

Odcombe Village Hall

Newsletter

March 2023

No. 104



**Sunday 7th May
12 - 4pm
@ Odcombe
Village Hall**

Bring a plate of sharing food for

The Big Lunch

(tea and coffee provided)

**Children's Colouring Competition &
Children's Design a Crown Parade**

(make your crown to bring with you)

A Royal Quiz

There will be prizes and fun, and possibly more depending on a few more people coming forward to help with the planning. If you can help please contact Rachel & Fiona.

Tel: 07534 518630 or email: odcombevillagehall@gmail.com

See back page for details of the Odcombe Village Street Party

View from the Chair

My view is of the frost that we seem to have had in abundance this year. I am optimistic however that Spring is coming, and we'll soon be seeing the sun!

I am also optimistic that the hall will be left in good hands to take it into the future. One of the younger Trustees has just taken on the Booking Secretary role, and another is learning much more about all the ins and outs of running the hall so that a smooth transition can take place when I leave the committee at the AGM. With the committee's blessing, I will continue to lead the Café and Movie Groups so you will still see me around.



A Secretary is still required, so if you can help, please get in touch. Having a secretary in place would make it so much easier for all Trustees, so if you are able to take notes, please come forward.

There are other smaller jobs that could be undertaken by others willing to help without wanting to attend committee or become a Trustee. For example, the newsletter – Colin as always will continue to design and edit it, but someone must send it to the printer, accept delivery, count out and give it to our lovely volunteers to deliver, and invoice the advertisers, just three times a year, if you can help?

Nothing is ever as straightforward as we hope, and our new cooker installation has been delayed as we found that we required an additional power supply to accommodate an all-electric cooker. Paperwork has been completed so hopefully this will be done soon.

Somerset Community Council had to defer the Hallmark Scheme last year so the committee will have to go through this process this year to maintain our Hallmark 1,2 and 3 statuses. Going through this process will be a good experience for committee members as it will cover all aspects of running the hall from risk assessments to the requirements of the Charity Commission.

I would like to thank all the committee members who I've served with over the past ten years and hope to see you along with event volunteers and residents at the AGM on March 14th. Everyone has had an invitation through their door, so we look forward to seeing a good many of you on the night.

If you are thinking about joining the committee and would like more information, please either email odcombevillagehall@gmail.com, give me a ring, or speak to a committee member.

Denise Dunford (Chairman) Tel: 863444

Rotary Christmas Draw

Nigel Ashley, the Rotary Club of Yeovil's President, presenting Denise Dunford with a cheque for £170.50 from the Community Christmas Draw for sale of tickets in 2022. Our thanks to the Rotary Club of Yeovil for giving us this opportunity to raise funds.

Denise Dunford



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Village Hall Lottery



Past winners - 1st prize £25, 2nd prize £15, 3rd prize £10

October 2022

1st 257 – Ellie Damon
2nd 147 – Alex Bowring
3rd 163 – Ruth David

December 2022

1st 233 – Josie Goodger
2nd 238 – Peter Cooper
3rd 288 – Carole-Ann Balaam

November 2022

1st 241 – Margaret Clotworthy
2nd 128 – Simon Wright
3rd 272 – Carol Willsmore

January 2023

1st 313 – Hans Rennie
2nd 116 – Mrs P. Davies
3rd 242 – Heather Haggett

Newsletter



**The next Newsletter
is provisionally due
to be published in
July 2023.**

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Have you thought about Bell Ringing?



Ring for the King is a national recruitment campaign to train more Church Bell Ringers in time for the coronation of King Charles III on 6th May 2023.

For more information contact your local Bell Ringers:

Roger Fox t: 01935 862041

www.ringforthe king.org

Village Hall Lottery

drawn every month

The new year starts on 1st April

Each ticket costs only £12 for twelve monthly draws, and you can have more than one!

To get or renew your tickets, fill in the details on the application form, ticking the boxes as appropriate.

You can also set up a Standing Order—please ring Margaret on 863863 and ask for a form.

Lottery Application Form

- I am new to the lottery
 I wish to renew my ticket(s)
 with the same number(s) or new number(s)

Number of tickets required _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PLEASE ENCLOSE THE CORRECT AMOUNT OF MONEY

(cash or cheque) with this form and take it to one of the collection points:- **Margaret Clotworthy**, 32 Rex Road.

Maureen Belben, 17A Lower Odcombe.

Cheques should be made payable to 'Odcombe Village Hall'.

Registered Charity No. 304602

Village Hall Social Event and Annual General Meeting

Odcombe Village Hall Trustees invite you to join us for cheese and wine / soft drink on Tuesday 14th March 2023 at 7:30 pm in the village hall.

