters

We are hoping to combine this OPRA newsletter with the now defunct Parish Council newsletter to create just one, on a more regular basis, for the parish. A number of you have already volunteered to help and we haven't forgotten you, we will be in touch soon. If anyone else is interested please let us know.

Harbour View Social Club Events

Saturday 27th September Open Mic night

Friday 17th October the Cocktails and Canapés evening

Friday 31st October Halloween party everyone welcome.

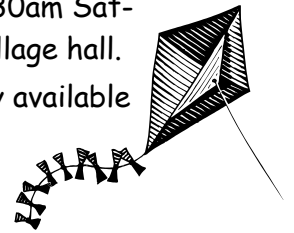
The Club is open every Friday and Saturday evenings from 7pm - Everyone welcome

Kite Flying on the Common

Led by Mike Timmins

Come and make the Combwich Rocket, the easy-to-make-and-fly-kite at 10.30am Saturday 4th October in the village hall.

Make a sled kite using easily available materials and then fly it on the Common. All materials and tools, including kite



line, will be provided, but it would be helpful if you could bring two identical supermarket plastic bags to make your kite tail.

Some help will be available but, smaller children should bring along an adult helper as we'll be using sharp scissors and sticky tape that gets all over the place. *(If you can help with this event please ring 652399 and be available at the village hall for 9.45 am)*

Bring a camera too and take lots of pictures

OPRA 100 CLUB

Interested in joining then contact Ann on 652399 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.

The draw takes place on 1st Friday of each month at the Combwich Coffee Morning at Otterhampton Village Hall. A list of winners can be found on www.combwich.org.uk

The money raised by the 100 Club contributions are used by OPRA to support parish events, not least of all the Senior's Christmas Meal, Family Fireworks Evening, Easter Eggs for the children and donations to various local initiatives throughout the year.

Join the growing number of villagers contributing and benefiting from membership and remember to participate in the bumper Christmas draw you need to become a member by the end of September.