

Oakington & Westwick Journal

July 2019

Cubs Get Soggy

A Cryptographer's Story

Planning Made Plain

Bike Miles
Not Food Miles



What's On

WEEKLY

- Mon **Monday Café**, 9:30–noon. Church Hall, £1. Liz Davis – C 232 745
- Mon **Bodysculpt Pilates**, 9:30–10:30 am. Pavilion
- Mon **Senior Pilates**, 1:30–2:30 pm. Pavilion
- Mon **Brownies**. For further details please contact Anne Christie – oakingtonbrownies@gmail.com
- Mon **Good Exercise**, 7–8pm. Pavilion
- Mon **Oakington Singers**, 8–9:30pm. Rehearsal, Church Hall. Richard Hinitt – richard@organistanywhere.co.uk
- Tue **Happy Feet**, Rhythm & Rhyme, 10–11am. Church Hall. Ben Phillips – familyworker@standrewsoakington.co.uk
- Tue **Cubs**, 6–7:15pm. Pavilion, £30 per term. Jo Mowatt – cubs@oakingtonscouts.org.uk
- Tue **Table Tennis**, 7:30pm. Pavilion, £2.50. Gillian L'angellier – C 234 758
- Wed **Pilates**, 10:30–11:30am. Pavilion
- Wed **Chess Café & Games Night**, 7:30–9pm. Crossways. Ranko Pinter – ranpin@gmail.com
- Wed **Yoga**, 7:30–9pm. Pavilion
- Wed Vikings **Football Club**, 5:30–7pm (U15s) & 7–8pm (adults). Recreation Ground. James Wilson – james@selsius.co.uk
- Thu **Little Steps** Toddler group, 10–11:30am. Church Hall. Ben Phillips – familyworker@standrewsoakington.co.uk
- Thu **Short Mat Bowls**, 7:30–10pm. Pavilion, £4 per week/reduced for members. Dawn Stokes – C 236 427
- Thu **Ten Sing**, 7–9pm. Histon Baptist Church, £45 per year. Theresa King – jking47@aol.com
- Fri **Over 55s Fitness**, 10–11:30am. Pavilion. £4.50/£3.50 concessions. Simon – C 236 945
- Fri **Beavers** followed by **Scouts**. £30 per term. For more information contact Lou Ellis – lou.ellis@oakingtonscouts.org.uk
- Sat **Yoga**, 10–11:30 am. Pavilion

JULY

- Mon 15 July **Neighbourhood Watch** meeting, 6:30–7:30pm. Crossways. Jillian Wilkinson – oakwestnhw@gmail.com
- Mon 15 July **Italian** introductory class (language & food), 7:30–9pm (or 8–9:30 tbc). Crossways. crossways.ca@gmail.com
- Tue 16 July **Community Association** meeting, 7:30pm. Pavilion. oakington.westwick.ca@gmail.com
- Tue 16 July **Board Games Night**, 7:30–9:30pm. Crossways. Scrabble & other board games. alice3000@mail.ru
- Thu 18 July **Local Transport Plan** consultation, 3–7:30pm, Cottenham Community Centre Coffee Shop.
- Thu 18 July **Bring & Share Meal**, 6–8pm. Crossways. crossways.ca@gmail.com
- Fri 19 July **Soirée**, 7:30pm. Vicarage Lawn. All welcome, free entry. John Peters
- Fri 19 July **Country Dancing**, 8–10pm. Histon Methodist Church Hall. £1.50/50p. Kathryn Coles – C 233 191
- Thu 25 July **Mobile Library**, 2:30–2:55 pm. Coles Lane
- Thu 25 July **Eco-Worriers**, 7:30pm. Crossways. Gerry Cavander – gedcavander@hotmail.co.uk

AUGUST

- Thu 8 Aug **Biography Book Club**, 7:30–9pm. Crossways. Gerry Cavander – gedcavander@hotmail.co.uk
- Tue 13 Aug **Tuesday Talk & Tea**, 2:45pm. Church Hall. Games, quiz and social afternoon. Joan Pettit
- Thu 22 Aug **Mobile Library**, 2:30–2:55 pm. Coles Lane
- Thu 22 Aug **Eco-Worriers**, 7:30pm. Crossways. Gerry Cavander – gedcavander@hotmail.co.uk

SEPTEMBER

- Sun 1 Sep **Lakeside Jazz and Tea**, 3–5pm. 9, Longstanton Road. OWN – OWNeighbours@gmail.com / 07902 111786
- Tue 3 Sep **Copy deadline** for the Journal. oakwestjournal@gmail.com
- Mon 9 Sep **O&W Parish Council**, 7:30pm. Pavilion. All invited. Clerk: Laura Lawrence – oakingtonpc@btinternet.com
- Tue 10 Sep **Tuesday Talk & Tea**, 2:45pm. Church Hall. Speaker from Age UK, & AGM. Joan Pettit
- Tue 10 Sep **Fireworks Night planning** meeting, 8pm. Crossways. oakington.westwick.ca@gmail.com
- Thu 12 Sep **O&W WI**, 7:30pm. Church Hall. Local history talk by Mike Petty. Helen Williams – C 232 614
- Thu 12 Sep **Biography Book Club**, 7:30–9pm. Crossways. Gerry Cavander – gedcavander@hotmail.co.uk

Bin days



Thu 25 Jul, Thu 8 Aug,
Thu 22 Aug, Thu 5 Sep



Thu 18 Jul, Thu 1 Aug,
Thu 15 Aug, **Fri** 30 Aug,
Thu 12 Sep

*Thank you to Charlotte Lumley
for putting together the
montage of the Village Day.*

Parties and Pollution

This edition comes with not one but two bonus extras!

Look back on a baking hot Village Day with our souvenir pull-out. Thank you to all who worked so hard to put on a brilliant event. People's comments - "a very happy atmosphere" - "Oakington has such an active life" - reveal that the Village Day shows off what's best about living in Oakington and Westwick.

We have photo reports of other social and fundraising events too - community get-togethers seem to be a theme of this issue. But if there's another thread, it's surely that of an

increasingly urgent sense of concern about the environment, reflected in several of our articles.

The other "extra" is an information leaflet about the Parish Council's 'Open Spaces' project. The team are hoping for lots of feedback from residents as they prepare to transform the Recreation Ground.

Lots of holiday reading, then ... and for those staying home there's plenty going on. Have a good summer!