We hope that you will join us for a drink and a chat, as we'd love to use this opportunity to thank all our volunteers, users and supporters.

This event will be run in conjunction with our Annual General Meeting which will take a short while at the beginning of the evening. If you would like a copy of our Annual Report please email

odcombevillagehall@gmail.com

Registered Charity No. 304602

Odcombe Movie Nights

The New Year started well with a good number of regulars and visitors coming along in January to enjoy 'Fisherman's Friends: One and All'. 'Mrs Harris Goes to Paris' was our February film selection and nearly fifty people enjoyed this film too, along with the extra treats. As it was near Valentine's Day there was a bit of romance in the air with chocolates, biscuits and flowers.

March 13th we'll be showing 'See How They Run (2022)' – email odcombemovies@gmail.com for booking and payment details or telephone me on 07843 973561. Enjoy the film in good company, on our large screen, and grab a cushion (loads available), to sit in comfort.

Our last film for this season will be on April 10th 'The Lost King', then we'll be taking a break until October.

All our evening films see the doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Prebooked tickets are £5 (£6 if you turn up at the door). We have a small raffle, a licensed bar selling beer, wine, cider and soft drinks and we sell tea, coffee and biscuits if you prefer. A warm space, a friendly team and a warm welcome.

Denise Dunford, on behalf of the Movie Team, we look forward to seeing you.



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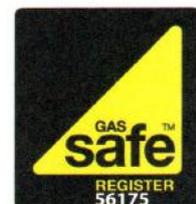
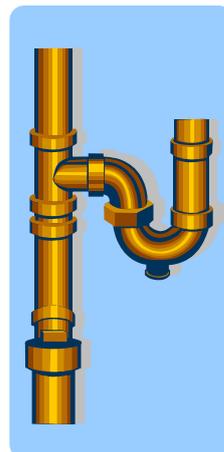
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@ the Hall Café - Much more than a café – a social hub for the village

Fourth Monday of each month 10.00am – 11.30am

Our Community Café is open to all, a warm, welcoming place to meet friends and neighbours.

The Café is open to all ages, residents, friends and neighbours. Come along and enjoy homemade cake @ £1 and tea, coffee or hot chocolate @ £1. Preloved novels are for sale and there's a raffle.

If you have any of the latest novels that you'd like to donate we'd love to hear from you.

We also have a sales table to raise funds for The Alzheimer's Society. This was the Team's chosen charity prior to Covid and thankfully we are now able to resume and hopefully raise a tidy sum of money to donate to them at the end of the year. All other funds raised at the Café go the hall's general fund as the Café is run by a subgroup of the main committee. So come along and bag yourself a bargain whilst helping two charities!

Now in its 8th year my thanks go to all the team who make this happen by setting up and running the Café each month. I would also like to thank Maddy, Dave, Reese and Eva who join us a couple times a year to help. It's lovely to see the younger members of our community lending a hand. If you can help on the rota please let me know.

The team aims to provide a warm but ventilated space, where touch points and tables are still sanitised for your safety, and we look forward to welcoming you at our next Café on **Monday March 27th**.

The team and I will look forward to seeing regular and new visitors throughout the year – April 24th, May 22nd, June 26th, July 24th, Aug 28th, Sept 25th, Oct 23rd, Nov 27th & Dec 18th.

Denise, on behalf of The Café Team

Email: odcombevillagehall@gmail.com or Tel: Denise Dunford 863444

Post Office

Although the outreach post office run from the hall has been closed for some time, it is still officially a temporary closure. The committee has been pressing the Post Office for information and now, thanks to Cllr Patrick, we have an email from them stating that they are working to open the service and will update us shortly. We are doing our best to ensure that this service continues for our community.

Denise Dunford

Odcombe Flower Show and Church Feté

Now that the snowdrops and crocuses are opening up in the Spring sunshine (very warm today as I write this) surely it is time to start sowing seeds ready for summer. We are having a combined Church Feté and Flower Show again this year - the date is **12th August 2023**.

Happy gardening everyone.

Margaret Clotworthy

Odcombe Short Mat Bowls

At the Village Hall: Monday from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Wednesday and Friday from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm



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on **SATURDAY 11th MARCH 2023**
from **12.30 till 2.00pm**

Join us for **HOMEMADE SOUPS, BREAD
CHEESE & FRUIT** – Just £5 per adult
[children under 12 - £3 each]
**Lunch profits in aid of
TURKEY & SYRIA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL**

Books, Cards & Raffle proceeds to support
Odcombe Church

Church Porch Food Collection for the Lord's Larder
10am – 4pm daily, Wednesday 22nd February – Thursday 9th March

St Peter and St Paul's Church, Odcombe

MOTHERING SUNDAY 19 MARCH 2023



Calling all mothers – young or old.

