

Oakington & Westwick Journal

July 2018



Café Culture
Spotlight on the Shop

Village Day
Souvenir

WEEKLY - BUT CHECK HOLIDAY BREAKS ☺

Mon	Toddler Rhyme Time , 9.30-11. Crossways Café, £2 per family. Hanna Lumley - 0755 7090322
Mon	Monday Café , 9.30-noon. Church Hall, £1. Liz Davis - C 232 745
Mon	Tennis , 6-8pm. Recreation Ground. Frank Pinner – francispinner@aol.com
Mon	Oakington Singers , 7.45-9.30pm. Rehearsal, Church Hall. Paul Tann – C 235 567
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 – oakingtoncubs@yahoo.co.uk
Tue	Table Tennis , 7.30pm. Pavilion, £2.50. Gillian L'angellier – C 234 758
Wed	Tea & Tots , 0-4 yrs, 10-11.30am. Crossways Café. £2 per family. Hanna Lumley - 0755 7090322
Wed	Brownies , 6-7:30pm. Pavilion. Anne Christie – oakingtonbrownies@gmail.com
Wed	Oakington Viking Football Club , 6.30-7.30. Recreation Ground, free. James Wilson – james@selsius.co.uk
Wed	Oakington Chess Café & Games Night , 7-9pm. Crossways CommuniTea Café. Ranko Pinter – ranpin@gmail.com
Thu	Little Steps Toddler group, 10-11.30am. Church Hall. Ben Phillips - familyworker@standrewsoakington.co.uk
Thu	Short Mat Bowls , 1.30pm & 7.30pm. Pavilion, £4 per week. Dawn Stokes – C 236 427
Thu	Clubercise , 6.15pm. Pavilion. £6/£5 in advance. Marilyn Bailey - 07989137321
Thu	Ten Sing , 7-9pm. Histon Baptist Church, £45 per year. Theresa King – jking47@aol.com
Fri	Over 55s Fitness , 10am. Pavilion. £4.50/£3.50 concessions. Simon – C 236945
Fri	Beavers , 6-7pm. Pavilion, £30 per term. Lou Ellis – kld1001@me.com
Fri	Scouts , 7.30-9pm. Pavilion, £30 per term. Lou Ellis – kld1001@me.com

JULY

Tue	24 Jul	"Travel Hub" consultation meeting , 6pm to 8pm. Venue tbc. Jim Bryant - owcp.tag@gmail.com
Fri	27 Jul	"Holding Hands" performed by Field Theatre, 7.30pm. Pavilion. £5 on the door or phone 07714 760582
	13-31 Jul	Art Exhibition , Mon-Fri 9am-5pm (+ 7-9pm Wed), Communithea Café. Hanna Lumley - 0755 7090322

AUGUST

	1-17 Aug	Art Exhibition , Mon-Fri 9am-5pm (+ 7-9pm Wed), Communithea Café. Hanna Lumley - 0755 7090322
Sat	4 Aug	Caribbean BBQ , 6.30pm. Girton Golf Club, Dodford Lane. £15 / £20(guests). To book – C 276169
Thu	9 Aug	O&W WI . Annual Summer Evening. 'Decorating plant pots'. Helen Williams – C 232 614

SEPTEMBER

Sat	1 Sep	Lakeside Jazz & Tea , 3-5pm. 9 Longstanton Road. OWN - neighbours@oakingtonandwestwick.com
Mon	9 Sep	O&W Parish Council , 7.30pm. Pavilion. All invited. Clerk: Laura Lawrence – oakingtonnpc@btinternet.com
Tue	11 Sep	Tuesday Talk & Tea , 2.45pm. Oakington School Hall. Short AGM + Ciara's World of Glass. Joan Pettit
Thu	13 Sep	O&W WI , 7.30pm. Church Hall. Talk on 'Animals in our Garden'. Helen Williams – C 232 614
Sat	29 Sep	Village Autumn Market . More information to follow. Jo Mills – C 233 244

Oakington & Westwick Journal

Published on behalf of the Oakington & Westwick Community Association to inform residents of events, activities and issues in the parish

Journal Team: Jenny Prince & Irène Butlin (*editors*), Nykki Rogers (*advertising manager*), Jane Goodyer (*distribution manager*), Geoffrey Butlin (*advisor*), Ranko Pinter (*chair*)

Front Cover: AP Aerial Film

Village Day Collage Compilation: Charlotte Lumley

Send contributions to
oakwestjournal@gmail.com

DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER ISSUE:

Tuesday 4 September

Delivered week beginning Saturday 15 Sep
covering period up to 31 Oct

Bigger and Better?

Bigger and better than ever! That was the verdict on this year's Village Day - whether you were browsing the stalls or bouncing on castles, playing chess, hurling wellies, being facepainted or enjoying a beer or tea and cake while listening to the music. It was lovely to chat to old friends and meet new neighbours, and to see so many village organisations represented. Huge thanks are due to all who planned and helped.

If you were away and want to see what you missed, or were there and want to spot the highlights, turn to our Village Day

souvenir supplement in the centre, put together by Charlotte Lumley - many thanks to her as well.

This issue of the Journal is also bigger - thanks to a contribution from the Community Association who are giving us the opportunity to present even more news and features to the community. It's made it easier to fit in all your regular articles, plus a few new ones. Better? If you'd like to improve it by joining our columnists, passing on information of local interest, please get in touch!

Jenny Prince

Editors: Jenny Prince & Irène Butlin



Crossways Communita Gallery's First Exhibition

"Opening Line"

Saturday 23 June – Sunday 19 August

The opening of the first exhibition at the Crossways Communita Gallery on Saturday 23 June was a great success. There was a real buzz chatting with the artists over a glass of bubbly and a sense of excitement about what the gallery could mean for the village. If you have not already seen it, do stop by and have a look. The **café is open every day** from 9-5 as well as Wednesday evenings from 7-9 pm and the exhibition lasts until 19 August.