Jenny Prince

Editors: Jenny Prince & Irène Butlin



Neighbourhood Watch

Oakington and Westwick Neighbourhood Watch is being revived! We are currently inviting people to add their names to an email group list, to be sent occasional notifications about things to look out for around the villages, and for the regular newsletter from the Community Police Officer.

If you have already been a part of this scheme please let me know if you are willing to continue, and tell me your experiences.

We are also looking for volunteers to be street co-ordinators, to keep an eye on activities in your familiar areas: anything untoward can be sent on to the lead co-ordinator or direct to the police.

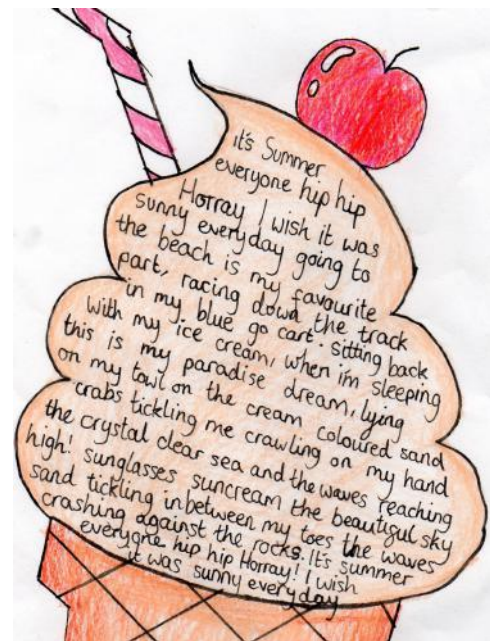
There will be a **meeting at Crossways on Monday 15 July**, 6.30 – 7.30 pm, to discuss Neighbourhood Watch, following a daytime meeting the previous week.

Keep an eye on the Facebook group OakyFolk for neighbours' alerts.

Contact lead co-ordinator Jillian Wilkinson on oakwestnhw@gmail.com or 01223 233585.

(I am a retired librarian, have lived in Oakington for nearly 20 years, first in Mill Road and recently in Coles Lane.)

Jillian Wilkinson



Village Day poem by Nel, Year 5,
Oakington C of E Primary School

Oakington & Westwick Journal

Published on behalf of the Oakington & Westwick Community Association, to inform residents of events, activities and issues in the parish. Delivered free to all residents and funded by advertising, the Parish Council and the Community Association.

Journal Team: Jenny Prince & Irène Butlin (editors), Jane Goodyer (distribution manager), Geoffrey Butlin (adviser), Ranko Pinter (chair), Jenny Broadway (advertising)

Send contributions to
oakwestjournal@gmail.com

or phone: 233510 (Jenny) or 234383 (Irène)

DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER ISSUE:
Tuesday 3 September

(DEADLINE FOR ADVERTS: **Tuesday 27 August**)

Delivered week beginning Saturday 14 September
covering period up to 16 November



Relaunch meeting for O&W Neighbourhood Watch on 14th June.
PCSO Bujar Mani is on the right.

Community Association Update

There are separate reports on the Village Day and Crossways, so we would just like to say a Big Thank You to everyone who helped make the Village Day successful again, and everyone who is helping to run Crossways.

Six people from the village kindly volunteered to help marshal the Flaming June Half Marathon on 2 June. We were not able to find quite as many people as last year, so the donation in return for our help may be a bit less. The race was a smooth operation, just like last year.

Some people in the village have asked for a deeper understanding of our finances. We hope we can start to answer that in this update.

In February 2017, the Village Journal was breaking even with its costs covered by its advertising income, but the Association had no reserves after gradually losing money over the previous couple of years. The very poor weather for the Village Day in 2016 was a significant factor.

Over the last two years, we have focussed on running self-funding activities and sought to create 'reserves' that will cover our losses if we have a year when there is bad weather for the Village Day and Bonfire Night.

Here is a summary of the income and expenditure for 2018:

	Income	Expenditure	Net Income
Journal	£2,689	£3003	-£314
Village Day	£2878	£678	£2,200
Bonfire Night	£2,165	£1,604	£561
Spring Market	£721	£518	£203
Carols/Christmas Tree	£236		£236
Membership	£143		£143
Insurance		£1073	-£1073
Miscellaneous	£291	£361	-£70
Total	£9,123	£7,237	£1,886

These figures include Parish Council grants towards the Journal, Village Day and the Christmas Tree.

As always, if you have any queries please contact one of us.

We have started to plan the Bonfire and Fireworks Night, and will be holding our first planning session on **Tuesday 10 September at 8pm** at Crossways. Do join us if you'd like to help.

Jo Mills – C 233244

*Committee: Jo Mills, Roger Duthie, Adrienne Chaplin, Celine Pinter and Arthur Sillett
oakington.westwick.ca@gmail.com*



Crossways

Crossways opened last month with a sprinkle of activities including the famous Chess Café on Wednesday evenings, a popular Board Games night, an Eco-Worrier discussion group, a Jigsaw puzzle afternoon and a Biography book club. The calendar for July, which includes a bring & share meal, is posted on the window of Crossways House and on the village notice boards. (And see diary on page 2.) We'd love to have more volunteer hosts for just serving coffee and teas and for people to come forward with ideas and initiatives – the rooms are free for activities which are open to the whole community and can be hired for a small charge for private parties or small businesses. Do drop by and let yourself be inspired! For more information e-mail Adrienne at crossways.ca@gmail.com.

*Adrienne Chaplin on behalf of Crossways Team
(a group of the Community Association)*

Eco Worriers first meeting in Oakington

Worried about the world for your grandchildren? Is the planet doomed, really? What are the facts? Do you know? Have you read the IPCC report? What can we do nationally / locally? Do you have ideas? Would you like to meet others who are also interested in this area and discuss, explore and maybe do some things locally?



We had a first meeting of eight residents on the last Thursday in June and covered topics from electric cars to electing green governments to growing cabbages locally ... Representatives from the local Environment Action group, the Parish Council and the Journal were included in the attendees, so it's also an opportunity to hear from and influence those groups on green matters.