Please come and join us at 11am for our Mothering Sunday service and collect your Mothers' Day posy.

As usual, posies will be available for collection from the church porch during the day.



Our thanks go to Cllr Oliver Patrick for providing us with a free CO₂ monitor for the hall.

With this in place, all groups will be able to easily see the air quality and open windows as and when required.



Table Top Sale

Saturday 18th March
11am-2pm
Odcombe Village Hall

For great quality secondhand goodies at reasonable prices including:
Books
Toys
Baby and Toddler Clothes and Equipment
And more!

£10 per large table
£5 per additional small table

£1 entry per adult with free raffle ticket for our Grand Draw
Refreshments available
All proceeds to Montacute Pre-School
Registered Charity No. 1024088

To book a table, please email
montacutepreschool@hotmail.com

Greensleeves Nursery & Farm Shop is For Sale!!

The current owners have worked very hard to build Greensleeves up to the local business it is today, but they are now looking for new owner occupiers to take it to the next level!

The business holds a 20+ year leasehold with a 2-bedroom bungalow on site for owner/occupier use. It would best suit those who would work the business themselves to minimise staff costs but there are also several expansion opportunities for those who wish to invest further.

Landlord will require a full credit check and personal guarantees from any incoming owner.



Genuine enquiries only please to Derek Taylor at:
owner@greensleevesnurseries.co.uk

Florrie's Sustainable Fashion Show

In aid of St Margaret's Hospice

Saturday 15th April

Odcombe Village Hall

8pm-10:30pm

Sale of quality preloved clothes

Clothes Swap

Bring clothes donations for St Margaret's Hospice

Upcycling jewellery workshop

Raffle

Entry ticket £5 / Entry ticket plus a glass of bubbly and dessert £10

To purchase tickets,

please email Gaynor on soulsbygaynor@gmail.com

or Alex on alexbowring01@gmail.com

To everyone in Odcombe

I'll keep this short and sweet if I can. So, after 15 amazing years in the best village, you are all finally getting rid of me, "Ha Ha". I started in Odcombe in 2008, but unfortunately in December we were told there would be changes starting in March. I personally want to thank everybody and I'm going to miss you all. From day one I was made so welcome, slowly getting to know everyone's names.

I'll never forget the first time I met Gordie Holland - I can't repeat what he said on my second day. He sure was the character of the village. Driving around in his tractor with Joe and Nellie. Was a sad day when he passed away. So much has happened over the years; I've swept courtyards, changed lightbulbs and opened the village fete, I was made to feel part of the community and I'm so going to miss that and I can't thank you all enough.



So, from March 6th you will have Millie, and she will look after you all just like I have. I hear Gaynor has arranged drinks down the Masons Arms on Saturday March 4th from 8pm if anyone wants to pop down and I can get to say bye properly. Take care everybody and may see you one day out and about on my new round.

Kind regards

Chris

Exercise Reduces Stress

It's official - Exercise reduces stress and has many benefits so why not give it a go?

Find something that suits you. Starting off with even small amounts is better than doing nothing. Don't be put off, start by doing something today, even a 10-minute walk. Or take your usual workout outdoors. If you're using a favourite workout video just place your phone or iPad etc into a tripod stand and go outdoors. Now the mornings and evenings are rapidly getting lighter, and hopefully the days brighter and warmer, it's an ideal time to enjoy the benefits of both fresh air and exercise. Not exercised much lately? Ask a friend or two to join you for a walk and a chat! Fill up your lungs with fresh air, feast your eyes on the beautiful colours of the Spring flowers. Physical and mental stress reduction!



The following is reproduced courtesy of [Mind.org](https://www.mind.org.uk)

Mental Health benefits of exercising outdoors:

- improve your mood.
- reduce feelings of stress or anger.
- help you take time out and feel more relaxed.
- improve your physical health.
- improve your confidence and self-esteem.
- help you be more active.
- help you meet and get to know new people.
- connect you to your local community.

There are a variety of exercise and activity classes at Odcombe Village Hall for days when you can't exercise outside! Take a look at the timetable next time you're there.

Debbie Knight

Odcombe Parish Council

Odcombe



The work of the Parish Council has continued apace into the new year as we find ourselves working on a range of ongoing projects as well as the broader developments that are likely to impact our village through the restructuring to the new unitary Somerset Council.