The first exhibition called 'Opening Line' was organised in partnership with ArtCan, a non-profit arts organisation that supports budding contemporary artists by locating spaces for them to show their work to a wider audience.

The exhibition brought together nine very different artists whose art can serve as a conversation starter for people visiting Crossways Communita Café for a cup of tea or coffee, a group workshop or a game of chess. The feel of the Café is beautifully mirrored in its location, literally sitting on a crossroad, as a space where people, conversation and ideas can freely mix and flourish.

We plan to alternate curated, themed exhibitions with periods in which local artists, whether professional or not, can show and sell their paintings, drawings or photos, so if you are interested, do get in touch and we'll try to find the best spot for your work.

Adrienne Chaplin - adrienne.dengerinkchaplin@googlemail.com



Wanted - old Journals

The Oakington & Westwick Journal, formerly the Oakington & Westwick Community Newsletter, has been published for at least a quarter of a century. We know there was an archive of old issues, but very sadly this seems to have been lost.

The Journals and Newsletters recorded the history of our village and hamlet and it would be good if we could salvage some of this by making copies of any we can still find.

Elizabeth Dennis produced a two- or four-sided A4 newsletter for many years. Matt Barnett was the first editor

to move to a magazine-style publication, in 2008. Rob White, then Geoffrey Butlin, followed him.

We have copies from 2013 onwards, but are missing those from: spring 2012, second half of 2011, April and autumn 2010, summer/autumn 2009. From before 2009 we have very few editions.

If you happen to have kept any of these issues, we would very much like to borrow them briefly to copy them. Or if you have any other information to fill in this bit of heritage, please let us know!

Jenny Prince - oakwestjournal@gmail.com, C 233510



Chess Café

Children and adults had lots of fun during the Village Day, playing both giant chess and 5aSide chess at the Chess Café stand.

Solution to the chess puzzle in the last issue:

Kb6 – if Black plays Kb3 to capture white pawn, White plays Kc5 and captures black pawn. If Black pushes pd4, White pushes his pawn pa4, and even though Black promotes his Queen before the White does his, the game ends in draw - either in a perpetual checking of the White or the promotion of the white Queen.

There will be a summer break with our chess puzzles until the next issue in September.

Ranko Pinter - ranpin@gmail.com

From the WI

These photos tell the story of our meetings in recent months...very 'hands on'! 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.



Forthcoming Meetings:

- **9 Aug** Decorating plant pots at Lynda's house during our annual Summer Evening
- **13 Sep** Talk on Animals in our Garden

Helen Williams



Short Mat Bowls Club



We are a small, friendly club and would 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 and there are two sessions of play, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. With effect from Thursday 5 July, the afternoon session will start at 1.30 pm and end at 3.30 pm. The evening session remains at 7.30 pm to 10.00 pm. For further details please contact:

Dawn Stokes 01223 236427



Tuesday Talk & Tea



Summer certainly lifts the spirits but autumn and winter bring days of isolation and loneliness at any time. Can I encourage you to step out of your home and join us at Tuesday Talk & Tea this September. Enjoy chat, afternoon tea and make friends - you will be very welcome!

- **11 Sep** Oakington School Hall 2.45 pm: Short AGM followed by Ciara's World of Glass to admire and purchase. An early Christmas present.

Joan Pettit (Chairperson)

Oakington Singers



We have one engagement still to come this summer term: a sung Communion service in church on 29 July. We then take a break for August but look forward to reconvening in September.

As I wrote in last month's issue, we are sorry to be saying goodbye at the end of July to our brilliant accompanist Joan Keating, who has been playing with us for seven years!

We are therefore looking for a new accompanist from September – if you might be interested please get in touch! And as always, we are keen to welcome new singers. We rehearse on Monday evenings from 8.00-9.30 pm in St Andrew's church hall. For further details please contact:

Paul Tann 01223 235567

Garden Society, History Society and Country Dance Club will all be back in September.

Village Day Thanks

What a fabulous day!!!

We hope you all enjoyed yourselves as much as we did!!

Thanks, as always, goes to my fantastic committee: **Bernie Yates** (treasurer), **Irène Butlin**, **Andrew Brennand** and **Ben Phillips**, with invaluable behind the scenes work from **Celine** and **Ranko Pinter**.

Also a special thank you to our lovely compère guiding us through the day, **Megan Bate**.

However, the day would not have been a success without all the local support from groups and volunteers!

We'll have a go at naming everybody, to indicate how many people were involved, but with huge apologies to anybody we may have missed!

See you again next year!!

Hanna Lumley, Chair



Happy Birthday, Pavilion!



The Oakington & Westwick Sports Pavilion celebrated its 10th birthday at the Village Day.

Discussions on upgrading the old Scout Hut on the Rec began in 2005, but it was three more years of planning, design (by Neil Cook), fundraising, grant applications, archaeology and construction before the grand opening on 21st June 2008. The village fundraised more than £20,000! Fundraising continued for fixtures and fittings and for the Multi Use Games Area, completed in 2009.

The Pavilion is run by a management committee of volunteers representing regular user groups. The building is now in use most evenings and some morning and afternoon sessions. It is self-funded by MUGA lettings and by weekly groups, social and commercial bookings.

For bookings, contact Tony Leadley, oakingtonpavilion@gmail.com.

Elaine Bailey (Chair, Pavilion Committee)

Thank you to the wonderful Marquee Team, Electrics, Bar Staff and Clearing Up Team:

Andrew Brennand, Jamie Altimimi, Clare Chapman & partner, Andy Cogan, BJ, Nigel Kilburn, Aaron Kirby, Toby Lipscombe, James Lumley, Ron Marsh, Jo Mills, Miles Petit, Arthur Sillet, Kay Sterne, Marcus Till, Tony Welch, Tim Wilson, Josh Wilson, Bernie Yates (+ Ben Phillips BBQ).