The first gathering was notable by a lot of agreement and the lack of any young people (anyone under 30). Not related surely. So it would be good to see anyone from the younger generation at the next meeting as well as any more older people interested in this subject area. And if you are a sceptic on the green/environmental issue, we would also like to hear from and discuss things with you. Eco Warriors also welcome: who knows, we may get to action at some point. Great things start from great ideas and discussion helps generate ideas that work. Bring a bottle or cakes if you like.

Next Eco Worriers meeting: Crossways, **Thursday 25th July, 7.30 pm** (fourth Thursday of each month thereafter).

Gerry Cavander – gedcavander@hotmail.co.uk

Village Day Thanks

Thank you all who helped with and supported the Village Day. You guys make the day what it is and we have bigger plans for next year! 4 July 2020!

Ben Philips, Chair, Village Day Committee

From the Police



Police Sergeant Emma Hilson and I dealt with an incident in Oakington where an **unauthorised encampment** in a private lane had threatened the bailiffs with violence. One male was detained and dealt with accordingly. Following the threats made against the bailiffs, Police then issued this encampment with a section 61 notice. The encampment left Oakington.

On 14 June, I organised and attended a **Neighbourhood Watch meeting** in Oakington and Westwick. It was a good outcome from this meeting as six new members joined the scheme.

In order to identify trends and patterns of behaviour please pass information to us via:

- Telephone call 101 (textphone 18001 101)
- Online at www.cambs.police.uk/report

For anonymous reporting please contact crime stoppers:

- Telephone 0800 555 111
- Online at crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information

For concerns regarding a matter already reported by phone or online, please email direct to **southcambscops@cambs.pnn.police.uk** with the name of your village in the title bar and the crime / incident reference number you were given.

*PCSO Mani 7009
South Cambs Prevention and Partnership Team*

Adverts removed from online version

Planning

The Parish Council plays an active part in all local planning issues. It is probably the area of the Council's role that is best known to the community and which can be of the most importance.

The Council has a right to view planning applications affecting their area and to express their views to our Local Planning Authority (LPA), South Cambridgeshire District Council. The Council's view is sought as often there will be local, specific information which should have a bearing on any decision made and which may not be immediately obvious to the Planning Officers.

The Council's role is to try to view all applications objectively and either support or object for reasons explicitly stated in the LPA Planning Policies. Applications are discussed at Parish Council or Planning meetings and recommendations are made.

However, although the Council will make its opinion known to the LPA, that is all it is - a RECOMMENDATION. It is not binding on whoever is making the final decision.

In considering a planning application, the LPA has a statutory duty to have regard to the provisions of the Local Plan and any other "material considerations". The most common material considerations include:

- Overlooking/loss of privacy
- Loss of light or overshadowing
- Overbearing nature of property
- Parking
- Highway safety
- Traffic
- Noise
- Risk of flooding
- Effect on listed building and conservation area
- Archaeology
- Loss of trees
- Layout and density of building
- Design, appearance and materials
- Disabled persons' access

However, issues such as loss of view, or negative effect on the value of properties are not material considerations.

All Full Council and Planning meetings are open to the public and residents are most welcome to address the Parish Council on any planning applications to be discussed during the 'Public Open Forum' at the start of the meeting. Agendas can be found on village notice boards and on our website:

www.oakingtonandwestwick-pc.org.uk



Laura Lawrence, Clerk

Adverts removed from online version

Parish Councillors

Chair: Stephen Moore

Vice-Chair: Tony Starling

John Bailey

Jenny Broadway

Geoffrey Butlin

Julie Grove

Luis Navarro

Ranko Pinter

Lis Warboys

Email address for all councillors

oakingtonpc@btinternet.com

Parish Website

www.oakingtonandwestwick-pc.org.uk

**Correspondence to the Council
should be addressed to the Clerk:**

Mrs Laura Lawrence

Email: oakingtonpc@btinternet.com

Post: 4 Meadow Farm Close

Oakington CB24 3AS

Phone: 01223 232398

District Councillors

Sarah Cheung Johnson – 01954 489089

cllr.cheungjohnson@scambs.gov.uk

Alex Malyon – 01954 202859

cllr.malyon@scambs.gov.uk

Monthly newsletter:

www.sclibdems.org.uk/email_signup/longstanton

News and updates:

www.sclibdems.org.uk/longstanton/news

Facebook group:

www.facebook.com/groups/2066298150052161/

County Councillor

Oakington, Westwick, Longstanton,
Northstowe & Over

Peter Hudson – 07518 417432

peter.hudson@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Pavilion Booking Administrator

Tony Leadley – 07936 024587

oakingtonpavilion@gmail.com

From our Parish Council chair

The weather has certainly been pretty strange over the last month or so, with extremes of rain and heat. The Village Day (a great success!) was just too hot and that followed a good week or so of solid rain. It does turn my mind to environmental matters. For many villagers, a short period of intense, or a longer period of constant rain, causes them real worry. This village is faced by the threat of flooding in these circumstances and we all know that the consequences for residents can be awful.

It was for this reason that the Parish Council placed **flood issues at the top of its list** of priorities in its three year plan and we are demanding significant flood attenuation works for Oakington and Westwick be included in the Northstowe development plans. Talking of environmental issues and the Parish Council three-year plan, we have agreed to include a 'green plan' as a part of our longer term strategy. Our initial action is to explore placing solar panels on the roof of the Sports Pavilion and a decision on this, in principle, will be taken at the July meeting. We are also in contact with our District and County Councillors to see what help they can offer us in making the village a greener and more sustainable place to live. Cllr Luis Navarro is taking the lead on this, so please contact him with suggestions at oakingtonpc@btinternet.com.

We are also taking a look at the Recreation Ground. It is a lovely, large piece of land, but are we using it to the full? The Parish Council, under the leadership of Cllr Geoffrey Butlin is developing a wonderful **plan for 'the rec'**, which would see a path through and around it, with a number of 'islands' along the path with benches, bushes and trees. The front of the Pavilion would also become a more welcoming area with places to sit and relax. Of course, this costs money – lots of money! Please contact Geoffrey for more information/offers of help at oakingtonpc@btinternet.com.

The second priority in the PC's plan regards **traffic in the village**. Cllr Tony Starling has submitted a bid to an A14 Highways Fund for quite significant traffic calming measures for the village. Fingers crossed!

Finally, thanks to all those involved in organising the Village Day – it was brilliant! And thank you too to everyone who came to the Parish Council stall to meet us.

