

# Oaksey Village News

September 2017

## Parish Council

There are quite a lot of issues to report in this edition. Because some of them take a lot of space I'll refer you to our website which can show more detail. Just another reminder that if you don't already regularly look at the site or have your email address registered for a 'buzz' relating to current local issues then please register-its free and confidential.

Firstly, we are now a lot nearer to getting our traffic calming plans started. Wiltshire have forwarded the first phase for the remainder of the funding after the PC allocated a considerable sum over the next two years to part fund the work. The PC have decided to support three components in this first phase. Top priority is the shop junction which is planned to have a slightly raised junction with a pedestrian area just outside the shop. Next will be the 20mph zone and then the de-signing. The raised junction can be seen in much more detail on the website-where it can be found under the PC page. We hope to minimise the signs throughout the village and rely on common sense to slow traffic within our new 20mph zone. Further phases will all contribute towards this effort. If you

would like to make a comment on the plan then please come along to the start of our next PC meeting at 7.00pm on Thursday 14th Sept and we will be pleased to hear your views.

You may already know that we came 2nd in the North Wiltshire medium sized 'Best kept Village' competition. This was an excellent outcome in our first entry for a long time. Many thanks to everybody who made an effort. We also received some very positive feedback from the judges and you can find their detailed report on the Parish Council page on our web site. Briefly, they were very impressed with our facilities and their condition with some comments on some frontages and small issues such as the Village Hall notice board and the old phone box. We have plans for ongoing improvements next year and it would be great to get even more support when we get nearer that judging date.

I've mentioned before that the cycle races through our Village have caused us problems with competitors refusing to wait at the give way signs. This has happened again this summer. There is currently little support from the organisers or Police to improve this. In

the future if you see a racing cyclist ignore the road signs, then please take their number and ring 101 to tell the police. That is the only way to raise the matter. We are wholly in favour of leisure cyclists who respect our village, but Oaksey is just not suitable for races.

Please remember to get your Scarecrow ready for the September show with a Disney theme giving loads of choice. The weather this summer has helped and hindered a lot of our fruit and vegetables which will make for an interesting produce competition at the same time. Please enter something.

Finally, as part of our ongoing work to produce our Neighbourhood Plan we have collaborated with Green Square, the Housing Association which owns most of the homes in Bendy Bow. This work has been focused on improving the quality and quantity of the Village's housing stock- particularly for homes that are more affordable to enable Villagers and their families to continue living in our lovely Village. This is what Villagers asked for in the large survey that we undertook at the beginning of the Neighbourhood Planning process.

As part of this process we have organised an open evening at 7.00pm on Wed 13th September in the Village Hall. At this event you can hear from us about the Neighbourhood Plan and also from green square about the housing developments that are part of it. We realise that such a development affects quite a number of Villagers so we hope that you will be able to attend and see

what is planned and also take the opportunity to give us your views and suggestions for how the development can be successfully undertaken.

Remember: Wed. 13th September at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

*Richard Moody*  
*Chairman – Parish Council*



## **Oaksey WI**

### **The fete**

The WI cake stall at the Oaksey Fete on 1st July was very successful and many thanks to those who contributed cakes. The winner of the WI Middleton Cup (theme Oaksey) was Amelie Squance. Many congratulations to her and to all those who participated from the School. The standard was very high and the judges had problems choosing the winners.

Also at the fete, our former President Helen McKenna was presented with the John's Cup for 2017 for her amazing contribution to village life including the WI! We congratulate her on this.

### **Summer activities**

On Thursday 13th July, we had our summer outing to Buscot Park. After a walk round the beautiful gardens and grounds we joined a guided tour – it was not quite what we expected as we had a very enthusiastic but verbose guide who

prevented us from seeing many of the rooms! However, a delicious cream tea followed this and was enjoyed by all.

Later in July, Jenny, Liz, Margaret and Jean went to a croquet afternoon organized by Gloucestershire Federation at the Cheltenham Croquet Club. As well as playing 3 sessions they were given some coaching which meant that our two teams became very competitive!!! This was followed by relaxing over WI tea, sandwiches and cakes. A good end to a fun afternoon.

August's meeting was in the form of a Garden Party kindly held at Helen McKenna's garden. Jenny opened the meeting by welcoming all especially 3 visitors. After the business part of the afternoon ended, we then all participated (with dogs who couldn't understand that they couldn't chase the balls this time even though they have always been told to!!), in a game of bowls. There was some fierce competition and the overall winner was Rhona with 3 points, and Jenny 2 points. Rhona won the best single flower with her blue hydrangea, and Liz Kirkham was second with her yellow dahlia.