Thank you for Hay bales: Tim Gawthrop

Thank you to all the willing 'Presellers' and 'on the day' Rota Volunteers:

John Bailey, Megan & Glenda Bate, Alistair & Patricia Bailey, Andrew Brennand, Geoffrey Butlin, Irène Butlin, Adrienne Dengerink Chaplin, Andy Cogan, Roger Duffy, Simon Edwards, Josh Gott, Alister Griffiths, Janis Griffiths, Alex Harris, Kathryn Koehler, Ron Koehler, Laura Lawrence, Charlotte Lumley, Jo Mills, Celine Pinter, Ranko Pinter, David Prince, Jenny Prince, Tom Probert, David Robinson, Raj Sanghera, Bruce Sutherland, Graham Tregonning, Di Wisbey, Bernie Yates, Jessica Yates, James Youd.

Thank you to Village Groups taking stalls and all the volunteers that manned them:

Brownies, Cubs & Scouts, Viking Football Club, Community Action Groups, Cambridge Electric Transport, Humpty Dumpty pre-school, PSA, Tennis Club, WI.

A huge thank you for Village Day publicity material: Chas of Chameleon Studios.

Thank you for supporting Programme Advertising:

Cambourne Castles & Marquees, Chameleon Studios, Headstart, Humpty Dumpty Pre-school, Oakington Village Stores & Post Office, Print-Out, Toe-tal Footcare.

Thank you to the generous Raffle Prize donors:

Carriages of Cambridge, Longhorn Farm, Mike Thornton Photography, Oakington Garden Centre, Oakington Village Stores & Post Office, Viking Chip Shop, the White Horse, Village Day Committee plus many anonymous donors.

Thank you for providing and operating the Ten Sing Sound System throughout the afternoon: Nick Rogers

Thank you to our talented Entertainers:

The Barre Community Dance School, Bassoon Quartet, Black Coffee Jazz Band, St Andrew's church Bell Ringing Team, Disco & Karaoke, Cottenham Junior Brass Band, Kingston Blues Band, Oakington Primary School choir, poetry and music, Oakington Singers, Cambridge Ten Sing, Play Your Cards Right.



Irène Butlin

Support the School – Shop Online

If you do your online shopping through the Easyfundraising website or app, then the retailers will make a contribution to the school PSA. It doesn't cost you anything and all your settings and discounts will still work on the sites you visit. It would be great if even more people could help. Just visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/oakingtoncofepta/

Claire Langston

Community Association Update



As chair, I would like to thank the Village Day Team and everyone who helped to make the Village Day such a success.

Many thanks also to the eight people who came forward to marshal the Oakington section of the Flaming June Half Marathon. The Association has received £200 as a share of the money raised by Histon and Impington.

The Community Association met on 13 June. Here's a summary of the meeting:

- The Journal Team requested additional funding to allow it to increase the size of the Village Journal from 16 to 20 pages, at a cost of about £100 per issue. It was agreed that the CA would cover this cost for the rest of the year. The Journal Team will try to secure additional advertising to pay for the extra pages, and the decision will be reviewed at the AGM in January.
- 'Oakington in Bloom' is a new initiative of the Environmental Action Group (EAG), with support from the Parish Council. The Parish Council has sponsored 10 planters. The EAG asked if the Association would sponsor some planters if it does not receive the funding it has requested from the District Council. The Association agreed to sponsor four planters at a cost of £308, if this money is required.
- A list of Benefits of Membership was discussed, and agreed with a few changes. Please get in touch if you would like a copy.
- The Association agreed to run another Village Market in September and the date has now been fixed as Saturday 29 September. We also agreed to organise the village Bonfire Night and set the date: Saturday 3 November.
- There was a lively discussion on how to support the Village Shop, following a request from two members. There was general support for the shop and members agreed to talk about the value of local services in their meetings.
- There were a few procedural matters including Terms of Reference for working groups, Grants Procedure and a new Data Protection Policy.

There are now ten paid-up group members of the Association, and several more village groups are discussing the benefits at their next meeting. We are delighted to report that we have two new committee members: Adrienne Dengerink-Chaplin and Celine Pinter.

We are very pleased that our financial position continues to improve. We want to increase our reserves to £5,000, but are glad that we are now able to start providing some funding to community projects.

Jo Mills, Chair: bjomills@aol.com/01223 233244

Bernie Yates, Treasurer: bernardjyates@gmail.com

Roger Duthie, Membership Secretary: rjaduthie@gmail.com

New Neighbours?

Noticed a 'SOLD' sign down your road? If somebody has moved in near you, take them a village 'Welcome' leaflet to help them feel at home. Instigated by the Community Plan community action group, the leaflet has a map of the villages designed by local volunteer Bruce Sutherland, and some key information for new residents. It's a good excuse to knock on the door and say hello.



Contact Bruce for a copy of the leaflet:

bruce.sutherland@aol.com or 01223 236665. Or if you don't have a chance to welcome your new neighbours yourself, let Bruce know and he'll get a leaflet to them.

Jenny Prince

Oakington Vikings Football Club



Thank you to everyone who came to our end of season 'Player of the Year' party held at the pavilion. Another fantastic day.

Thanks again to Oakington Village Store for your kind donation.



Contacts 2018/2019 season:

- Under 6's Jamie 07563 563359
- Under 8's Toby 07881 496552
- Under 10's Marcus and Josh 07866 635241
- Under 14's Ronnie and James 07834465188

The teams have one more tournament to play, then we will have a well deserved rest for a few weeks, ready to start the new football season in September.

James Wilson

Changes to Busway Times, from 29th July

There will be minor changes to A, B and N timetables on Mon-Sat, including a small increase in the number of peak-time buses.



Raj and Kanwaljit Sanghera

Raj and Kanwaljit Sanghera arrived in Oakington in 1991 from Letchworth. Although they did not have a background in retail, they decided to buy a shop in a rural village.



Oakington was one of three opportunities they had, and they settled on Oakington as it had a friendly environment

and a lovely village feel. They fully intended to be here for five years, but 28 years later are still going strong!

The Nisa shop in Oakington is still very much a family business, with their daughters Navkiran and Navneet often seen keeping the operation going and providing essential support for their parents. Navneet has recently joined the team on a full-time basis.

