

OUSDEN NEWSLETTER



Dec 24/Jan 25 No:259



A warm welcome to.....

Iona & Duncan who have recently moved into the village.

We hope you enjoy living here.



Ousden Village Hall

Here we are in November and we still have lots of people enjoying walking their dogs across the fields and footpaths. Many of them comment on how lucky we are to be surrounded by such beautiful countryside. The trees look particularly gorgeous at this time of the year.

Very recently, we had a huge pile of bark chippings delivered for the playground. It took 10 of us to barrow it across the field over the fence as the haulier didn't want to get his lorry stuck in the mud. Many thanks to all who helped us out doing this during the following days.

The area looks much improved for the young children who continue to enjoy it, many of whom come from other villages around.

We're looking forward to our annual Christmas Craft Fair to be held on Sunday, 1st December. Please look out for leaflets or adverts if you're interested, especially if you want to book a table to sell goods.

In early spring, we're thinking about organising another Race Night. We'll keep you up to date.

That's all for now. Hoping you all have a festive time at Christmas and all the best for the New Year 2025.

Chris Ingham
Chair of Committee



Quiz Nights
Bingo
Coffee Mornings

Opening Times

Monday – Sunday
12.00pm – 11.00pm

Meals Served

Wednesday, Thursday	Sunday Roast
Friday & Saturday	12.00pm - 3.30pm
12.00pm—8.00pm	

Christmas & New Year Opening Times

Christmas Eve—12.00pm till Late
Christmas Day—12.00pm—3.00pm
New Years Eve—12.00pm till Late
New Years Day—Closed

Tel: 01638 500740



Useful Telephone Numbers

Emergency.....	999
Suffolk Police (non urgent).....	101
Crime Stoppers.....	0800 555 111
Electricity Emergency.....	08007 838 838
Anglian Water Emergency.....	0800 145 145
Power Cut	0800 3163105
Power Cut From mobile.....	0333 3232105
West Suffolk Council.....	01284 763233
Suffolk County Council.....	0345 6066067
Wickhambrook Surgery:	
Appointments.....	01440 820140
Repeat Prescriptions.....	01440 823801
Ousden Parish Council	
Clerk—Ms Joanne Kirk.....	07880 686069
ousdenparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk	
www.ousden.onesuffolk.net	
Ousden News Editor..	ousdennews@outlook.com
Church Wardens:	
Nicola Nunn.....	01638 500237
Trevor Harris	
Rev Eve Bell.....	07815 441304
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator:	
Helen Gale.....	07971 282545
Wickhambrook Stores.....	01440 820220
Garage.....	01638 500080
Bowls Club.....	01638 500438
Newspaper Deliveries.....	01440 820969
Village Hall	
Bookings.....	01638 500329
Website.....	www.ousdenvillagehall.org.uk
The Fox.....	01638 500740

Nearest Defibrillator

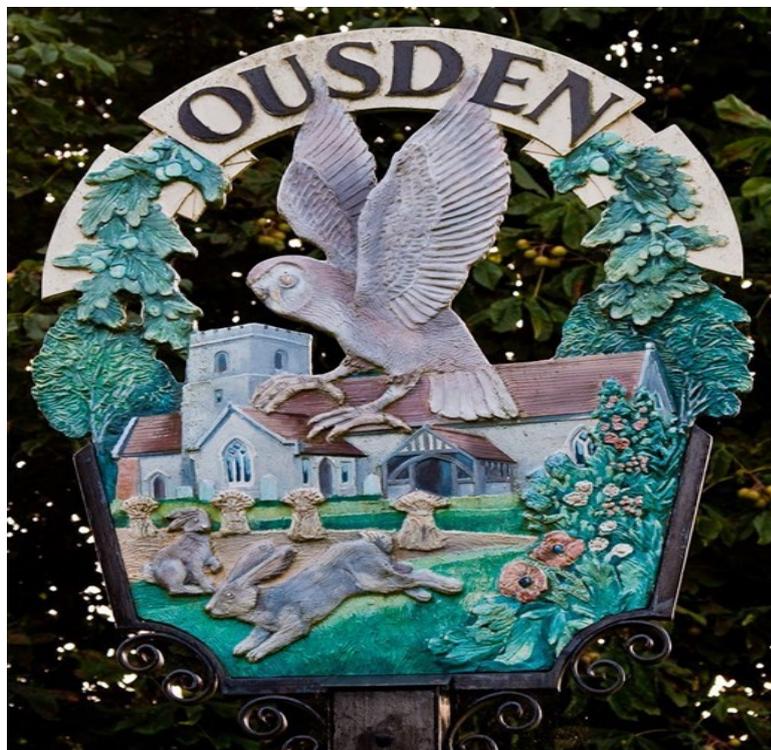
Outside The Fox Public House (Postcode: CB8 8TR / What3Words: dandelions.takers.dignify)
In an emergency, ring 999, the ambulance service will give you an access code if required.

Ousden Website !