September meeting will be on Thursday September 14th at Oaksey Village Hall at 7.15 for 7.30pm when we have a very interesting talk by Geoffrey Carr entitled 'The loss of the Titanic and a Wiltshire Family – Some Mysteries and Myths'. This illustrated talk intertwines the lives of a family from Melksham in Wiltshire with the technical detail of one of the worst shipping disasters in history. It will

be an open meeting and all from the village (including men!) are very welcome - so put the date in your diary. Cost for visitors is £4 including refreshments.

A speaker from the Princes' Trust will be the guest at our meeting on 12th October at 7.15pm. Tickets at a cost of £25 to visit Highgrove Gardens will also be available at the evening.

With autumn approaching how about joining our active, fun WI?

We welcome new members young and old! It's a great way to be part of the village!

*Jean Bennett 577485*  
[jeanbennett@tesco.net](mailto:jeanbennett@tesco.net)

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## Youth Club

Our new leader Rachel, is a great success with young and old alike. She masterminded a scarecrow making day when no less than five scarecrows were created.

Term starts on 14 September. Juniors will now be starting at 5.15 pm. Kandu Arts from Chippenham have obtained funding to do several music sessions for us. The taster day they did in July for the Seniors was hugely popular and we are looking forward to exciting stuff. They are hoping to work with Juniors as well. There will be a chance to attend a workshop week in Chippenham at half term to produce and record the songs.

Any queries to Rachel  
([rachelm@wiltshirewildlife.org](mailto:rachelm@wiltshirewildlife.org))

*Miriam*

Back by popular demand!

## THE RED DIRT SKINNERS

Oaksey Village Hall  
7: 30pm  
Saturday October 21st 2017

This husband and wife duo continue to make international musical waves. Since their last appearance in Oaksey, they are the first act in history to achieve accolades at the British Blues and the British Country Music Awards. Their current album "Behind the Wheel" was nominated Album of the Year - just check out their website: [www.reddirtskinnners.com](http://www.reddirtskinnners.com)

Tickets available from September onwards.  
Further info contact Margaret Dakin  
[jmargaret.dakin@btinternet.com](mailto:jmargaret.dakin@btinternet.com)

**DON'T MISS THIS EVENT**

different gifts and some of the different people who Jesus made friends with. We are encouraged to use our different gifts in service as members of the Mothers' Union. We had our bring and share lunch sitting in the sun outside the church which was a very pleasant occasion very blessed with a warm sunny day after so much rain lately.

In September, we meet for our Wave of Prayer day on Saturday 9th September, not our usual meeting day, at 10.0 a.m. I'm afraid this may not suit many members but we are given a set day for this and must keep to it. We are meeting with me at The Willow Tree and will welcome anyone who is able to come and pray for our overseas links. Our link at Karnataka Central in India is suffering persecution of Christians so they do specially need our prayers and we did pray for them in our service yesterday. Also in September we have the Indoor Members' party at the Willow Tree on September 21st at 2.30 p.m. and do hope for a fine afternoon.

*Jane Gibbs*  
577282



## Mother's Union

We have had our Service to celebrate the birthday of our founder, Mary Sumner which was a very happy event in Minety church. Sarah Wyman took the service with Susan Harvey taking the prayers and between them they gave us a very nice talk on how we are all known to God although we are all so different with

## Oaksey's Fete Day

Once again, we were blessed with fine weather on the Fete Day. During the afternoon we had races, tug-of-war, a display of birds of prey, skittles, darts, and Malmesbury Concert Band to entertain us. As usual all the stalls were well patronised and the barbeque and

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teas areas were kept busy. In the hall there was singing and dancing by Minety Dance Academy, there was a great display by the Tetbury Model Railway Club and all the art children's lovely entries for the Middleton Cup to enjoy.

The money raised has now been distributed. Beneficiaries include the Church, the Village hall, the School, W.I., the Mothers and Toddlers group, Youth club, the Playing Field Trust and the Sports Clubs. This year we were able to make a special donation to the Air Ambulance Trust.

A great day and my thanks to all who contributed.