However, our most important work by far is responding to the concerns and requests raised by Odcombe parishioners. These are much more wide-ranging than was previously the case and encompass everything from concerns about lorry traffic in the village, speeding motorists and parking problems through to recreation ground safety and maintenance issues, crumbling walls and accessibility concerns during icy conditions.

Thank you very much indeed to all parishioners who have contacted us or attended our meetings to contribute to discussions. If you would like to keep abreast of the most recent information regarding our work, or to contact us, please visit the Odcombe Parish Council website or our popular Facebook page where your comments and interactions are welcome!

You may be aware that a new Traffic Regulation order came into effect in Odcombe on the 26th January 2023 which excludes lorry traffic of 7.5 tons or more traversing the village.

This was actioned following concerns raised by a number of residents and in agreement with the local highways authority. Signposting at all points of access to the village is also about to be upgraded to make the new restriction clear to drivers. We are expecting that this will be completed over the next month.

The redundant and over-sized panel signs that currently blight the view of the village on entry from the Camp Road are also due to be removed during the next month as part of this process.

We are delighted to report that the installation of the new Odcombe Village hamstone sign adjacent to the Camp Road will take place in the next couple of months. We recently received planning approval after a lengthy and complicated process, and 'Harvey Stone' has been commissioned for the fabrication and installation. The Parish Council is currently considering a proposal for an official unveiling of the marker stone to coincide with the King's Coronation in May. If you have any thoughts on this, please let us know!

We are also busy working on establishing new contracts for the maintenance of the recreation ground, pathways and other amenities in the village. This is particularly important work for us as we are particularly keen to maintain the fabric of the village to the best possible standard. If there are areas of the village that you feel would benefit from attention, please do not hesitate to contact us.

A group of Parish Councillors will be continuing the ongoing maintenance at the recreation ground in early to mid-March by planting some juvenile trees and pollarding the willow trees next to the play area. There is likely to be a large volume of willow twigs and osiers to be disposed of. If anyone would like any of this material for craft or other purposes, please do not hesitate to contact our clerk, Terry Heath.

We are becoming aware that parking is an increasing concern in various parts of the village, from the lack of available spaces through to the potentially dangerous obscuring of junctions by poorly parked vehicles. Whilst powers to enforce action in this area are limited, our PCSO has offered to visit residents and offer advice on the law and help to resolve issues where possible. If this service would be of value please contact Terry Heath, Clerk to the Parish Council.

Parking on grass verges and green spaces is also becoming an increasing issue for obvious reasons but it is a practice that damages the fabric and amenity of the village. We would respectfully ask that villagers avoid doing so wherever possible.

A number of concerns had been raised about vehicles driving at inappropriate speeds through Lower Odcombe in particular. Terry Heath, who is collating reports of speeding and dangerous driving, has yet to receive notification of any incidents of concern. Please do not hesitate to contact him in order that the Parish Council is able to demonstrate a case for the implementation of a 20mph limit zone.

On a hugely positive note, we would strongly urge you to visit the Odcombe Parish Council website to sample Peter Cooper's village 'Blue Plaque Tour'. This outstanding and unique historical resource is the 

➔ result of an enormous amount of research and hard work, and offers an interactive and visual insight into the complex and fascinating past of our village and its context in the local area.

David Peters, Odcombe Parish Council

Tour of Odcombe's Past

A virtual "Blue Plaque" tour is now available on Odcombe Parish Council's website – go to www.odcombeparishcouncil.gov.uk, click on "Our Village" then "Tour of Odcombe's Past" or just use the QR code below. How well do you know the history of the village? Test your knowledge with these questions:



- 1) What grizzly event took place at Pye Corner in 1847?
- 2) Where was the village bakery in the 1920s?
- 3) Where would you have found a quarry within the parish in 1900?
- 4) Who was Henry Peterson?

The answers to these questions, and many others, can be found on the virtual tour, or look up the answers in the box below. The tour has been created so that you can learn about the people, the buildings and the land that have helped to create the village as we know it today. Each place of interest is denoted by a blue plaque which, when clicked, will reveal a picture and a short description, sometimes with links to more information. The tour is a work in progress with new plaques being added regularly. If you have any comments, suggestions or information, or would even like to nominate a new blue plaque, please email clerk@odcombeparishcouncil.gov.uk.



Answers
1) A meeting of the Odcombe Friendly Society ended in a fight and the death of a man from West Coker.
2) At the bottom of Donne Lane, where John Haines (the village baker) lived next to his shop.
3) In the field behind Amara, the house 500yds past Greensleeves Nursery on the same side of Montacute Road.
4) Victorian Odcombe's answer to Del Boy, Henry Peterson owned the white cottages opposite Greensleeves Nursery in the 1870s.