Dr Stephen Moore - oakingtonchairman@gmail.com



Village Store Awareness Month



For those on Facebook it is worth having a look at the Oaky Folk page this month which is full of tributes to our amazing local village store, spearheaded by the Community Association. We felt it was worth reminding everyone of all the fantastic goods we can get there. People have been posting pictures of their shopping with a sentence starting

"I LOVE OUR VILLAGE STORE BECAUSE ..."

There's no doubt we'd all be completely lost without this amazing facility. If you're not on Facebook, you can join in by dropping off your messages of thanks and support starting with the same headline, at *Crossways House* on the Crossroads and we'll make up a large homemade card to give to Raj and Kanwal at the end of the month. (Sorry for the spoiler Raj and Kanwal, but there was no way around this.)

Adrienne Chaplin on behalf of the Oakington & Westwick CA

From our District Councillors

Firstly, we would like to say how much we enjoyed Oakington **Village Day** and add our congratulations to the organisers for organising such a great event. Thanks to those who came to speak to us with their questions, concerns, feedback and thanks - it's always great to hear directly from residents.

We wanted to give some **Northstowe updates**. For the Southern Access Road East, Homes England are currently negotiating with landowners. Offers have been made to landowners, but no information is available on the exact route for the road while negotiations continue.

On Oakington flooding concerns, plans for Phase 3 are to monitor and control natural flows during periods of high rainfall and hold back discharge for a period to allow water levels to reduce in the area. This is now naturally occurring without the ability to hold back flow. Improvements will also be made to existing culverts. We were told that there will be no increase in greenfield run off rates. Overall Homes England say that Oakington should see an improvement not a degradation to its current situation.

Funds for Oakington flood attenuation work are connected with S106 for Phase 2 of Northstowe, so there is a commitment to these being delivered. However, further funds may need to be secured. Phase 3 may offer an opportunity to improve attenuation measures. We are discussing this with Homes England.

We raised issues of the green separation on the edge of Northstowe Phase 3. Some of the land bordering Oakington is privately owned and therefore not part of designated green separation. Unfortunately, there can be no guarantee that the landowner would not bring forward plans for this land.

We now have a lead planning officer for Northstowe Phase 3 and Homes England are on track to deliver a planning application for Phase 3 by late summer.

Urban Splash have been selected as developers for Phase 2a to build 406 highly sustainable, modular homes – we think these plans are very interesting and we do urge you to take a look at them: www.northstowe.com/cfmay19

Stagecoach have launched a **Busway** public consultation. Register your views on services and improvements needed here: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/cambridgeshirebusway

The Mayor and the Combined Authority have completed a **transport study** and invite comments – we would also encourage you to look at their plans for the region and share your views via: <https://bit.ly/2JeHwIN>

Lastly, the District Council have announced a new **Zero Carbon Communities** grant scheme. It will provide funds for local groups to spend on ambitious activities that reduce carbon emissions and reliance on fossil fuels. More details on this should be available soon.



Alex Malyon &
Sarah Cheung Johnson

From our County Councillor

New Model for Libraries

The proposed '**Cambridgeshire Model**' project offers an unique opportunity for the County Council to lead the way in re-imagining the UK's 3,000 libraries as the sustainable platform for delivering a much wider range of public services and doing so in wholly new ways that improve the life chances and opportunities for all our residents.

The 54 libraries across Cambridgeshire span the diversity of some of the most deprived rural communities in the country, the vibrancy and opportunity offered through our major urban centres and market towns, through to the 40,000 new homes planned in brand new towns. This unique network of physical spaces across a huge breadth of community settings, coupled with the County Council's ambition to ensure our libraries are at the heart of the community, is an ideal testbed for new ideas and for developing blueprints for libraries that are replicable and scalable across the UK and beyond.

The proposed process is to develop five models of 'Libraries of the Future' that reflect the diversity of communities and contexts around the UK. The idea is that each library will be a close fit to one of the models, making it simple and cost-effective to replicate across the region.

To carry out this work, it is proposed to pilot these models in seven libraries to begin with, **including the new build at Northstowe**. Ideas and solutions will be designed, tested and refined in partnership with communities before being rolled-out, if successful, to all Cambridgeshire libraries over the next three years of the project.

County Council funded Health Checks

Free health checks are being offered to residents aged 40-74 years to help detect health issues early. The 20-30 minute checks, funded through the County Council's Public Health budget, will include monitoring blood pressure, weight, cholesterol and lifestyle factors that influence health. By booking a check at your doctor's you can find out how likely you are to get heart or kidney disease, diabetes or have a stroke in the future, and if the likelihood is high, advice on how to reduce this. Those aged over 65 are also told about the signs and symptoms of dementia.

This is a great opportunity to find out early if you are at risk of a stroke, diabetes, a heart attack, or many other life threatening conditions.

Peter Hudson



Bucket and spade at the ready to dig
Eating ice cream in the sun's beam
Away in the waves exploring the caves
Cheering like mad like a good lad
Heat reaching your skin. Summer's for the win.

Village Day poem by James, Year 4,
Oakington C of E Primary School

Charity events

During May several Oakington residents opened up their homes for charity.

A huge 'well done' to those who organised the fundraisers! Also thank you to all who enjoyed themselves while contributing to worthy causes.

Editors

Christian Aid



Jenny Broadway invited friends round for breakfast, raising nearly **£200**.

Christian Aid work to support sustainable development, stop poverty and provide disaster relief throughout much of the world.



Refugees in Greece

Charlotte Jordan raised a whopping **£2,500** by putting on a Concert and Garden Party in aid of refugees in the Pikpa Camp on the Greek island of Lesbos.



The Pikpa Camp is open to the most vulnerable refugees, those who have lost their families through shipwreck, diabetes or serious mental illness. In 2016 *half a million* refugees landed on this island with a population of only 85,000! Still 100-150 people arrive every month.

The camp has 20 wooden chalets, each with a cooker and fridge. Food is distributed three times a week and a chef cooks a communal meal once a day. There is access to a social worker, a psychologist and a lawyer plus English classes. Charlotte went personally to the camp with the funds raised.



Cancer Research

Becky, Lella & Liz would like to thank all those who contributed in any way to the success of the Coffee Morning in aid of Cancer Research on May 17th.

They had a lot of fun (and cake!) and raised an amazing £700.



