

Oakington & Westwick Journal

March 2018



**Spring
Market**

Big Bang coming?

**Get to know a
villager**

WEEKLY

- 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 Oakington Viking **Football Club**, 6.30-7.30. Recreation Ground, free. James Wilson – james@selsius.co.uk
- Wed **Brownies**, 6-7:30pm. Pavilion. Anne Christie – oakingtonbrownies@gmail.com
- 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**, 2pm & 7.30pm. Pavilion, £4 per week. Dawn Stokes – C 236 427
- Thu **Clubbercise**, 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

MARCH

- Fri 23 Mar **Lunch**, by Tuesday Talk & Tea group, 12:30 – 2pm. Church Hall. £5. Joan Pettit
- Fri 23 Mar **Country Dancing**, 8pm. Histon Methodist Ch. Hall, £1.50. Kathryn Coles – C 233 191
- Sat 24 Mar **Spring Market**, 2-5pm. In and around White Horse Pub. Jo Mills – C 233 244
- Wed 28 Mar **Garden Society**, 7.30pm. Church Hall, *The Gardens of Peckover House*. Julie Grove

APRIL

- Sat 7 Apr **Spring Farm Event**, 10am-4pm. Oakington Garden Centre & Café. Animals & activities
- Mon 9 Apr **O&W Parish Council**, 7.30pm. Pavilion. All invited. Clerk: L Lawrence – oakingtonpc@btinternet.com
- Tue 10 Apr **Tue Talk & Tea**, 2.45pm. Church Hall. Rosy Thornton: *Getting Published*. Joan Pettit
- Thu 12 Apr **O&W WI**, 7.30pm. Church Hall. Willow Weaving. Helen Williams – C 232 614
- Thu 19 Apr **History Society**, 7.30pm. Church Hall, £4 (guests). S Harper-Scott: *The History of Impington Hall*. Julie Grove
- Mon 23 Apr **Annual Parish Meeting**, 7.30pm. Pavilion. For all villagers. Clerk: L Lawrence – oakingtonpc@btinternet.com

Wed 25 Apr **Garden Society**, 7.30pm. Church Hall.

Zsuzsa Sererzs: *General Uses and Preservation of Herbs*. Julie Grove

Fri 27 Apr **Country Dancing**, 8pm. Histon Methodist Church Hall, £1.50. Kathryn Coles – C 233191

MAY

Tue 8 May **Tuesday Talk & Tea**, 2:45pm. Church Hall. Social afternoon sharing holiday or antique memories. Joan Pettit

Mon 14 May **O&W Parish Council**, 7.30pm. Pavilion. All welcome. Clerk: L Lawrence – oakingtonpc@btinternet.com



CONGRATULATIONS

to **RAJ & KANWAL** at the village shop

Nominated for a South Cambs Annual Community Award

Spring in (to) your Community

Every issue of the Journal reveals that Oakington and Westwick are better places because of the people who live here and get involved. From leading brownies to sweeping pavements, from chairing the Council to looking after the lottery, from improving cycle paths or the school playground to singing or playing chess together: virtually everything reported in these pages is run by volunteers, and in the first of a new series of articles, Celine Pinter profiles just one of the many special people who make this community so remarkable.

I think all these people would tell you that they get a lot out of what they do, not least the satisfaction of contributing. You already take an interest because you're reading this now, but read on to hear of other ways to get more involved if you are able. In particular, the Parish Council needs volunteers

who can help navigate Oakington and Westwick through the "big bang" of the critical next couple of years.

Thanks to all those who responded to our plea for deliverers and distributors. We welcome Jane Goodyer onto the Journal Team as Distribution Manager. And thank you, everyone who gave feedback on the last issue. Keep it coming! - and your contributions - note the next copy deadline below.

John Terry's Nature Notes remind us that the climate is, like our parish, in a period of unprecedented change. But spring has finally begun, and it's marked by a new event in Oakington and Westwick: a Spring Market, on 24th March. See you there!

Jenny Prince

Editors: Jenny Prince & Irène Butlin



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), Ranko Pinter (Chair), Nykki Rogers (Advertising Manager), Jane Goodyer (Distribution Manager), Geoffrey Butlin.

Send contributions to
oakwestjournal@gmail.com

DEADLINE FOR MAY ISSUE: Tuesday 8 May

Delivered week beginning Saturday 19 May

We started 2017 with very little in the way of reserves, and at the time of the AGM, there was an overall balance of £2069. The Village Day was very successful and generated an eventual surplus of £1,837.22. The Journal produced a surplus of £465. The Association has taken out annual Public Liability Insurance at a cost of £991.76. We are still building a sound level of reserves, but soon hope to be able to invest in community projects such as the Environmental Action Group's Planters.