*Fred Price*

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## Friday Club

Poole Keynes Village Hall

Friday 1st September 2017

Going In Style

Doors open at 7.30 pm for refreshments of wine, beer and soft drinks as well as tea, coffee and snacks and the film starts at 8pm. If any members wish to bring a guest then the entrance charge will be £3.50 per person

Please Note: Guests need to book as priority is given to members and seating is limited. Please call Judith on 01285 770301 to book

The annual membership will be due on Friday 1st September 2017 If you would

like to become a member contact Judith for more info

*Judith*  
**01285 770301**

## Oaksey Mothers and Toddlers

We meet on Wednesday mornings  
(term time only)  
at 10am to 12.  
in Oaksey Village Hall

New-borns to school age, with mums,  
dads and grandparents

All welcome. We have a great selection  
of toys and activities, and pause for a  
drink or snack mid-morning

For further information, contact Claire  
on 01666 575146

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## Health and wellbeing

What are you doing at the weekend? Do you have some time on your hands/time to spare? If so, this could be for you

Malmesbury has a beautiful new refurbished community centre – Riverside. It's just by the Co-op down by the Fire Station and it offers a monthly drop-in for seniors once per month to

come and see old friends or make new friends. Every month "Saturday Friends" has a theme and Septembers theme is "Carnival", so if you came to the Malmesbury festivities, or even visited the Rio Carnival or Bridgwater Carnival (obviously the best in the world!), why not come along and join us to share your memories or photos? We open at 10.30 and offer tea, coffee and biscuits and a light lunch at 12 ish. All free of charge thanks to some generous sponsors (Wiltshire Council Area Board and others). Transport is possible, call me if needed.

The dates again are:

- 16th September – Carnival
- 21st October – Fireworks and Halloween
- 18th November and 9th December.

OR.what about joining the successful Sunday Lunch group? Come and enjoy lunch at the Garden Centre Café at a discounted price. We currently hold 2 meetings per month, but are in desperate need of drivers who can help others who need transport. Could this be for you? Could you volunteer to join and help with this? I'm not expecting you to help every month, but some help is desperately needed before we have to close one session.

For an informal (no commitment) chat about either of these opportunities, call me on 07557 922020. Be aware that I work part time so please leave a message on my answerphone and I will get back to you.

*Ellen Blacker*

**07557 922020**

*ellen.blacker@wiltshire.gov.uk*

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## **North Wiltshire Villages Flower Club**

### **July meeting**

Once again Crudwell village hall was filled with flower club members and visitors, who were entertained by national demonstrator David Martin. David never fails to put on a good show, yet again creating some show stopping arrangements all connected with the title "A Celebration" which tied in with the club's sapphire (45th) anniversary year. For his final arrangement of the evening David produced a stunning pair of pedestal arrangements in blue as a tribute to our 45-year celebration. All of the evening's arrangements were put into a raffle which saw some very happy winners taking home lovely creations.

### **Future meetings**

September 20th AGM and talk by Mary Hinton – Hedgehog Rescue.

October 18th Demonstration by Sally Taylor – entitled "Harvest Home" Competition – favourite flower.

### **Looking forward**

We will be running a flower arranging course, consisting of four lessons starting on September 27th, spaces are still available. Contact number below for more details.

November 15<sup>th</sup> Our Christmas Event with demonstrator Lorena Dyer. This will take place at the Sundial Theatre, Cirencester. The demonstrations title "Its Christmas Let's Sparkle".

Flower club meetings take place at Crudwell Village Hall on the third Wednesday of the month, seven for seven thirty. (unless stated otherwise) If you enjoy flowers come and join us, visitors and new members are always welcome.

*Margaret*  
**01285 770 639**

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## **Another successful Plant Sale**

Lesley Jones reports that £189 was raised at the last Plant Sale, with a further £15.65 donated at the shop, towards the Brain Tumour Charity.

The Charity also benefited from an Open Garden Event at the Grange in Malmesbury where an amazing £1223.46 was raised. She sends a big thank you for your support. A final Plant Sale and Craft Stalls will take place in the Village Hall on the morning of Saturday 16th September.

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## **A FRENCH IDYLL – holidaying at Péchauzi, chez Adey**

When Liz & Jonathan Adey told us about their French B & B venture, we jokingly asked when we could book in and they

agreed so long as we didn't mind being practised on!

In June we arrived at Toulouse airport in the throes of a heatwave but in less than 1hr, mainly motorway, drive we arrived at Péchauzi. The satnav directed us through seemingly endless vineyards but holding our nerve we arrived at the gate to be greeted by excited Labradors. We'd seen the photos and the website and the reality certainly didn't disappoint. Situated on a hill overlooking rolling fields of golden barley and sunflowers, it is truly a beautiful location.