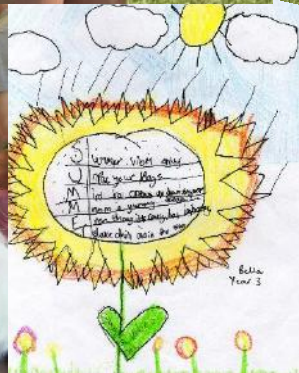
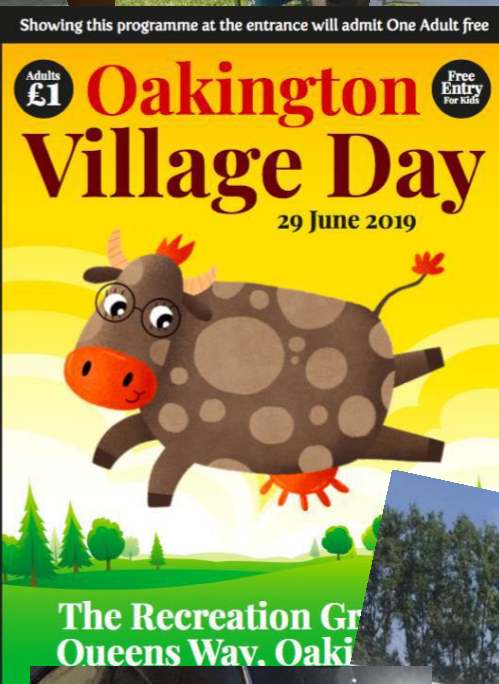
Welcome a New Neighbour

If somebody has moved in near you, take them a village 'Welcome' leaflet to help them feel at home. This has a map of the villages and some key information for new residents.

It's a good excuse to knock on the door and say hello.

Contact: Bruce Sutherland - brucessutherland@aol.com - 01223 236665











Pat Few

More or less straight from school, in 1939 Patricia Wahltuch found herself signing up to join the WAAF (Women's Auxiliary Air Force). Little did she know what adventures awaited her!

Pat was used to discipline and order, having attended a boarding school from the age of five. She was born in Wilmslow, Cheshire, the third of four daughters. Her father was in banking, but better known as a champion chess player.

The RAF soon discovered that young Pat had an aptitude for cyphering, putting messages into secret writing. This was of course a particularly useful skill during wartime. "It was easy," Pat says modestly. It may have been to her, but Flight Officer Wahltuch was posted to a number of RAF stations abroad because of this ability. When sent to Newfoundland she crossed the Atlantic in a riverboat from West Africa, zigzagging to dodge the German U-boats. After Canada, Nassau in the Bahamas was a lovely location, but the service plane taking her only had on-board facilities for men. She quickly learnt to adjust her food and drink intake ahead of such flights! With times in England increasingly austere, she remembers sending home silk stockings from San Diego, California, where she was stationed when the war ended in Europe, but still raging with Japan.

Once back home, a sister introduced her to one Selwyn Few and Pat went on to marry him in 1946. Selwyn was a barrister and worked for the Colonial Service. They spent 15 years in Uganda, where their three children were born. Having servants was a norm out there, so Pat had time to work, and got a job at the airport in Entebbe. If a passenger looked down on her for working, she'd quietly allocate him a 'bad' seat on the plane, generally near any children. She still enjoyed cooking at home, and a recipe for 'Bujanjala', a local bean dish, continues to be a family favourite. Pat recalls how at dinners the guests always sat in hierarchical order. When entertaining, she would record in a book who the guests were, the menu and what she wore!

She had a varied and interesting life out there and enjoyed opportunities like safari trips 'up country'. As they had no need for more sun, they would take their main holiday in the UK in winter so they could go skiing. The family would



drive all the way from England to Ischgl or the Dolomites, one year in a car without heating! This was in the 1950s. They had bought the car to be shipped to Africa, but first endured the cold journey in it to the ski slopes! After Uganda, Selwyn served as Attorney General in The Gambia for three years. They made close, life long friends from all over the world during their time in Africa.

In 1965 Pat and Selwyn settled in Oakington House in Coles Lane. Selwyn worked in London, the children were at college, and life became very different from what Pat had been used to. However, never one to be idle, she readily accepted an invitation to help resurrect

the Over-60s. Pat formed a committee which she went on to chair for over 20 years. The first meeting, with 45 members, was held at her home. They continued to meet there monthly for some time, one memorable occasion being a visit from a chiropodist who treated members' feet in the kitchen! Later the headmaster offered the club the use of the school hall.

'Meals on Wheels' was another activity Pat was involved in, once serving chocolate sauce with the main course instead of the gravy! She was also a regular "trolley dolly" at Papworth Hospital for many years.

Pat has a keen sense of wit and 'self preservation'. Once on driving home she scraped the side of the car when turning a corner by the house. She knew Selwyn would be angry, so said nothing. The following day Selwyn used the car and later came sheepishly into the house confessing that on turning that corner, he had scraped the car. Pat still said nothing!

Pat has enjoyed good health most of her remarkable life and at 99 she is now Oakington's oldest resident.

Irène Butlin

To advertise in the Journal, please email
oakwestjournal@gmail.com

Adverts	For 1 year	One-off
Business Card	£66	£15
¼ page (portrait)	£99	£25
½ page (landscape)	£198	£45

LAKESIDE JAZZ & TEA



Enjoy tea and cakes with **live music** and garden games beside a beautiful lake in Oakington

Sunday 1 September 2019, 3.00 – 5.00pm

In aid of OWN (Oakington and Westwick Neighbours)

Music from Black Coffee Jazz, and Oktet Wind Group

£5 for adults; £1 for children up to 12

Venue: The lake at 9 Longstanton Road, Oakington

Transport Action Group

How clean is the air in our Villages?

Water Lane is a busy and dangerous place to be, especially during the morning “rush hour” with many idling vehicles dropping children off for school and through traffic, mostly making its way from Cottenham towards the A14. There are a mix of vehicles ranging from motorcycles and cars up to large vans, heavy “muck away” lorries and bulk liquid tankers. All these vehicles are travelling along a



narrow unclassified road with narrow footpaths for pedestrians to risk walking along. Cyclists too travel at their peril. All this adds up to dangerous and potentially polluted stretch of what is, effectively, a country lane.

It is really difficult to know how to deal with this problem which is occurring all over the country. Much concern has been expressed about the pollution that is occurring around schools. So it is good to know that the local councils are planning to address the problem. TAG are looking into the possibility of purchasing an Air Quality Monitor with the aim of finding out how polluted our local roads are with particular concern along Water Lane, especially near the school.