Raj and Kanwaljit enjoy running and cycling when they have time - which can't be often! Kanwaljit's great interest is football, but Raj would much rather do some cookery.

Raj says she has to pinch herself when she looks at how lucky they are to live here, so close to Cambridge with the beautiful Bridge of Sighs and all of the attractions for tourists who come from all over the world to admire the beauty on our doorstep. Kanwaljit also loves the intimate environment where he can get to know the customers,

something not often available to a shop in a big town. This is why they chose Oakington.

In 2015 the shop had a complete refit, including demolition and rebuild to provide better facilities.

The Nisa Shop is an essential resource for the community. Open 6.00am to 8.00pm Monday to Saturday and till 4.00pm on Sunday, it provides a wide range of groceries, fresh fruit and vegetables. It has an alcohol licence too!

Its other huge asset is the **Post Office**, available Monday to Saturday. Raj says that people come to the Post office from surrounding villages! It provides a lifeline for people and offers basic banking facilities such as cash withdrawal, and the ability to place deposits, to pay bills or Top up payment cards. A full range of Post Office services including Business Banking services and a Card account, allowing you to collect pensions, is also available. Bhavina Patel is the Face of the Post Office in Oakington, providing excellent customer service.

Although the closure of the road through to Longstanton has had an inevitable impact on trade, Raj and Kanwaljit have been encouraged by the Oakyfolk Facebook campaign and commitment to use the shop. "Please continue to support us," says Raj.

They are grateful to the regular customers for the loyalty and support shown in recent weeks.

Celine Pinter

Shop open: Mon - Sat 6am - 8pm, Sun 7am - 4pm

Adverts removed for online version



Showing this programme at the entrance will admit one adult free

30th June 2018

OAKINGTON VILLAGE DAY

At the Recreation Ground
Queens Way, Oakington
NOON - LATE

Adults £1
Free entry for kids









Saving water

The Environment Agency have recently announced that we could have serious shortages of water by 2050. Is this too far away to concern ourselves, or should we do something now? The Oakington and Westwick Community Plan includes a wish to care for valuable resources like water.

If you feel the time is right now, you might like to **have a go** at the following questions.

- ✚ How much water does each UK person use per day on average
- ✚ Please estimate/guess your personal water use per day.
- ✚ Think of two ways you could cut down your use in the house.
- ✚ Think of one way of reducing your use in the garden



Rainfall in our area

You will be aware of our low annual rainfall (about 22 inches or 552 mm, from average readings 1961-90 and 1996-2014 Cambridge Botanic Gardens). This figure is described as one of the **driest in Western Europe**, north of the Pyrenees. In addition, climate change could bring more summer droughts as well as more storm events in winter.

Catherine Moncrieff, Water Manager for WWF (UK), said in Cambridge recently that our domestic use is about 120 litres per day per person (UK average) and we should be **reducing to 80**.

What ways can we reduce our use of water?

Use a water meter to measure usage and cost. Saving money can be a significant benefit when aiming to reduce water use. Make it a family aim, taking all family members on the same journey.

In the house:

- 1) Do not run taps continuously when washing up or cleaning teeth.
- 2) Reduce water used in flushing the lavatory by putting a brick (or hippo) in the cistern or by using low volume flush, when appropriate.
- 3) Fill washing machines and dishwashers before pressing the 'on' button.
- 4) Use a shower rather than take a bath. It uses less than 25% of the water of a bath.

In the garden:



- 1) We can choose plants that are tolerant of drought like foxglove, hebe, buddleia, lavender. There is a good demonstration of a 'dry' garden in the Cambridge University Botanic Gardens, sponsored by Cambridge Water.

- 2) We can use compost to mulch around plants to reduce evaporation and help in weed control.
- 3) Plants in containers are extremely prone to drying out, especially in hanging baskets. Mulching is vital in these.
- 4) Grass is very tolerant of drought and quickly recovers when rain arrives, so consider never watering grass once established. The worst scenario is watering grass little and often. This keeps grass roots near the surface, instead of heading downwards in search of water.
- 5) The average hose pipe can discharge 1000 litres per

hour. It's clearly important to use it in the most efficient way. An 'off and on' control is best and it is better to water infrequently with a good dose than little and often. As mentioned for grass, plant roots stay shallow when you water little and often.

- 6) Water at the end or at the beginning of the day to reduce evaporation. Aim water at the roots and avoid watering in hot sun.
- 7) Trickle irrigation to vegetables and fruit trees is more efficient than spraying because water gets immediately to the roots and evaporation losses are reduced.
- 8) Water butts to collect rain water from buildings and sheds can reduce water use dramatically. Prices start at around £24 for 100 litres butts from various sources.

Please let us know your ideas.

*John Terry, Co-Chair of the Environment Action Group
johnterry23@hotmail.co.uk*

Are you a Dog Owner?

Did you know that dogs can pass infectious diseases to livestock through their faeces that can seriously affect their health and welfare?

To reduce the risk to both dogs and livestock please **ALWAYS** clean up and dispose of your dog's faeces on walks. This means keeping them sufficiently close so that you can observe where they toilet!

Discourage your dog from scavenging around livestock and worm your dog regularly - tapeworm can cause serious disease and even death in sheep.



Dogs should be kept under control in public areas and **ALWAYS** be kept on a lead around livestock - no matter how safe you think they are!

Farmers have every right to protect their livestock on agricultural land from loose dogs - there are still too many reports of dogs chasing, frightening and injuring or killing sheep. Don't let it be your dog.

*Susannah O'Hanlon, Oakington resident
Clinical Animal Behaviourist and local dog trainer*

Brownies

Is your daughter nearly seven and interested in joining Brownies? We meet Wednesday evenings and enjoy crafts, games, activities, singing, adventurous days out and Brownie holidays!