Peter Cooper

Crafty Stitchers

We are a very friendly group of knitters, lace makers, embroiderers, sewers etc. always willing to help others. All welcome.

Margaret Clotworthy



Purple Patchers

Several of our group went on a sewing retreat in January - they are all back now full of renewed enthusiasm to sew and quilt.

We recently had a workshop making 'Tessilating Pinwheels' - a great amount of concentration but a really enjoyable session.



Margaret Clotworthy

All Saints Church School



We have had a fantastic start to 2023! Life at All Saints is busy, as ever, and the happy buzz of learning has filled the corridors. There have been plenty of exciting things happening in all classrooms, including our SCARF workshops focusing on PSHE topics.

We have witnessed the beauty of winter with plenty of sparkly (if a bit slippery) mornings. Thank you for working with us to keep the children safe by lining up outside the front of the school. It was unfortunate that we had to postpone our FOAS story night but the safety of all of our families and staff must come first. Hopefully we will be able to run this lovely event in the coming weeks.

It has been exciting to return to competing locally in football and netball this term. So far, we have taken teams to compete in year 5/6 football. Well done footballers!

This half term, year 5 have contributed their interpretations of wisdom to our 'Values Basket'. This basket travels around the local churches and shares our school values with the community. It is starting in Montacute Baptist Church this time, so pop in to see it and add your ideas to it if you have the chance.

Jo Walmsley

Acting Head Teacher

Can you help to keep your church open?

Currently the church is opened and closed every day by only two members of our small, ageing congregation, which presents considerable problems at times. We should like to continue to keep our church open from 10am–4pm each day to allow access to everyone who feels the need to 'pop in' for a quiet think in the serenity of the building, but, without additional help, we shall need to reduce the number of days it's open. Can you help by regularly opening and closing the church on a particular day or days each week? If so, please ring **Valerie** on **01935 862905**



[Since writing this, one willing volunteer has offered her services but more would be good]

As practising Christians, with your help, we also try to aid those in need whenever possible and, annually, hold a number of non-perishable food collections for "The Lord's Larder", a Lent Lunch (*11th March*) to raise funds for a worthwhile cause (this year the **Turkey/Syria Earthquake Appeal** and our own Church) and hope to be involved in the summer Village Fete & Flower Show in conjunction with the Village Hall to raise some much-needed funds for our two groups.

Our regular supporters do what they're able to keep the church and churchyard safe and in good order but, to keep the church functioning, requires annual expenditure in excess of £15,000. In recent times we've been most fortunate to benefit from the considerable generosity of some villagers and, on occasion, to receive a legacy when villagers depart this life, which has assisted the church to maintain a presence in Odcombe.

The Church and the Village Hall (in addition to the Pub) are vital to maintain the community spirit of the village – something that many of us would wish to retain. These places are used by most of us at some time in our lives but, in order to ensure that these important village assets are retained, volunteers are needed to help run and maintain them. Once these resources disappear it is very difficult, even impossible, to reintroduce them. The time to act is NOW!

Any assistance you can give would help just a little to keep our 1,000+ year old church building standing proud and, even more important, functioning to facilitate weddings, blessings, funerals and baptisms.

PCC members, St Peter & St Paul Church, Odcombe

Babies and Toddlers

Are there any parents in the village with babies and/or toddlers under school age who'd like to meet others for a chat?

Please get in touch – email odcombevillagehall@gmail.com



Odcombe Football Club

We started The Charity Cup competition in late November and with a 5-0 thrashing of Team Gryphon, who play in a lower league than us, we thought we were perhaps onto another good cup run. The very next week we travelled all the way to Weston-super – (donkey) Mare where we played Hutton Reserves of the Weston League on astro turf as the heavy frosts had taken their toll on grass pitches that weekend. Yet another barn storming performance running out 6-2 victors.



But the Christmas break seemed to put a bit of a dampener on our Charity Cup run as when we came out to play our next fixture, Ashcott Res (away) on New Year's Eve, we couldn't muster such a strong team and were thrashed 6-0 on the Strode College astro turf, which is just as hard as ice and definitely cuts your legs up if you slide tackle. The very next week we were back on the astro turf again this time losing to AFC Strode 3-1 in the league.

Since then, when the weather will allow, we have lost 5-1 away at Stoke in the league where we had three goalkeepers in the squad, two being on the bench, both playing well when they came on as outfield players and drawn at home against Ilchester where we went one better and had four goalkeepers in the squad and they all played well outfield, one of them scoring the equalising goal.