At the Village Day TAG ran a questionnaire about “**Active Travel**” – walking or cycling (including electric bikes). We are trying to find out people’s real experiences, good and bad, about walking or cycling in and round the villages. We plan to publish the results in the next edition of the Journal.

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authorities are holding a “have your say” opportunity on their draft **Local Transport Plan** (LTP). The nearest event to us will be in Cottenham, Thursday 18 July, 3 – 7.30pm, Cottenham Community Centre Coffee Shop.

You can make your views known on “new rail stations at Soham and Cambridge South, a new rail link to Wisbech, a dualled A47 and A10, a third crossing over the River Great Ouse, and new possibilities for reform of the bus network, including through franchising, [which] are among our priority projects. The latest business case work on the Cambridgeshire Autonomous Metro has found it is needed, is deliverable, and offers a compelling economic case, where up to £4 in economic benefits will be returned for every £1 invested.”

Stagecoach have announced that they are “making it our mission to transform the bus experience for our customers and make bus a viable first choice for everyone in the area” and are asking for your views on the guided bus service. The online survey runs until 21 July:

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/cambridgeshirebusway

To get involved or for any more detail on the above and other aspects of TAG activity, please get in touch.

Jim Bryant. Chair: Transport Action Group
owcp.tag@gmail.com – 07807184691



Environment Action Group

Did you know that atmospheric carbon dioxide levels have been below 300 ppm (parts per million) for at least the last 800,000 years prior to 1950, but since then have shot up by a third to over 400 ppm?¹ Or that the world’s oceans are now 30% more acidic than before the industrial revolution?² Or that a cheeseburger has a carbon footprint over 30 times higher than a banana?³ These were some of the statistics included in our **Climate Change** display at the Village Day, which drew a lot of interest and discussion from people wanting to see how we as individuals and as a community can play our part in tackling this global crisis. See John Terry’s article for more on this!

Also on display at the Village Day was the work of our **Flood Mitigation Group** which, led by Andrew Dennis, continues to put pressure on the Northstowe developers to provide the promised flood storage ponds and to ensure that water run-off from Northstowe phase 3a does not increase the amounts of water that drain towards Oakington. We have received a lot of promises but are yet to see much tangible progress; we continue to press for the promises to be fulfilled.

At the Village Day you may also have seen the display on our **Open Spaces** project, a joint project with the Parish Council (PC) championed by Geoffrey Butlin. The PC has commissioned a designer to do some preliminary work, and some of the designs were included in the Village Day display, together with samples of possible materials that could be used to provide a safe surface underneath fitness trail items. (Read more in the leaflet delivered with this Journal, and give your views on the proposals.)

Meanwhile, work goes on to help keep our villages safe and attractive. The 20 flower tubs in our **Oakington and Westwick in Bloom** project were restocked with summer plants in May, and are already looking stunning. We are very grateful to the volunteers who water and care for these tubs,



as well as to the PC for funding the restocking. We have also been monitoring blocked drains in the village, and engaging in discussions with our district councillors Alex Malyon and Sarah Cheung-Johnson on

how we can dovetail our footpath cleaning work with South Cambridgeshire District Council’s street sweeping in order to produce better results.

Stephanie Smith

1 & 2: Source: NASA.

3: Mike Berners-Lee, “How Bad Are Bananas?”

NOTICE – Summer Cycle Path Closure

The busway and cycle path alongside it is closed between Impington and the Regional College from late July to mid September.





OWN has been having a busy summer this year. At a Safeguarding training evening

on 22 May, two speakers, one from Age UK and a nurse who manages a care home, gave us the benefit of their experience and raised a number of key issues such as the importance of helping people to remain independent for as long as possible.

Another successful Big Lunch shared picnic took place on the Rec by the Pavilion on Sunday 9 June (see back page for pictures) and OWN had a presence at the Village Day on Saturday 29 June. The weather on both occasions was beautifully sunny, although Village Day was just a little too hot! On Village Day OWN created a Puzzle Dip for children (and adults) to highlight the various ways in which OWN helps make life better for local people. Some of our visitors also had positive suggestions for how OWN can help in other ways. We have volunteers ready and willing to help, whether it's to provide a few meals for someone just home



from hospital, helping with local or online shopping, reading aloud or simply popping in for a cup of tea and a chat, so do get in touch if you, or someone you know, needs a bit of support. In the words of a well-known supermarket "Every Little Helps"!



Our next event is the enjoyable and popular **Lakeside Jazz and Tea** on Sunday 1st September, 3 – 5pm. Come along to 9, Longstanton Road to enjoy tea and cake, as well as live music and garden games by the beautiful lake. Watch out for the posters and check our Facebook

page.

To get in touch with Oakington and Westwick Neighbours call: 07902 111786 or email OWNeighbours@gmail.com. If you need transport to an appointment, or for another reason, contact our partners Cottenham Carecar by calling 01954 251929, or emailing carecar@pobroadband.co.uk.

Jo Bryant

Climate Change and Village Day

Shimmering heat and 30° C on Village Day doesn't prove we are definitely experiencing climate change but it did provide an appropriate backcloth to talk about the subject. Lots of visitors to the Environment Action Group (EAG) displays revealed their concerns about our burning of fossil fuels, the recent dramatic increase of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere and the resulting increase in the planet's temperature. They were clearly worried about the future we are offering our children and grandchildren. Many people promised to look online to check out their own carbon footprint on the 'WWF Carbon Footprint Calculator' and to see if they could modify their behaviour to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Some plan to send their results to the EAG.

For a more instant response, we asked visitors to choose options of behaviour they are carrying out now or willing to try to reduce their carbon footprints. Surprisingly, the option to buy clothes and home equipment less often, was the most popular, alongside buying local produce and less processed food and saying no to plastic (which has a high carbon footprint). No surprise there.

Switching off appliances when not in use, home insulation and growing some of our own food was next popular. We had a big decision to make for a lady who had a small garden with a fig tree bearing a single fig. Should we count this as growing her own food? We decided yes, a reward for effort and honesty.



Melting glacier

Composting garden waste was next choice, followed by walking or biking for local journeys, using public transport and reducing meat and dairy consumption (animals are less efficient converters when making protein and can emit methane, another important greenhouse gas which also contains carbon.)