To register your daughter go to www.girlguiding.org.uk and follow the parents section. For enquiries contact:

Anne Christie - oakingtonbrownies@gmail.com

From our Parish Council Chair



Well, I must start with congratulating all those involved with the Village Day. What a fantastic success! It is on occasions like this that I realise how lucky we all are to live in Oakington and Westwick. We have the atmosphere and friendships of a small community, yet live on the doorstep of one of the loveliest cities in Britain.

Of course, we will soon be living very much on the doorstep of a new town - **Northstowe**. I know I have mentioned it in each of my contributions to the journal over the last few issues, but it is taking much of the Parish Council time. By the time you read this, Parish Councillors will have had the opportunity to see, and comment on, the proposals for Phase 3, which is the section of Northstowe which will directly abut Oakington and Westwick. I will be bringing you up to

"What is exciting is that we are discussing new footpaths/cycle ways"

date on emerging issues in the next edition of the Journal. I have been assured that there is a green separation between the town and our village, but what form that takes we will have to wait and see. What is exciting is that we are having early discussions about reopening old, disused

footpaths and adding new footpaths/cycleways around the village, linking us with Northstowe and possibly Bar Hill. This benefits us, by having easy access to Northstowe town centre, with its amenities, but it will also allow residents of Northstowe to come to the pub, shop, and garden centre – ensuring they remain flourishing businesses. Separate to these developments, we have already gained funding for improvements to the cycle path to Girton (thanks to the work of the Transport Action Group) and our County Councillor, Peter Hudson, is working hard to have a new cycle path to Cottenham, as part of the Greater Cambridge Partnership Greenways Project.

Within a few years, it may be possible to walk, cycle (or even horse ride) from the village to Northstowe, Bar Hill, Cottenham and Girton.

The biggest change in the village since the last edition of the

"a stunning sight to watch the sun go down over the fields"

Journal has been the physical **closure of the airfield road** part of Longstanton Road. I do urge you to have a stroll or cycle ride along the road – on these balmy evenings, it has been a stunning sight to watch the sun go down over the fields. The road is now a village amenity and we should enjoy it. You

might also want to have a peek at the progress of the new dual carriageway crossing the road.

I mentioned earlier how the new footpaths should benefit Oakington and Westwick businesses in the long run.

However, a village the size of Oakington should be able to sustain a village pub and a village shop. Quite simply, if you want these **amenities** to continue to exist, then use them!

Being on the Parish Council can be a positive, but also a frustrating activity. The Parish Council has a number of

restraints upon it, given its role as part of local government and, for a fairly impatient person like me, getting any benefits for the village seems to take an eternity. It also involves negotiating the labyrinth of regulations which control our actions. It is a real pleasure when interest groups in the community get on with their activities, but doing so in collaboration with us. The **Environment Action Group** is an excellent example of this. Soon you will be seeing flower tubs appearing around the village, as a result of an initiative by them, but with the majority of the funding coming from the Parish Council. This activity/financial collaboration will also be evident with a bench and noticeboard being located on the new(ish) green space next to the village shop.

"If you want these amenities to continue to exist, then use them!"

One of the problems about being the lowest level of local government, combined with being unpaid, part time volunteers meeting monthly, is that we tend to find our time taken up in undertaking routine activities and responding to unforeseen issues. What we need to do instead, is to look forward and have a clear plan to improve the village. The Parish Council, for the first time, is going to adopt a **three year plan** which will guide our priorities for the near future. I expect to write about this in the next issue of the Journal. In the meantime, please do feel free to make suggestions and forward any ideas to me:

"... a clear plan to improve the village"

Stephen Moore – oakingtonchairman@gmail.com

From our County Councillor



A new working model for the **County Council** has been proposed. The plan is to enable all of us to access both County Council officers and services locally wherever we may live within the County, and not to have to travel long distances to a main building such as Shire Hall.

The new administrative building was

the subject of discussion with Longstanton Parish councillors, some agreeing that it should be built in Northstowe, others that it should not - some suggested sharing existing buildings, eg. District Council. No consensus was reached.

It has now been decided that the new administration building will be located at the Enterprise Zone in Alconbury. It will hold less than 10% of the present Shire Hall employees, some of whom, because of joint working with Peterborough, already travel between Peterborough and Cambridge several times per week. The remainder will be working in local hubs around the county to enable all residents to use the County Council easily, in places such as Cambridge, Northstowe, Cambourne, Wisbech and Ely.

When this paper came to members a few weeks ago, I automatically gave a spirited defence of Northstowe in quite

(continued on page 15)

(continued from page 13)

a few pre-full council debates and also in the actual full council debate. I really felt that Northstowe was the right place. I came home to what will be a ten minute walk from the new town centre, and decided that I need to get out and seek the thoughts of other people before the main debate in Full Council.

So, I walked up Longstanton High Street, stopping to chat and ask the question, also on the school run at both Northstowe and Longstanton. I asked residents in Oakington too, including their school run. Some were like myself, in favour, and some had no particular opinion. However, some said absolutely not, and this figure grew. I spoke to people in Longstanton's Black Bull, then went over to the Pavilion. The majority said, "Why waste valuable space in what is really a smallish town centre on boring council offices? We would prefer a cinema, shops, pubs, restaurants, coffee shops, or even a bowling alley."

I sat outside the Longstanton Pavilion on a lovely sunny evening talking to some parents watching their children play. A gentleman looked at me and said, "We want a town centre that is great to visit, one we would want to visit. I would like to say to my wife, let's pop over to the town centre for a coffee. A café culture would be great. Also, why do we need another council building when we are already getting one?"



That is correct, the town centre is already getting a circa £17 million Civic Hub containing a health centre, along with County Council services such as school nurses, a new Family and Child Centre, a new library along with community rooms, with County Council officers to advise us and help us access County Council services.

So I go into the main debate with all these views to work with. It is sometimes difficult to accept others' views, but just because they differ from mine, that makes them no less valuable to me or our community. I respect all our neighbours' and friends' views and act upon them whenever and however I can, as I did in the debate.

*Peter Hudson
County Councillor*

Oakington, Westwick, Longstanton, Northstowe and Over.