Our week as "guineapigs" was certainly no hardship, a large, airy, comfortable ensuite room with views over the village of Castelnaud de Montmiral and the Foret de Gresigne awaited. Mornings started with a delicious continental breakfast of Liz's homemade preserves, yogurt, bread & pastries along with fresh fruit, juice and coffee or tea.

Exploring the local medieval villages, ruined chateaux & castles and larger towns of Albi & Carcassonne occupied our days. Plenty of opportunities for lovely walks, riverside or in the hills and a country park 7mins walk away with lake, waterslide, pedalos etc, ideal entertainment for children. For wine lovers, there are a multitude of vineyards within 20mins drive along with restaurants in local villages. After a day sightseeing, a dip in the pool was very welcome followed by a snooze under the awning before a tray of tea and cake magically appeared to revive us.

In our “guinea pig” role Liz was anxious that we sampled her table d’hôte menus so we spent three evenings eating with the family. It was no surprise that Liz’s menus were delicious, an aperitif and nibbles followed by three courses using local products accompanied by regional wines were beautifully served. An after-dinner treat was watching the sunset over the hills accompanied by the song of nightingales and the cacophony of mating frogs!

Jonathan’s knowledge of flora and fauna will no doubt fascinate future guests as it did us, nature walks will become an integral part of a visit to Péchauzi.

On evenings not spent with the Adeys, we ventured to local villages for dinner, driving no more than 20 mins on quiet, local roads. Castelnau is in walking distance – about 30mins uphill, but parking wasn’t a problem if driving.

Our week at Péchauzi ended too quickly having only just scratched the surface of things to see in this beautiful part of France. We’ll certainly want to follow progress on the barn conversion into gites and the firing up of the bread oven for Liz’s cookery courses, so a return visit is a must.

Oaksey will certainly miss the Adeys but we wish them every success with their new life and feel privileged to have been the first to sample it!

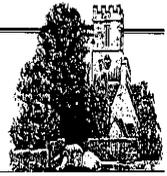
website: [www.pechauzi.com](http://www.pechauzi.com)

*Margaret Dakin & Chris Rhodes*

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## PARISH CHURCH NEWS

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### Services

There will be a VERY SPECIAL PET SERVICE at All Saints Church, Oaksey on Sunday, 3rd September at 11am. The service will be taken by Martin Green, so it promises to be very lively, entertaining & uplifting.

Everyone is welcome to bring along their furry, feathery or wriggly pets, both big and small, to the Church. This will be a lovely occasion to get together and a time for saying prayers for our very special friends.

The service will be followed by a ‘Bring & Share Picnic’, either inside or outside of the Church depending on the weather.

There will be a Group Holy Communion service at Minety on Sunday, 10th September at 10am.

### Oaksey Harvest Festival service

An advance notice that this will be held on Sunday, 1st October at 11am.

### Sunday School

This will be held on Sunday, 17th September at 10.30am for all children aged 3 years and upwards, followed by the Family service at 11am.

All are very welcome to attend.

## Dates for your Diary

Nativity service - Sunday, 10th December  
@ 11am.

Carols by Candlelight service - Saturday,

16th December @ 5pm.

Christmas Day service - Monday, 25th  
December @ 11am.

cost of £4.00 per head. Unless you are  
known as a 'regular', please let Miriam  
(577689) know by Wednesday, 13th  
September if you are planning to come.

## Oaksey Lunch Club

The next lunch will be on Wednesday,  
20th September at 1pm in the Rest at a

*Jerry Falkingham*

*01666 577956*

*j.falkingham@tesco.net*

	<b>3 Sep</b>	<b>10 Sep</b>	<b>17 Sep</b>	<b>24 Sep</b>
<b>Ashley</b>	Holy communion (BCP) 8.30am	Evening Prayer 6pm	Morning Prayer 9.30am	Holy communion 9.30am
<b>Charlton</b>	Family Service 9.30am	No service	Evensong 6pm	Holy communion 9.30am
<b>Crudwell</b>	Morning Worship 11am		Holy Communion 9.30am	All Age Worship 11am
<b>Hankerton</b>	Holy communion 9.30am		Informal Worship 11am	No service
<b>Minety</b>	Holy Communion 11am	Group Communion 10am	Holy communion 8:30am Service of the Word 10am	Service of the Word 10am
<b>Oaksey</b>	Pet service & Bring & Share Picnic 11am	No service	Family Service 11am	Holy communion 11am

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