Our next event is the **Spring Market** that will be held from 2-5 pm on Saturday 24 March, at the White Horse. We have a great variety of stalls selling local produce and crafts, including a cake stall run by the WI. The pub will be selling hot snacks as well as their usual range of food and drink. The Village Shop is supporting the Market, and we hope that customers will go from the market to the Village Shop to buy the rest of their shopping.

The **Village Day** Sub-Committee has started to meet every month to put everything in place to make sure we'll all have a great time on 30 June. If you'd like to help, please get in touch with Hanna Lumley at the Communitéa Café or email: oakingtonvillageday@gmail.com.

I would like to thank Irene Butlin for being Secretary for the last year, and for her support and hard work. She has moved onto her new role as co-editor of the Journal and continues to be involved in the Village Day Sub-Committee.

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

Bernie Yates, Treasurer: bernardjyates@gmail.com

Roger Duthie, Membership Secretary: rjaduthie@gmail.com

Community Association Update

The Community Association adopted a new constitution at its AGM on 16 January. The new constitution has created a committee and sub-committee structure. We are still seeking two additional committee members. We meet about 3 times a year, and provide oversight and support for the Village Day and Journal, and other activities such as the Bonfire, Spring Market and Children's Discos. If you would like to join us, please get in touch.

The new constitution allows individual people to join for the first time. If you're interested, please get in touch with Roger Duthie. The annual subscription is only £1. You will receive a regular newsletter, an invitation to our meetings and know that you are supporting community activities.

Community and voluntary groups continue to be invited to join the Community Association for an annual subscription of £10. This allows groups to promote their activities in the Village Journal and at the Village Day, and to come together three times a year to share information and co-ordinate projects.

Oakington Post Office hours

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

Don't forget you can do your personal banking free of charge at the Post Office - such as taking money out of your account or paying it in, or paying most bills.

From the Parish Council Chair

I was reading a short history of Oakington this morning and apparently, in the mid 19th century, whole families moved out of Oakington and emigrated to Adelaide, Australia to escape the terrible poverty here. In fact, over three years, the population declined by one third.



"The big bang is arriving"

How times change! Today, the parishes of Oakington and Longstanton are undergoing massive expansion as families seek to move here, drawn by the possibility of work in the

Cambridge region. So far, expansion in Oakington has been limited and gradual, but the big bang is arriving;

Northstowe phases 2 and 3 are about to impact massively upon us and we need to start, as a community, thinking about the impact and responding positively to it.

As you probably all know, Northstowe will eventually consist of approximately ten thousand homes, new schools, a town centre and a range of social amenities. It is being built in three 'phases'; the first phase is already being built around Longstanton and will pick up in pace over the next

"Phases 2 and 3... will change Oakington forever."

few months. Phase 1 largely impacted on Longstanton. Well, now it is the turn of Phase 2 to start, which, apart from thousands of homes, will include the town centre and a new secondary school. Planning permission has already been granted and work will

begin very soon. Within ten years this will be our nearest town and social centre. The first 'concrete' sign of the work on Phase 2 will be the new access road running from Bar Hill interchange across Longstanton Rd into the old airfield site. This will initially be used for heavy vehicles involved in major structural work and then become one of the main routes out of Northstowe to the A14.

But it is now the turn of phase 3 to go through planning and this is the phase of the town that will come within 200 metres of Oakington.

I don't think it an exaggeration to say that Phases 2 and 3 of Northstowe, and the seven thousand homes which will be built there, will change Oakington for ever.

"We have a choice"

We have a choice, we can shrug our shoulders and let them get on with construction, or we can recognise that this is

going to happen and try to make Northstowe Phases 2 and 3 parts of a great town for people to live in and a pleasant place for us to visit.

The Parish Council will be active in scrutinizing the plans for Phase 3 and expressing its opinions on your behalf. But I would also urge you all to attend any Northstowe events, such as the Northstowe Parish Forums in order to know what is happening and let the planners, politicians and builders know your views on how Northstowe can be built to the highest standards.

On the same theme of change, I wrote about the proposed **Rural Travel Hub**, in the last edition of the journal. The

travel hub idea was first proposed by The Greater Cambridge Partnership and the Parish Council expressed interest in the idea, if it brought demonstrable benefits to Oakington.

In order for everyone in the village to have a chance to see the plans and discuss them, representatives from the Greater Cambridge Partnership will be attending the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday April 23rd to give a presentation. Please do come along.