From our District Councillors

We are very happy to be able to introduce ourselves as the new District Councillors for Oakington & Westwick (the enlarged ward now covers Longstanton & Northstowe). We wish to begin by thanking Simon Edwards, Lynda Harford and Tim Wotherspoon for their many years of hard work and dedication for the villages.

Sarah lives in Longstanton and is mum to two preschoolers. After a career in investment banking technology she now works part-time for the University of Cambridge as a project

and events manager.

Alex lives in Longstanton, is mum to a one year old and works part-time as a nurse and researcher at Addenbrooke's Hospital.



Following the elections, South Cambs District Council is now under LibDem control, with LibDems holding 30 out of 45 seats, Conservatives 11, Labour 2 and 2 Independents.

For more on this and the new Council leader Bridget Smith's priorities, please go to:
www.sclibdems.org.uk/news_scdcpriorities

At the Council, Sarah is on the Employment and Staffing Committee, Scrutiny and Overview Committee and is a substitute member of the Cambridge Fringe JDCC (Joint Development Control Committee.) Alex is a substitute member for the Scrutiny and Overview Committee and for the Cambridgeshire County Council Health Committee.

Our priority is to represent all residents of Oakington & Westwick to the best of our ability. For news between updates in the Journal we have a few other ways you can keep up to date:

- Monthly email newsletter - with updates on local news as well as wider district issues which will impact us all. To sign up please go to:
www.sclibdems.org.uk/email_signup_longstanton

(Note: to help us manage GDPR it is easier for us to host from the LibDems webpage but we absolutely promise this link will NOT subscribe you to LibDem news.)

- For all the latest news & updates so far please go to:
www.sclibdems.org.uk/longstanton_news
- For those on social media we have a very active Facebook group covering the whole ward here:
www.facebook.com/groups/2066298150052161/
- We're holding regular surgeries in all three locations we represent. Oakington & Westwick ones will take place at the Communitea Café. Our first is on 13th July, after this Journal is out, but we aim to have the next one in September.

We've been busy getting up to speed on issues across the ward, meeting with Oakington Parish Council as well as on Northstowe where we encourage you to look at plans and share your views on Phase 3 on the Northstowe website www.northstowe.com/.

Thank you!

*Sarah Cheung Johnson
cllr.cheungjohnson@scambs.gov.uk 01954 489089
Alex Malyon
cllr.malyon@scambs.gov.uk 01954 202859*

Environment Action Group

The **Flood Mitigation Group (FMG)** is continuing to work with the Environment Agency (EA) and the Northstowe developers to press for the promised flood attenuation ponds between Oakington and the A14. These ponds remain the biggest objective of the FMG as they should offer the best long term protection against flooding.



In the meantime the FMG has also met with the Environment Agency at Oakington Brook to discuss the sections of the brook that we believe require the most urgent maintenance. This includes the section downstream of the Cambridge Road bridge, which we understand was last excavated to a 2m bed width in the 1980s. This work was done according to the recommendations of Anglian Water's own report following the 1978 floods, Anglian Water having responsibility for area-wide drainage at that time. However, since then a considerable amount of silt has built up reducing the flow capacity and only minor work has been

done by the EA to remove this. The section of brook upstream of Dry Drayton Road is also in need of attention.

Wildlife is returning to the historic **village pond** following the restoration work earlier in the year. There are tadpoles in the pond as well as a moorhen and her chicks, and a kingfisher has also been sighted.

Meanwhile, small teams of EAG volunteers have been working tirelessly to keep our pavements clear of vegetation and make them safer for pedestrians and users with buggies and pushchairs. We are very grateful to those villagers who have given up their time in the past months to help with this vital work. However, we **urgently need more volunteers** to help: if you could spare an hour or two please contact James Youd (01223 233639, jamesyoud51@icloud.com). No previous experience necessary!

We are still waiting for news of Community Chest funding for our **Oakington and Westwick in Bloom** project to place tubs of flowers to make our village more attractive and encourage motorists to slow down. We are very grateful that the Parish Council has agreed to fund ten tubs as a first step. In addition, a team led by Geoffrey Butlin and Nykki Rogers continues to explore ideas for use of **open spaces** around the recreation area.

Finally, a group from the EAG visited the waste processing center at Waterbeach at the end of May to learn about **waste processing and recycling**. In South Cambridgeshire we currently recycle 54% of our waste, but could recycle a lot more. We encourage everyone to check South Cambridgeshire District Council's (SCDC) guidance on what can be put in which bin to ensure that as much as possible is being recycled. For example, did you know that SCDC can recycle all kinds of plastic packaging, including plastic bottle tops, wrapping films, cellophane, bread bags, and the inside plastic liner of cereal packets?

Stephanie Smith – sgs30@cantab.net

Adverts removed for online version

Transport Action Group

The Parish Council (PC), in a joint Local Highways Initiative (LHI) with Longstanton Parish Council, was successful in being **awarded funding** to purchase a moveable speed camera to record traffic flows and speeds. The PC and the Transport Action Group (TAG) are working together to get the best use out of the equipment in monitoring and reducing speeding vehicles through our streets.

There have been further consultation meetings with the Greater Cambridge Partnership about the possibility of having a **Travel Hub** located at the Guided Busway. The proposed scheme is not yet clear, with residents fearing that it would become just another Park & Ride for commuters into Cambridge but bringing no benefit for either Oakington or Westwick villagers. Additionally, there is currently no guarantee that Stagecoach would extend the Citi6 to connect with the busway. There is a further consultation planned for Tuesday 24th July from 6pm to 8pm, the venue to be confirmed. This is another opportunity to make your views known.

We have been **monitoring the increase in heavy vehicles** using the village as a short cut between Cottenham and the



A14. There doesn't appear to be any A14 or Northstowe specific construction traffic going through the village, but the

truth is it is sometimes difficult to know if that is the case. However, Cambridge Gun Club has contracted Harradines to move earth from Northstowe to their site in Cottenham. We are also seeing large Malarly tankers rumbling through



the village. With the new housing development going up at the Cottenham end of the Cottenham to Oakington Road it was disturbing to find out that one of the planning conditions was for all construction traffic for the development to be routed through Oakington and Westwick, without the PC being consulted.

