



This Week At Orwell | Wednesday 28th August 2024

Hedge Cutting | Gardening Team Update

The Gardening Team would like us to share that they will be starting to cut hedges again from Monday 2nd September. You'll remember that we've been holding back from disrupting our hedgerows for a while in order to help support our wildlife. If you have any questions or need any support with your own hedgerows, please get in touch with customers services in the usual ways.

Energy Price Increases - Taking Action

On Friday it was announced that energy prices are going up by 10% of the annual charge from the 01.10.2024 and so customers may wish to explore a different tariff with their or an alternate energy provider.

If anyone feels they will struggle, they can contact their supplier to find out about any schemes or grants they offer to help with energy costs, pay off energy debt, or make energy-saving improvements to their home. You can contact them online, in writing or by phone. Details on how to do this should be on their provider's website or on their energy bills.

With the recent announced change to the 'Winter Fuel Payment' for this year and it becoming a Means Tested Benefit, it might be worth those of Pension Age or Both of Pension Age if in a couple, to consider applying for Pension Credit if they meet the eligibility criteria. As those that are in receipt of Pension Credit will then be eligible for the Winter Fuel Payment. If they need assistance or advice regarding this, they could speak with Citizen Advice in their local area who could offer support.

Anyone can use a [benefit calculator/Advice on the GOV.UK website](#), to see if they would be eligible for any Financial Support but to seek guidance if unsure of any possible affects before applying.

Summer Photo Competition ends soon! | My Orwell Voice

Time's ticking – only 4 days left to enter our summer photo contest and snag a £50 voucher! The competition close on Saturday, 31st August, with the grand reveal of the winner on Wednesday, 4th September 2024. For more info and enter today, [click here](#).