"See the plans and discuss them"

On a very different topic, many of you will have noticed the rather dramatic cutting back of the **tall leylandii trees on Dry Drayton Road** as one enters/exits Oakington village.

There is a long and complicated story regarding these trees, which would involve a whole edition of the Journal if I were to recount it in full. In short, we would like these trees cut down to hedge level, but there are legal issues involved I am unable to go into. Let me just say that our District Councillors, Simon Edwards and Lynda Harford and our County Councillor, Peter Hudson have battled on our behalf to get these trees both cut back and reduced in height. They continue to argue on our behalf for a reduction in height.

Finally, as I wrote earlier, The **Annual Parish Meeting** takes place on **Monday April 23rd in the Pavilion**, starting at **7.30pm**. This is the annual event when clubs and societies in the village give a report of their activities, including the Parish Council.

This year we also have the presentation by The Greater Cambridge Partnership regarding the Rural Travel Hub. If that isn't exciting enough to persuade you to come, there will be light refreshments and drinks. What a fabulous social event!

"A fabulous social event!"

Stephen Moore

From the District Council

Community Energy Grant. The council is building on its commitment to supporting local communities through the popular Community Chest scheme by introducing a new Community Energy Grant Fund. Community groups can bid for funding. From March, parish councils, charities, voluntary groups, sports and social clubs and not-for-profit organisations can bid for up to £3,000 per organisation per year towards energy-saving and green initiatives such as insulation, lighting and heating controls for community buildings and installation of electric vehicle charging points.

Recycling. Extra recycling (no glass, please, for safety reasons) left next to the blue bin will be collected *only* if it is contained in one transparent sack (available from supermarkets or online), or one bundle of cardboard of a size which will fit inside the bin. The crew will empty your blue bin first, then place the extra recycling in the bin and empty it again. For safety reasons extra recycling from returnable containers or cardboard boxes is no longer collected. If you regularly have extra recycling you can order an extra blue bin. These are now free of charge.

Tim Wotherspoon

Environment Action Group

Our **Flood Mitigation Group** continues with its prime objective of controlling water in the brook before it enters the village. Flood attenuation ponds would divert flood flows into storage before being released back into the brook when water levels have abated. Much still needs to be done before we see any work on site but so far we are encouraged by responses. In the meantime, we have discussed with the Environment Agency the maintenance of the brook through the village so that flows pass downstream as efficiently as possible.

They have started regular maintenance work to trim vegetation from the banks, and we have agreed with them a larger scheme to take out bushes etc on sections of the brook where they potentially hold up flows. Funding permitting, this scheme will be undertaken within the next 12 months.

The **restoration of the village pond** is going ahead following the successful application to the Wildlife Enhancement Scheme to supplement the Parish Council's earlier contribution. Final approval in January meant that we



had a short time in which to carry out the work before the bird nesting season and the return of aquatic wildlife following hibernation. The contractor was able to carry out the tree work during February by removing overhanging branches and brambles and the de-silting operation is scheduled for early March. Many thanks to Dave Pegg and Mr. Wynn at the Crossways Garage for their cooperation and tolerance.

The ongoing work of keeping our **paths and walkways** clear and safe has continued, with enthusiastic teams sweeping pavements and 'siding out' encroaching vegetation in late January and early February. We are always looking for volunteers: contact James Youd on C 233639, jamesyoud51@icloud.com.

We have been working with the Parish Council on proposals for a **notice board and bench, and waste bin**, on the grass verge between Mead View and the shop. Consultation of

Bus update: There will be minor changes to the Citi 6 timetable from 15th April, and changes to some busway services from 2nd April.



Transport Action Group

Preliminary consultations have started with the county council regarding the initial spend of Northstowe phase 1 section "106" monies for **"Oakington to Girton cycleway improvements"**.



Initially £35k is being made available to fund the studies into how/what the remaining £415k (not yet released) should be spent on, and discussions will be taking place with affected parties (mostly Oakington and Girton).

Although this sounds like a lot, it actually isn't much for any scheme to make any serious improvements to the route. Consider how much land or a junction modification would cost! However, with considerations of Greenways and other projects it is hoped that a proposal can be found that provides useful route improvement for Oakington residents and others. TAG have provided the parties involved with copies of our proposals and ideas developed with input from the village over the last few years and will continue to work alongside our parish council to try and ensure some improvements are made. Please feel free to contact the O&W Transport Action Group with your views and ideas using any of the following: Email: owcp.tag@gmail.com
Jim Bryant on 07807184691 or 01223 237740

nearby residents by Arthur Sillett indicated a lot of support. With our input the PC has also agreed to set up an Open Spaces working party to put together a proposal to use the existing £14,000 "106" funds to leverage further funds to develop the periphery of the recreation ground. Meanwhile, Nykki Rogers continues to work on her vision of a **community garden** and also of brightening up the village by the organization of **tubs of flowers**.

