



# Parish News

## Oaksey

### Organ Fund

Lady Apsley opened a fete at Oaksey in aid of the Church Organ Fund, and over £60 was realised. A sum of £6 was raised by unusual means. In the meadows owned by Mr Stanley Westlake, one of the churchwardens, there grows a rare wild flower known as the "fritellaria." This spring he made a small charge to the visitors who come from a wide area to gather these flowers.

**Western Daily Press Monday 15 June 1936**

The result of the fete held at Oaksey in aid of a fund to provide an organ for the parish church, was £94 5s 7d.

**Western Daily Press Saturday 11 July 1936**

### Up to Date Oaksey

One of the new "Jubilee" type of telephone kiosks, understood to be the first in the district, has recently been installed at Oaksey, near Malmesbury.

It is elaborately furnished; the appointments including a parcel rack, a mirror, an umbrella or walking stick clip---and a cigarette tray!

**Swindon and North Wilts Chronicle Wednesday 29 July 1936**

### Oaksey Concert

Oaksey Village Hall was crowded last night, when a variety concert, in aid of the Methodist Church funds, was given by Mrs H Clarke, of Minety, and her friends. Mr M Rimes, of Stratton (Cirencester) presided.

Refreshments were served by Miss Woodward, Miss Carisbrook, Mrs Rye, Mrs Waldron, Mrs Poole, Mrs Morris and Mrs Boulton. The takings amounted to between £3 and £4.

**Swindon and North Wilts Chronicle Thursday 17 December 1936**

### Coronation Plans

The cost of Coronation festivities in Oaksey are to be met by public subscription, not by a charge on the rates. A meat tea will be provided for the women and children, and afterwards the men will sit down to dinner. Sports will take place in the afternoon. Arrangements are in the hands of Messrs R Hitchings, S H Westlake (treasurer), R Hayward, Mr and Mrs Ockwell, Mrs Hitchings, Mrs Sparrow, and Miss Chamberlain.

**Western Daily Press Saturday 27 March 1937**

### **Parish Council**

Mr R Hitchings was re-elected chairman and Mr S H Westlake vice-chairman at Oaksey Parish Council meeting.

Mrs E Hislop was selected for nomination as manager of the Church of England school by the county education authority and Mr Hutchings was elected as manager of the school by the Council.

A precept for £5 was endorsed to be served on the Rural Council.

The clerk, Mr J S Buckland, was instructed to draw the attention of the surveyor of the Rural Council to several road questions.

**Western Daily Press Saturday 24 April 1937**

### **Coronation Festivities**

After the service in Oaksey Church, a cricket match, married versus single, with Mr M Todd, of The Dean, as captain of one side, was played. There was also a dinner and meat tea for the women and children.

Over £33 was collected for the festivities generally, and £7 for the sports.

**Western Daily Press Thursday 13 May 1937**

### **Parish Council**

Mr Richard Hitchings presided at Oaksey Parish Council meeting.

The clerk was instructed to write to the postmaster at Swindon asking for the park corner letter-box to be cleared on Sunday evenings, and also to call the road surveyor's attention to the condition of the road opposite the blacksmith's shop.

It was stated that ratepayers objected to having to go to Malmesbury to pay their rates, and they asked if a clerk could attend on a specific day and collect the money.

**Western Daily Press Saturday 28 August 1937**

### **Malmesbury Emergency Instructions (part of)**

The report of the Oaksey Water Committee stated that there was a plentiful supply of water in the local well, but as there was a weak supply in some parts of the village, the building surveyor had been asked to make an examination of the mains.

It was decided that Mr T Pendlebury, the Oaksey waterworks manager, should given notice to terminate his engagement on June 30 and that applications should be invited for the position. The employment is part time, and the salary is £30 annually.

**Western Daily Press Saturday 28 May 1938**

### **House Shortage at Oaksey**

The Rev T J V Williams presided at a parish meeting held at Oaksey. After some discussion, the following resolution was carried unanimously: "That this representative parish meeting strongly urges the Rural Council to provide more houses in Oaksey. There are three condemned and 26 to be reconditioned in the village, and conditions under which these people live should not be tolerated any longer. There are four applicants for bungalows and 21 for council houses."