There appears to be little that we can do about this as any agreements with HGV companies not using specific roads are purely voluntary; there are some such agreements in place but not with Harradines or Malarly.

As usual TAG had a **display at the Village Day** this year and many visitors to the stand were interested in the largescale maps of the proposed Bar Hill junction, Oakington/Dry Drayton access changes and the Girton interchange. Other information was about TAG input to the plans for **improvements to the Oakington to Girton cycle path** where £450,000 has been made available from section 106 money. A funding estimate of £1M has been made for the **proposed Oakington to Cottenham cycle path** – the source of those funds is not yet clear.

Following from the success of the LHI for the speed camera equipment, TAG, with the full agreement and support of the PC, are **applying for the 30 mph** zone to be extended down the Dry Drayton towards the Oakington Business Park which then would turn into a 40mph buffer zone down to the A14 and/or local road being built now. Please sign our petition to show your support for the proposal if you have the opportunity. Alternatively, you can email us to show your support at the address below.

We would value your comments and feedback on any of the above issues, or if you would like to get involved with TAG, you can contact us by email or phone - details below.

Jim Bryant, Chair: Transport Action Group

Tel: 01223237740 - TAG email: owcp.tag@gmail.com

Oakington and Westwick Neighbours

It's been a busy summer for OWN and it's not over yet! The Big Lunch happened on Saturday 9 June by the Pavilion on the Recreation Ground and was again a great success. The weather was not as intensely sunny as last year, but it stayed dry and a good number of people arrived bringing wonderful food to share. 'Black Coffee Jazz' provided the musical background this time, and there was an electric guitar soloist as well.

OWN had their stand at Oakington Village Day on Saturday 30 June giving information about what it does and publicising upcoming events, and it was lovely talking to all our visitors. Congratulations to the Community Association, and a whole host of volunteers for another brilliant Village Day.

The next event in OWN's diary is a touring theatre show at the Pavilion. Field Theatre is performing "**Holding Hands**" on **Friday 27 July at 7:30pm**.



It's described as "*A tour de force, frank and funny. A must see for anyone who cares for a vulnerable loved one*" and looks at life with dementia. Tickets are £5, on the door, or by contacting OWN on 07714 760582. There will be a bar and refreshments, and the performance will be followed by an opportunity to ask questions. All profits will go to the Alzheimer's Society.

And on **Saturday 1 September** our renowned **Lakeside Jazz and Tea** is happening again. Live music and tea and cakes from 3-5pm by the lake at 9 Longstanton Road. Join us for another fabulous occasion.

Apart from these events, the quiet work of supporting our neighbours in the village continues week by week, and we'd like to thank everyone who gives their time and energy to do this. We know it is very much appreciated. Don't forget that, if you need transport to, say, a hospital or other medical appointment we work alongside Cottenham Care Car (Tel. 01954 251929). More drivers are always welcome.

Jo Bryant, Oakington and Westwick Neighbours

Tel: OWN 07902 111 786

Wasps and Weather

Charles II dismissed an English summer as 'three fine days and a thunderstorm'. Seems a bit harsh but of course we do have St. Swithin's day on 15th July. If it rains on that day, we can look forward to 40 days of rain afterwards. Bishop St. Swithin was buried, at his request, in a lowly grave away from Winchester Cathedral in AD 862. Monks moved his remains to an elaborate shrine inside the Cathedral on 15th July AD 971. Apparently, violent storms followed for 40 days afterwards, perhaps indicating his displeasure.

If you want to be ahead of the storms, this month, so you get the washing in or move the BBQ indoors, listen to nature's forecasting service. Birds tend to fall silent ahead of a storm and frogs croak louder, perhaps because of the humidity change.

On hot days you may see birds panting with beaks open, rather like dogs, and some perch with their feathers raised to allow air to reach their skins. Birds also start to moult in July, to replace worn out feathers.

Another joy of July is wasps. There are five species in the UK. Recognition is complicated by the fact that some other insects, such as hover flies, mimic wasps. The mimicking seems to work, as birds tend to stay away to avoid being stung.



Wasp colonies die out over winter but queens survive. They create small nests in attics and trees but mainly underground, at first with just a few eggs. The workers chew wood to make wasp paper for the nests and create a sort of syrup to feed the larva. As the year progresses, numbers increase dramatically and by July, the wasp search is on for anything sweet, including, of course, picnic food. Some people ask, 'Why do we have wasps? Do they do anything useful?'. The dramatic answer I was given by an expert was that 'without them we would have few hedges.' Wasps are vital in keeping caterpillar numbers down; without the predation of wasps, caterpillars would destroy most hedges.

July is the month when grain harvesting begins on farms. Winter sown oil seed rape and winter barley are the first crops to go through the combine, followed by spring barley and then wheat. The lack of rain in May and June may mean poor grain fill and lower yields. We will see.

John Terry - johnterry23@hotmail.co.uk

Oakington Post Office hours

Monday, Tuesday,	9 am - 1 pm, 2 - 4:30 pm
Thursday, Friday:	
Wednesday:	9 am - 1 pm
Saturday:	9 am - 12:30 pm



Adverts removed for online version

Recipe from the "Big Lunch"

This delicious salad brought to June's bring-and-share Big Lunch by Jillian Wilkinson proved so popular that several people have asked for the recipe. (Orzo is a form of pasta.)

Orzo with spice-roasted carrots

1 cup of orzo
1/2 tsp turmeric (for cooking orzo)
4 carrots, peeled
1/2 tsp turmeric (for roasting carrots)
oil for roasting
1 tsp ground cumin
1 tsp ground coriander
1 tsp paprika
1/2 cup currants
1/2 cup pine nuts, roasted (can also add pumpkin seeds and sunflower seeds)
3 tabs chopped fresh coriander (or more)
1/4 cup olive oil
2 tbs spiced vinegar
salt and pepper



Cook orzo in plenty of boiling water with the turmeric, until just tender. Drain, rinse, and set aside to cool. Break up any lumps with a fork.