The option of growing more trees in their gardens proved difficult for almost everyone, suggesting that this has to be a community approach. Trees are valuable at keeping us cool during heat waves as well as slowing down flood waters. As you probably know, both these events are more likely with climate change. The least popular option recorded was

reducing air journeys.

Understandable, but given the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) Report underlining that we only have 12 years to avert a disaster, we will all have to consider a change of behaviour here. The development of electric planes can't come soon enough. It's also encouraging to learn that our district council are trialling an electric refuse collection vehicle.

Our climate change posters, and our carbon footprint puzzle designed by Stephanie Smith, won many plaudits including those from a member of a church in Cambridge, who wants to borrow them for a church eco-event.

John Terry (co-chair of the EAG)
johnterry23@hotmail.co.uk

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts



Scouts

This was 1st Oakington's first Group camp and we had 21 beavers, 24 cubs, 3 scouts and 9 leaders. We stayed at Thriftwood Scout Camp in Brentwood.

Although the weather wasn't our friend we had a great time. Everyone enjoyed themselves taking part in lots of activities like kayaking, raft building, climbing and many more.

They all earned lots of badges on the camp including Overnight Stay and Time on the Water.



The beavers have just been on another camp, Beavers in Tents. The cubs will be going on camp again in September, this time to Hallowtree's in Ipswich.

Please get in contact if you would like your child to join the fun. For the first time in years cubs has a waiting list so please get your child's name down.

Jo Mowatt

Emma Stanard (beavers) – Beavers@oakington.org.uk
Jo Mowatt (cubs) – Cubs@oakingtonscouts.org.uk
Cara Hanman (scouts) – Scouts@oakingtonscouts.org.

Brownies

Brownies introduces girls to a world of new opportunities, challenges and fun.

Girls go along to camps and day trips. They get together with their friends at regular meetings where they learn new hobbies, get creative, explore other cultures and have outdoor adventures.

As well as trying activities in their meetings, girls choose from interest badges related to things they want to know more about.

If your daughter is seven and interested in joining Brownies, or if you would be interested in volunteering with Brownies, please contact Anne Christie at oakingtonbrownies@gmail.com.

You can also register your daughter at www.girlguiding.org.uk.

Brownies

Anne Christie

Humpty Dumpty's Wall

Congratulations for the second year running to Laura Peat, Sophie Symonds and the rest of the team at Humpty Dumpty Pre-School for being recognised as **one of the top twenty** recommended nurseries in the East of England, awarded by Day Nurseries. This is a fantastic achievement and recognition of the outstanding childcare that the Pre-school provides in the village.

The staff at the Pre-school are continually developing and updating their early years training; Laura has just completed further child protection training and Gemma Corcoran has just completed training to be the designated Equalities Named Coordinator. The Pre-school is also working closely with Cambridgeshire NHS to be the first pre-school to pilot a "Look After Your Teeth" campaign. The children have



been given toothbrushes and will be learning all about how they can keep their teeth strong and healthy! They are also looking forward to their annual summer trip this July.

Many of the children will be moving up to

Oakington Primary this autumn. Laura and the staff would like to wish the children and their families all the very best and to thank them for their support. They will be missed!

For September there are still some **places available**; do get in touch with Laura or Sophie to fill in a registration form and to see what availability the Pre-school has. Places are filling up fast!

This is my last column as I will be stepping down from the committee after almost three years. I am passing the baton to Sarah Stokes who will keep the village informed of all that is happening at our wonderful Pre-school.

Jessica Summers

Country Dance Club

Jane and I look forward to seeing you at Histon Methodist Church, High Street, Histon, CB24 9JD, at 8.00 pm on **Friday, 19th July**, for another evening of fun, friendship and dancing. We will have live music and a caller and so cater for all abilities.

Adults: £1.50 Accompanied Children: 50p.
Everyone most welcome.

Please note that we do not meet in August.

Kathryn Coles



Vikings Football Club

Thank you to everyone involved in our end of season player of the year party held at Oakington Pavilion. A great time was had by all - with lots of happy young football players collecting medals and trophies.



FA Charter
Standard



Mini kickers training should be starting Saturday mornings on the MUGA for under 5's soon. Further details will follow.

The under 15's and adults pre season training starts Wednesday 3rd July held on Oakington Rec:

- Under 15's 5.30 till 7pm every Wednesday
- Adults 7 till 8pm every Wednesday

We are always looking for new players so if you, your child or anyone you know is interested in joining the Oakington Vikings please see contact details below for further info.

James Wilson

Club Contacts - Our Teams and Coaches

- Under 7's Jamie A 07764967460
- Under 9's Toby 07881496552
- Under 11's Marcus and Josh 07866635241
- Under 15's Ronnie and James 07714099017
- Adult team James and Toby 07834465188

Tuesday Talk & Tea

Our chair exercise session not only proved very beneficial but fun too.



- **13 Aug** Pleased to inform you that we are holding a games, quiz and social afternoon at St Andrew's Hall, 2.45 pm
- **10 Sep** A short AGM followed by Age UK (speaker Anna) with updated information to help our daily lives at St Andrew's Hall, 2.45 pm

Come and enjoy your tea while you chat.



*Joan Pettit
(chairperson)*

Short Mat Bowls Club



We are a small, friendly club and keen to welcome new members. You don't need any previous experience playing bowls – just come along and give it a try as our guest. We have spare sets of bowls for you to use – all you need is a pair of smooth-soled shoes. We play throughout the year at the Sports Pavilion in Queensway, Oakington.

We were very pleased to welcome members of the Oakington and Westwick Women's Institute recently and a very pleasant evening was had by all. Several people also tried their hand at bowls during the Village Day.

Please note that from the start of July, and for the foreseeable future, we will only be offering play on Thursday evenings, 7.30 pm to 10.30 pm. Come along and join us or contact Dawn on 236427 for further information.

Dawn Stokes

From the WI

We meet the second Thursday of each month at 7.30pm in St Andrew's Church Hall. Visitors and new members are always welcome to join us.



Thank you to all those villagers who bought our tea and cakes on Village Day, in spite of the amazing heat. At least we were able to offer you some shade in our marquee café!

On **27th July** members are having a summer outing and picnic to Toilethorpe Hall, Stamford, for the matinee performance of **Blythe Spirit**. We currently have a spare ticket if anyone would like to join us on this trip. We can provide transport.