For more information on news and events please visit:

Website: www.ousden.onesuffolk.net

Or look up Ousden Village Facebook Page



Ousden Parish Council

Speeding Problems in Ousden

As most people who live in Ousden will be aware, we do get our share of drivers who have no respect for speed limits or even other road users when they are behind the wheel.

This problem is not just a problem for Ousden but is also a national problem with tens of thousands of parishes having the same issue.

Looking back over the last 12 months since we purchased a new 'vehicle activated sign - VAS' in partnership with Hargrave Parish Council, in general approx 98% of people obey the speed limit which leaves approx 2% that don't and these are speeds in excess of 40mph. On the face of it 2% driving over 40mph may seem reasonable to some people but in fact we are clocking some drivers in the 70mph to 80mph range with the fastest being clocked at 88mph which is absolute madness and highly dangerous in the extreme with these speeds mainly occurring on Front St and Hargrave Rd.

It is worth mentioning that when approaching a lower speed limit sign you are required to be at the new speed when at the sign and not after it. Also when a speed sign shows an increase in speed you are not allowed to increase speed until you get to the sign.

Sadly our police force is not interested in acting on this data although we occasionally get a more sophisticated camera erected in the village which captures pictures of a speeding vehicle and logs details of both vehicle and driver but unfortunately this does not result in any fines or convictions.

Community Speed Watch - volunteers needed

There is a scheme called 'Community Speedwatch' where volunteers from Ousden or even other local villages register to use a speed gun to monitor our own roads periodically to help control speeding. We currently have 3 people willing to volunteer, but need at least 3 more. Training would be provided and even if you can only commit to a few hours a month, that would help. If anyone would like to be involved in such a scheme please contact any member of the Parish Council or the Clerk of the Parish Council to let us know.

The contact details are:

ousdenparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk

[Tel:07880686069](tel:07880686069)

In the meantime please let's look after our roads and our speed so we all stay safe.

John Gale
(Chairman of Ousden Parish Council)

Changes to the Winter Fuel Payment

You may have heard **Winter Fuel Payments** being discussed in the news recently. They used to be paid to everyone over State Pension age, regardless of their income. This has now changed. Only people who get **Pension Credit** will receive the one off Winter Fuel Payment this year.

And it's not just help with heating costs - getting Pension Credit opens the door to additional benefits such as help with the cost of dental work, glasses and transport to hospital; help with rent or mortgage interest; and help paying Council Tax. Not to mention a free TV Licence for those aged 75 and over.

A lot of people think if they have savings they won't be entitled, but that is not always the case. While 1.4 million households in the UK already receive Pension Credit, an estimated 880,000 people are eligible for it, but not receiving it.

If you have friends or family over State Pension age (currently 66), ask them if they have checked their eligibility. They can find out more here: www.gov.uk/pension-credit or by calling 0800 99 1234. Applications can be made online or over the phone.

West Suffolk Citizen's Advice has also sent information through about the services they provide which includes support for people of pensionable age to check if they are eligible

and make a claim for Pension Credit.

They also support people across West Suffolk by providing, free, confidential, and impartial advice on a wide range of issues, including benefits, housing, relationships and family, debt, energy, utilities, and employment.

The website address for West Suffolk Citizen's advice is <https://suffolkwestcab.org.uk/> or ring 0808 278 7868 Monday to Friday 9.30am to 3.30pm.



St. Peter's Church Carols by Candlelight

Friday 20th December

6.30pm

Followed by
mulled wine & mince pies

Village Hall Christmas Fair

We have a stall at the Village Hall Christmas Fair this year selling delicious home made cakes, cookies etc. along with gifts and goodies. We hope to see you there.

St Peter's Church Services

(10.00am - Holy Communion unless otherwise stated)

1st December	Wickhambrook
8th December	Stansfield
15th December	Lidgate
20th December	OUSDEN - Carol Service
22nd December	Denston
25th December	Wickhambrook Christmas Day
29th December	OUSDEN

Please note these are subject to change, always check the website for up to date details:
www.bansfieldbenefice.org.uk/services

WHATS ON IN OUSDEN

Dates for your Diary.....

Village Hall Christmas Fair

Sunday 1st December
2 - 5pm

Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 10th December 2024

Mobile Library

21st December

Village Hall – 10.35am-11.05am
Church - 11.10am-11.25am

The Fox

Coffee Morning

Tea, Coffee & Homemade Cakes

Thursday 5th December

-

OAP Christmas Dinner

Thursday 12th December

-

Bingo

1st 15th & 29th December

12th & 26th January

-

Christmas Quiz Night

18th December

St Peter's Church

Carols by Candlelight

Friday 20th December
6.30pm

followed by
Refreshments

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VILLAGE HALL LOTTERY

A CHANCE TO WIN & HELP FUND THE NEW VILLAGE HALL

Contact Jessamy Saltmarsh:
jessamy.saltmarsh194@btinternet.com or
01638500816 for details

You might be lucky!

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