In the Somerset Junior Cup we were drawn at home to Wells City A team, and in a pulsating game which was anyone's game the visitors scored the only goal of the game midway through the second half, and try as we did we couldn't find the finishing touch to get the equaliser. In the Yeovil and Districts Les King Cup we have reached the quarter finals beating AFC Strode 2-1 which was a bit of revenge for the earlier defeat to them on their astro turf pitch. It just goes to show that the Odcombe pitch is a bit of a leveller.

Winter mid-week training at Westfield Community school has started up again after they had problems following a fire with their floodlights on the 3G floodlit pitch This will carry on with Steve Cook in charge every Tuesday evening 7-8 pm, a fee of £3 is payable to cover the costs and new players are welcome.

The Parish Council has asked us to remove the old five-a-side galvanised metal posts that were stored in the Rex Road alcove and covered in brambles, until the brambles were removed. Our initial thoughts were to cut them up and scrap them for cash but if anyone should have a use for them and be able to take them away we will be open to offers. They are approximately 12 ft wide, 6 ft tall, free standing and we have some nets. They could do with some TLC and are very heavy, but let me know if you are interested.

Our club website is still up and running with match reports news items and old Odcombe F.C. pictures www.pitchero.com/clubs/odcombe .

All enquiries to Glenn Seymour on 01935863961 or grseymour@tiscali.co.uk

Mobile Library Service

Comes to Westbury Gardens in Odcombe every 4 weeks. It carries a selection of books, novels, large print books, books for children and audio books.

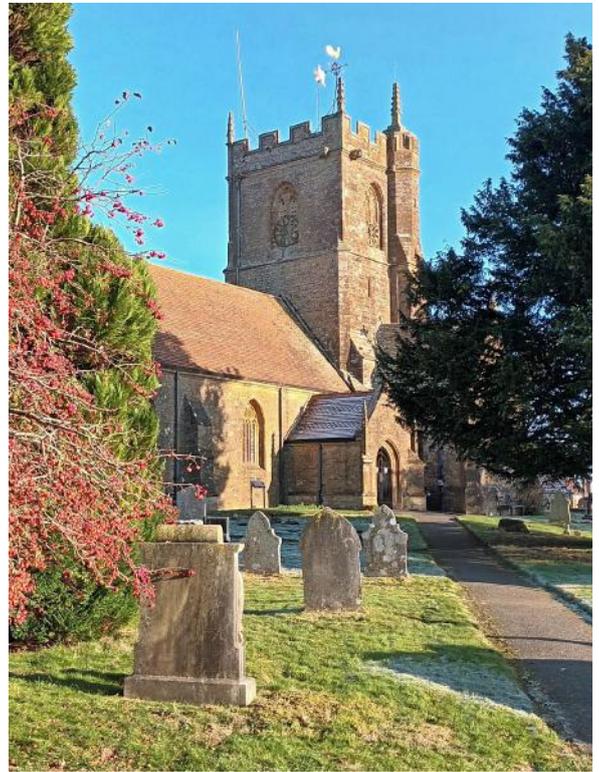
We understand that only about two people are using this service, which has been described as a good one.

The fear is, if we don't use it we might loose it. See page 18 for times.

Rev. Nick Clarke, Odcombe Church

As I sit and write my first Odcombe newsletter article for 2023, I am looking out of my study window at the most beautiful sunrise, listening to a raucous dawn chorus with the last eerie calls of a vixen echoing across the valley and a woodpecker drumming its early call in February! God's wondrous creation is clearly stirring, illuminated by a bright sickle moon in conjunction with Jupiter and Venus in the night sky and the snowdrops, daffs and catkins in full bloom announcing that Spring is on its way!

Since my October article we have enjoyed wonderful Advent and Christmas services at St Peters & St Pauls full of happy families and friends celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace and King of Kings who was born to bring Hope, Love, Peace, Joy and Light to this often dark, materialistic, aggressively secular, and cruel world. Giving us forgiveness for our sins and the promise of salvation and eternal life through his ultimate sacrifice on the cross and resurrection at Easter.



Our children at All Saints school excelled themselves with superb Christingle, Nativity, and Carol services. Highlights for me were our Carol service and the 130 parents and children who came to our Christmas Eve Crib service in Odcombe church, with a surprise appearance of Delilah the donkey! Looking back, 2022 was a surreal year of recovery from covid and painful political and financial turmoil. The circle of life brought the great joy of births, weddings, baptisms, and Jubilee celebrations in our lovely church, tempered by the great sadness of the loss of too many dear friends and our beloved Queen.