**Western Daily Press Saturday 14 May 1938**

### **Legionaires Off**

The Cheltenham members of the British Legion force, which is leaving for Czecho-Slovakia to undertake police duty, left Cheltenham by the "Flyer" this afternoon and were joined on the way by members from other parts of the country. The Gloucester contingent includes:-  
(Amongst many others) C J Barton (Oaksey)

**Gloucester Echo Thursday 6 October 1938**

### **Letters to the Editor**

#### **Evacuees at Oaksey**

Sir – We understand that the Crudwell, Minety and Oaksey gave the children allotted them a poor reception. Oaksey parishioners would like to say the fault does not lie with them. Without exception the children and teachers included were sent into cottages. We understand that a farmhouse two minutes walk from the school had made arrangements to receive the children but was refused any. But three days later two teachers found good accommodation at the same farm. There are at least half a dozen houses in the parish. Why are none installed in any of these? Without exception the children have good homes and are very happy. May no reflection be cast on the cottagers.

Disgusted – Oaksey

**Wilts and Gloucester Standard Saturday 16 September 1939**

### **Letters to the Editor**

#### **Thanks of Evacuees**

Dear Sir – the approach of Christmas seems an appropriate time for us to express on behalf of ourselves and all the children living in Oaksey our appreciation of the extremely kind hospitality of the people of Oaksey. Although we have said very little to date we do appreciate what has been and we take the opportunity to wish all the people of Oaksey and the WVS a Happy Christmas and a more than prosperous New Year. Their task is a formidable one but the fact that no child in Oaksey would willingly return home speaks for itself.

Yours faithfully W W Clarke , L C Free, W W Pitter c/o Street Farm Oaksey.

**Wilts and Gloucester Standard Saturday 23 December 1939**

### **Centenary Celebrations**

The Rev H A Watts, rector of Oaksey, Wilts, and formerly of Bristol, gave the address at the centenary celebrations of Oaksey Methodist Chapel.

**Western Daily Press Wednesday 29 July 1942**

### **Empire Visitors in Cotswolds**

Two parties of Empire visitors for the Victory celebrations have spent a day on the Cotswolds. At the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester,.....commanding officer.

The second party of visitors were from Kenya. They were shown the typical English village of Oaksey, its life, and its mode of farming. They were entertained to lunch and tea at Woodfolds, Oaksey, the home of Mr and Mrs Jervis Huxley. The parents of Mrs Huxley farm in Kenya.

**Western Daily Press Friday 7 June 1946**

### **Oaksey Fete**

The proceeds of the garden fete at Oaksey on Saturday, which was opened by Earl Bathurst, will be shared between the Parish Church and the local football club. The fete was held at the home of Lord Oaksey.

**Gloucester Echo Monday 20 September 1948**

### **Motor Cyclist Hurt**

A motor-cyclist and his pillion passenger were injured near Kemble just after midnight on Saturday when they crashed into a wall on a bend on the Kemble-Ewen road. They were Mr J Cuff, the motor-cyclist, and Mr J M Ettles, both of Oaksey, and they were taken by ambulance to Cirencester Memorial Hospital. Only the motor-cyclist was detained. He received a bad foot injury, but his passenger after treatment for a slight head injury, was allowed to go home.

**Gloucester Echo Monday 25 October 1948**

### **Former Tenant Stays**

The decision of the Wilts Agricultural Committee that a former tenant should be allowed to remain in possession though his landlord wished to have the farm for his ex-Service son, was upheld at a Land Tribunal conducted by Sir Leonard Costello (chairman of the Land Tribunals, South-West area) at Cirencester yesterday. The landlord, Mr Walter Noah Ody, of "The Chestnuts," Kington Langley, near Chippenham, had appealed against the decision which allowed Mr Osborne-Smith to remain the tenant of Clattinger Farm, Oaksey, near Malmesbury.

**Western Daily Press Friday 26 November 1948**