Preheat oven to 180 C. Cut carrots in half lengthways then slice on the diagonal in 1 cm thick pieces.

Place in a roasting pan, drizzle with a little oil, sprinkle with the spices and toss to coat evenly. Roast 30 mins, remove and cool.

Mix orzo, carrots, pinenuts, coriander, oil and vinegar well. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Recipe by Julie le Clerc, New Zealand

Book Corner

Enjoyed a book which you think others might like too? Send us your short review. Hanna Lumley from the Crossways Communita Café kicks off:



'The Humans' by Matt Haig

For my first recommendation I thought I'd choose 'The Humans' as it's set in Cambridge!

It's a wonderful view of the human race from an alien perspective, and it made me laugh so much!! It's heartwarming and insightful and one of my all time favourite books! Read it.... you won't regret it!

Hanna Lumley



Police Update

From 5 June - 4 July, we have had **7 crimes** reported to Cambridgeshire Constabulary from residents and businesses that reside within Oakington & Westwick..



Is your shed secure?

Over the last few weeks there have been a number of shed burglaries locally, with power tools and equipment being targeted. Sheds and outbuildings can be overlooked in terms of security measures but it is important to consider even if you only store garden spades etc. inside as these may be used to prise open a door or window in order to break into your property - or your neighbour's.

- Ensure your shed is sturdy and in good repair.
- Around the door frame - especially where the locks and hinges are fitted – increase framework strength with 50x75 timbers, depending on the existing structure.
- Similarly strengthen window frames, to fit metal grilles to windows, using non-returnable screws.
- Consider adding a net curtain to prevent an intruder viewing the contents of the shed.
- Secure the door with two substantial padlocks, hasps and staples at an equal spacing, fixed with coach bolts. Use backing plates to re-enforce the wooden area around the locks. Bolt rather than screw hinges into the doorframe.
- Consider installing an alarm system.
- Install outside security lighting, ideally movement sensitive for the back and dusk to dawn at the front of the property.
- Register equipment such as lawn mowers and power tools. Register items for FREE www.immobilise.com.
- Personalising equipment with a coding kit or simple paint pen will make them less appealing to thieves.
- Ensure that all tools and garden equipment are locked out of sight and preferably chained to a surface/ secured in a storage unit, within the shed.
- Check that your household insurance policy covers theft from gardens and outbuildings.



PCSO 7009 Bujar Mani - bujar.mani@cambs.pnn.police.uk
or call 101 and ask for my extension: 7113152

Bin Days



Thurs 26 July, Thurs 9 Aug,
Thurs 23 Aug, Thurs 6 Sept

Thurs 19 July, Thurs 2 Aug,
Thurs 16 Aug, Fri 31 Aug,
Thurs 13 Sept

Humpty Dumpty's Wall

The young children at Humpty Dumpty Pre-School have really been enjoying the lovely weather this summer! They have been on a walk to see the horses, they have been playing outside in the garden endlessly and they have been preparing and practicing for their Sports Day! Thank you to the dads who have been maintaining the garden and cleaning the front and back outside spaces.

Exciting news is that the pre-school has been chosen by Cambridgeshire NHS Trust to be the first pre-school to participate in the **'My Smile' project**. Each child will be given a toothbrush and toothpaste and these will be stored in the Toothbrush Bus! The children will be brushing their teeth every day at Humpty Dumpty so expect lots of sparkly white cheeky grins around the village!



This time of year is a time of change at the pre-school as many of the **children prepare to leave** Humpty Dumpty to start 'big school'. Mrs Ryan, one of the Reception class teachers from Oakington Primary School, has visited the children already to introduce herself and get to know the children a little. Towards the end of term, the children will make four visits to the school to play, to familiarize themselves with the school building and to have lunch. A very exciting time for a four year old, if a little daunting! Fortunately the staff at the pre-school have been through this transition with many children and are working hard to support and prepare them for this change, as well as preparing final reports and finishing observation documents and the children's progress files.

With the departure of the children, there is also the departure of parents who form the parent – staff management **committee**. Whereas Humpty Dumpty parents have to take named roles on the committee, other people



can be on the committee supporting them and it would be wonderful if a few people jumped on board to help.

The commitment is only one Tuesday meeting per term and the AGM is on October 2nd. Please get in touch with the manager Laura Peat on 01223 237504.

Jessica Summers

Oakington Primary School PSA



Family concert

10 June was the date of our family concert with magic from Wayne Goodman and a selection of film and television music from local group Oaktet. We had a good turnout with people visiting from nearby villages too. There was a quiz and fancy dress competition judged by head teacher Sally Daggianti and the children (and adults!) really enjoyed the opportunity to try out some of the instruments afterwards. All proceeds went to the school. Thank you to everyone who helped make the day a success.

Village Day. The PSA stall was offering temporary glitter tattoos and rock painting for anyone who fancied joining in with Oakington Rocks (a local version of the national trend of painting rocks and then hiding them around the village for others to find and then re-hide). You can find more details about Oakington Rocks by heading over to Facebook and searching for Oakington Rocks.

Ice pops. In case you hadn't noticed, it's been a bit hot lately! So the PSA have been helping the children cool down after school by selling ice pops in the playground with all proceeds going to the school. It's proving popular with the children!

Help needed! The PSA provides essential extra funds for the school. In 2017, the PSA paid for many items benefitting the school, including the wooden play castle. They also pay for the leavers' hoodies and the coach for the year 5/6 residential trip in June each year.

The PSA is run by a committee of volunteers. Without them, there would be no PSA and the school wouldn't have these extra funds. From September, a couple of members from the committee are having to stand down from their roles, so we would love to have some **new people on board** to help! Even if you can't commit to much, every little helps. For more information, or to volunteer, email us at oakingtonpsa@hotmail.com.



Claire Langston