Sadly, 2023 has been overshadowed by the heart-breaking news of death, devastation and suffering from earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. As I write the death toll is over 44,000 with hundreds of thousands more injured, homeless and without shelter, water, or food. Please pray for all those effected and give generously to the **Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC) Turkey and Syria Humanitarian Appeal** using this link:

<https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/turkey-syria-earthquake-appeal>

February also saw the first anniversary of Vladimir Putin's evil and unjust war with Ukraine. Please continue to pray for peace and support the **DEC Committee Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal** using this link:

<https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/ukraine-humanitarian-appeal>

However, grim news aside, Lent brings our journey to the foot of the cross on Good Friday and the good news of Jesus' resurrection on Easter morning. We are also celebrating our Curate joining the Benefice on the 9th of July; I will be revealing her name and more details in my next article!

Finally, after a really difficult few years of covid and unhealthy politics, let us look forward to a New Year of **'Believing in a Better Way'** as the Holy Spirit breaths fresh life into Spring, bringing the good news of our salvation at Easter and the celebration of the Coronation of King Charles on 6th May, and a special church service on the 7th to lift our weary souls!

Having not been able to yet, Kathryn and I would like to wish you a Happy, Healthy, Peaceful and Prosperous New Year and Easter to come!

God bless. Rev Nick

Beware of Renewable Energy scams

Many of us aim to be more eco-friendly. One way to do this is to use renewable energy, for instance by installing solar panels or switching to a green energy supplier. However, alongside many legitimate schemes and home products, there are fraudsters using the cover of renewable energy to steal your money or personal or financial information.

If you are thinking about switching to renewable energy, follow this checklist:

- Research the market. Don't be tempted by a seemingly unbeatable deal from a doorstep trader, mailshot or cold phone call.
- Never be rushed or intimidated into making a decision. The choice of suppliers is growing so take time to shop around for the right deal.
- If you receive a cold phone call tempting you to invest in renewable energy, don't give any personal or financial information. Put the phone down.
- If you want to switch energy supplier, use the Citizens Advice comparison tool at energycompare.citizensadvice.org.uk or call 03454 040506 to find the best genuine deal.
- Before signing anything, read the terms and conditions and make sure you know what you are signing up to. Ask a trusted friend for help if you need it.
- Ask friends and family for advice and recommendations on renewable energy.
- Use a scheme or association to find reliable businesses. For example:
 - Find local, trustworthy businesses through the Buy With Confidence scheme. All businesses in the scheme are vetted, approved and monitored by Trading Standards. Visit buywithconfidence.gov.uk or call 01392 383430.
 - Or use a business that's a member of an appropriate trade association for example the Renewable Energy Consumer Code (RECC) or the Renewable Energy Association (REA). These specialise in renewables and members must stick to their codes of practice. If a trader says they are a member of an association, check this is true.

This article has been written by Devon, Somerset and Torbay Trading Standards Service
<https://www.devonsomersettradingstandards.gov.uk/>

Newsletter Advertising

The Village Hall Newsletter is published three times a year and delivered to every house in Odcombe

Our business advertising rates are as follows:-

Quarter-page (portrait, approx. A6 size):
£5 for a single issue
£12 for the year (all 3 issues),

Eighth-page (landscape, approx. A7 size):
£3 for a single issue
£7 for the year (all 3 issues).

All adverts accepted are subject to availability of space.

To place an advertisement email:

odcombevillagehall@gmail.com

Buses from Lower Odcombe (Montacute Road) to Yeovil

◇ = SCC operated



New Time Table

Odcombe to Yeovil		Yeovil to Odcombe	
		d. 08:00	◇ a. 08:13
d. 08:23	a. 08:45	d. 09:00	a. 09:13
d. 10:08	a. 10:25	d. 11:00	a. 11:13
d. 12:08	a. 12:25	d. 13:00	a. 13:13
d. 14:08	a. 14:25	d. 15:00	a. 15:13
d. 15:08	◇ a. 15:25		
d. 16:08	a. 16:25	d. 16:45	a. 16:58
d. 17:53	a. 18:10	d. 18:15	a. 18:28



For local beat officers for Odcombe go to avonandsomerset.police.uk/your-area and select **Yeovil Rural**

Post Office at the Village Hall



This facility has been closed for some time, but it is still officially a **temporary** closure.

See page 7 for more details.