We are all looking forward to our 11th July meeting...not least the committee who have been nostalgically putting together ideas for our 'back to childhood' party. It was interesting to compare experiences of food and games from our own childhoods... some the same but also some quite different food items depending on our generation.

There is NO monthly meeting in August, so we will reconvene on **Thursday 12th September** for a talk from well known local historian and author, Mike Petty.

Helen Williams

Natural systems



Red Kites have been spotted over Oakington in the last few weeks. It's remarkable that these exotic birds of prey exist at all in the UK after years of persecution mainly by gamekeepers and egg collectors. They were reintroduced into Wales after numbers dropped to nearly zero and the British Army were involved in nest protection. Their numbers

have grown steadily, mainly in Wales and the Chilterns. A reintroduction in Northamptonshire is probably the source of the small Cambridgeshire population of Red Kites. They are distinctive because of their rusty red bodies and forked tails, quite different from the rounded tails of buzzards which we are used to seeing above our village. Red Kites feed on small mammals, birds, worms and carrion.

Birds of prey and other top predators are often persecuted by humans because some of us feel the need to protect the prey we value. The natural prey/predator balance aims to sustain all members of the food chain.

You may have heard how the reintroduction of wolves to the

Yellowstone National Park in the U.S. improved the whole eco-system. The wolves were killed in the 1920's because of fears for the safety to residents and visitors. However, their reintroduction seventy years later brought dramatic results in just a few years. The deer moved to the safety of the hills, away from the valleys where the wolves easily trapped them. Then the trees and other vegetation in the valleys flourished, because they had not been stripped by the deer, and the birds returned. Because the tree mass trebled, beavers increased to make dams. This improved the river ecosystem. There was less erosion and with the rivers stabilised, fish, amphibians and otters came back in numbers. The trees produced berries that attracted more bears who killed more deer. The whole eco-system improved, with many more species flourishing.

The message is that we should be trying to understand how whole natural systems work and not just hang onto the bits we think are useful or pretty.

The EAG invited Froglife to the Village Day. Do feel free to contact me or James Youd (see EAG page for contact details) if you would like to be involved in Froglife led pond training.

PS. A **hedgehog** was seen in Longstanton Road the other day. This is the first to be seen in the village in three years. Good news for us and badgers; bad news for slugs and worms.



John Terry - johnterry23@hotmail.co.uk

Adverts removed from online version



Book Corner

The Last of the Greenwoods
by Clare Morrall

I really enjoyed this novel, although it took me a while to enter into and follow the path of the narrative, with its changes of characters and locations. The author skilfully draws in the reader with glimpses of events and people, and the slow reveal of the connections. The momentum increased as it went along then the ending was so gripping that I couldn't put it down until it was finished. No plot spoilers, but may be especially interesting to steam railway enthusiasts, which I am not, but it didn't matter. The blurb says "the message is that life is for living", which is undoubtably true. Try this book and find out for yourselves.

Jillian Wilkinson

Flapjacks

This recipe for flapjacks comes from **Joan Sillett**. They are her husband Arthur's favourite!

200g Margarine
2 tbsp Golden syrup
200g Sugar
100g Oats
100g Self-raising flour
150g Cornflakes, crushed

1. Melt the margarine and syrup gently
2. Mix the dry ingredients, pour on the margarine mixture and mix well
3. Spread evenly in a greased Swiss roll tin and press down firmly
4. Bake in a moderately hot oven 190°C, 375°F or gas mark 5 for about 20 minutes.
5. Cut into fingers while warm.



Garden Cuttings

The summer months are finally here, and the garden is now in full swing. With flowers blooming, and produce ripening, it really is a lovely time in the garden.

After the heavy rain in June, and heat of early July, fruit, flowers, and root crops should all be doing well. Tie in and support developing plants, allowing for future growth and movement. Keep thinning fruits, dead heading flowers and picking salad crops to encourage fresh flowers and produce.

As it is peak holiday time, put plans in place to reduce the chances of coming home to the sight of dead or dying plants! Set up automatic watering systems if you have them. Use 'drippa' bags which are placed in the soil above the plant, and slowly release water or feed solution.

If asking a friend or neighbour to water your potted plants, make it easier for them by leaving the watering can (or pipe) handy and placing all your plants in a shady area. Use large deep trays (sold at garden centres in various sizes) so they just have to water into one area.



Using a 'seeper' hose will provide a slow continuous flow of water, and can be used from either a tap or linked up to water butts, particularly useful if you have a large garden.

Hanging baskets, pots and tubs need particular care, as they can dry out very quickly, so always plant into the largest container you can, and, ideally, provide water retaining granules to help preserve even moisture content.

Water in the morning and evenings to reduce evaporation. Direct water to the base of the plant, to increase water uptake and reduce leaf scorching. Give plants a good, regular soaking – this encourages deep roots which will help plants to survive drought conditions. If water is scarce, prioritise containers, and young or recently planted crops or trees, which do not have extensive root systems.

Enjoy the summer, whatever the weather!

Jan Zelnick

Bike Miles Not Food Miles!

Sustainable shopping in our local villages

It's an ideal sunny Saturday morning and I'm on my bike heading out of Oakington, through Westwick, to my first stop at the Longhorn Farm Shop to pick up some locally reared meat for the inevitable barbecue – well, it is the hottest day of the year so far.

On to Cottenham, along what I must admit is not my favourite road to cycle, but soon I can turn onto the slightly quieter road across to Rampton and on to Willingham, where there are a good few suppliers of local produce. Today I visit the Bushel Box for the last-of-season apples from their own orchard.

Back on the road, or more accurately the shared use footpath/cycle path, past the new main entrance to

Northstowe and on into Longstanton. A brief pause to watch the teddy bear parachuting competition from the steeple of All Saints church, then call in at Larkfield Nursery for the best raspberries and other seasonal fruit and veg.

With my backpack full, it's time to head back home to Oakington along the airfield road, now of course closed to motor vehicles, satisfied that I have done more bike miles than food miles.

It's been an hour of easy cycling and I have come home with some fabulous local, seasonal food, altogether not a bad morning. Why not get out there yourself this summer?

Richard Evans





the big lunch



Summer Fete
Oakington Primary School
Sat 15th June
12 - 3pm



The fete raised over £800