Post Box Collections

Higher Odcombe: Monday to Friday 4.00pm,
Saturday 9.00am
Lower Odcombe: Monday to Friday 9.00am,
Saturday 7.00am



Bank Holiday road-side collections:

after Easter - **Thursday 13th April 2023**
after Coronation - **Thursday 11th May 2023**
after Spring B/H - **Thursday 1st June 2023**

Recycling at Artillery Road, Lufton Trading Estate, Yeovil

Monday to Friday - 9:00am to 5:00pm
Saturday and Sunday - 9:00am to 4:00pm.

w: somersetwaste.gov.uk



Footpaths Officer - If you find any problems with footpaths around the parish, please contact Hans Rennie
t: 01935 864523

Bus Service 44

Odcombe Church gates	dep. 10:30
Yeovil (the Borough)	arr. 10:45
Yeovil (the Borough)	dep. 12:45
Odcombe Church gates	arr. 13:00

Mondays to Fridays

Mobile Library Service

Westbury Gardens Tuesdays 11:10 - 11:35

7-Mar, 4-Apr, 2-May, 30-May, 27-Jun

For information about this service, contact Somerset Direct t: 0300 1232224 or visit

www.somerset.gov.uk/libraries

This Newsletter is published by the Odcombe Village Hall Management Committee, registered charity No. 304602

Views expressed by contributors to this Newsletter are not necessarily endorsed by the Committee, neither are the products and services shown by advertisers in their advertisements.

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Odcombe Village Hall

Activity Contacts ...

Post Office		This service is currently unavailable. See page 7 for explanation.
Crafty Stitchers	2nd, 4th & 5th Wednesday in month 2:00 to 4:00 pm	Margaret Clotworthy t: 863863
Short Mat Bowls	Mondays - 2:00 to 5:00 pm Wednesdays - 7:00 to 10:00 pm Fridays - 7:00 to 10:00 pm	Hazel Smith m: 07720 724745
Good Life Workshops	2nd & 4th Tuesday in month 7:15 to 9:15 pm (starts 28-March)	Gaynor Soulsby m: 07961 743776 t: 01935 863117
Odcombe Football Club		Glenn Seymour t: 863961
Beginners Pilates	Thursday - 6:00 to 8:00 pm	Sarah Hicks S H Fitness
Parish Council (public welcome)	3rd Monday in month - 7:30 pm	Terry Heath m: 07549 643402 e: clerk@odcombeparishcouncil.gov.uk
@ the Hall Café	4th Monday in month - 10:00 to 11:30 am	Denise Dunford t: 863444
Pilates, & Dance Fitness	Dance Fitness Friday - 9:30 am Pilates Friday - 10:35 am Four Way Fitness Friday - 11:45 am	Debbie Knight m: 07970 258085
Odcombe Movie Nights	Monthly from October to April	Denise Dunford m: 07843 973561
Spanish	Tuesday - 10:00 to 12:00 noon	George Leaver t: 862905
Purple Patchers	Thursday - 1:00 to 4:00 pm	Margaret Clotworthy t: 863863
Jazz Band Practice	Tuesday - 7:30 to 9:30 pm	Ben Webster
Mini Glovers	Friday - 4:00 to 5:00 pm	Louis McCarten e: LMccarten@yafc.net

Odcombe Parish Church		Rector: Rev Nick Clarke m: 07842 192402
Neighbourhood Watch		Deryl Rennie t: 864523 Alan Hiscock t: 863388

Future Events ...

11th March	Lent Lunch at the Village Hall, 12:30 - 2:00 pm	See page 9
13th March	Odcombe Movie Night at the Village Hall, starts 7:30 pm	Film 'See How They Run'
14th March	Village Hall Social and AGM at the Village Hall, 7:30 pm	See page 5
18th March	Montacute Pre-School Table-Top Sale at the Village Hall, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm	See page 9
19th March	Mothering Sunday at Odcombe Church, 11:00 am	See page 9
10th April	Odcombe Movie Night at the Village Hall, starts 7:30 pm	Film 'The Lost King'
15th April	Florrie's Sustainable Fashion Show at the Village Hall, 8:00 - 10:30 pm	See page 10
6th May	Odcombe Village Street Party outside the Masons, Lower Odcombe, from 3:00 pm	See back page
7th May	The Big Lunch at the Village Hall, 12:00 noon - 4:00 pm	See front page



Odecombe Village Street Party
Saturday 6th May 2023
from 3pm



Outside the Masons Arms, Lower Odecombe
An opportunity to join the nation on this special
day celebrating

The Coronation of King Charles III.

Please bring sharing plates for the adult and
children's buffet tables, as well as your own drinks
(the Masons Arms bar will be open).

♪ Live music ♪

★ Regal fancy dress optional ★