Stephanie Smith, EAG Secretary, sgs30@cantab.net



Oakington C of E Primary School PSA



September 2017 saw the creation of a new PSA (Parent Staff Association) and they have been busy raising money for the School. To date they have raised around £1,500 from various events, including a Bake Off Competition, the annual Christmas fair, a Christmas Disco, a Secret Santa Shop and Christmas cards designed by the kids.

The PSA is run on an entirely voluntary basis and all proceeds go to the school. Since September, the PSA has contributed towards some repairs that were needed for the hugely popular wooden trim trail in the playground. They are currently helping to raise money for a quiet garden for the children, in a currently overgrown and unused part of the playground.

How can you help?

Donating. The PSA is all about raising funds. If you'd like to donate some money, let them know. Or maybe you can donate something else: perhaps a cake for a cake sale, or a prize for a raffle or tombola. All donations are gratefully received.

Easy Fundraising. Do you ever do any online shopping? How about helping get a bit of money for nothing?! Yes, there really is such a thing! If you do your shopping through this website:

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/oakingtoncofepta/ each time you do, a little bit of money is put aside for the PSA, at no cost to you!

For the tech savvy among you, there is also a handy app you can download to make it even easier.

So many online retailers are part of it, it's impossible to list here, but it includes most online grocery shops, Amazon, Ebay, Argos, John Lewis, travel companies, fashion retailers, toy retailers, electrical retailers, pretty much every high street shop you can imagine. PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE, if you do any online shopping, try and do it through Easy Fundraising. It costs you nothing and it raises money for the school: WIN WIN!!!



Since the PSA account was set up with Easy Fundraising, 46 people have supported it by shopping through them. To date it has raised over £600 for the PSA. It would be fantastic if more people could sign up too.

Come along to events and enjoy them! You don't need to

Humpty Dumpty's Wall



February 10th was an important fundraising date for the Pre-School as it was their Annual Jumble Sale! Organised and managed brilliantly by committee member Clare Wale, the event was kindly hosted by Oakington Primary School. Clothes, shoes, books and toys flew off the tables and into bags and a record amount was raised - just under £800! The support from the village community was fantastic; people donated, helped set it up, gave their time on the day as well as turning up and buying things! A fantastic community event. Thank you very much to all of you involved.



On that note, the Pre-School needs more people to join their committee, in particular people with professional experience in business, building management and fundraising. The committee meets once a term, usually on a Tuesday evening. The next date is March 20th. Please get in touch with manager Laura Peat (C 237504) to offer your expertise.

Jessica Summers

have any connection with the school for a lot of the events: many are open to all.

You can find details of events on www.oakingtonpsa.wordpress.com or by following www.facebook.com/oakingtonpsa

Look out for details of their Easter cake sale and come and see the PSA at the Village Day on 30th June. In the meantime, pop the following date in your diaries:

FAMILY CONCERT
Sunday 10th June 2018,
Oakington School

Local music group Oaktet will be performing a family concert of film and

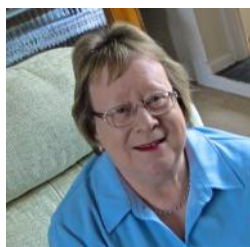
television music followed by activities for the children.

You can get in touch with the PSA by emailing them at oakingtonpsa@hotmail.com or by sending a message through Facebook.

Claire Langston

Liz Davis

Liz has been a committed villager and inspiration to people in the village as someone who is willing to give their time to others. She has led a varied and interesting life! In this interview series, we get to know a villager – just a little bit better!



Liz first came to Oakington as a new bride 53 years ago at the age of 19. When her two daughters were small she started a small childminding circle with friends Mary and Marian. This then grew into what was to become the Humpty Dumpty Playgroup! In 1971 her academic husband was on sabbatical in Australia and their son was born there. When they returned, her daughters went to school, and the playgroup continued in other peoples' houses. Liz has always been an active member of the community and was PTA secretary at the village school and eventually all three of her children went to IVC. (Years later two stepchildren joined the extended family and Liz's parents also moved to "Midfield Lodge" when they became old and frail.)

After another sabbatical, this time in California, her god-daughter joined the family permanently after her mother died. Liz had spent her teens in Italy and this led to her subsequent profession as a Public Service Interpreter in Italian. Life was busy, and as a single mother of four young ones ranging from 10 – 15, she also had a variety of day jobs, from bookseller at Heffers to bi-lingual tour-guiding amongst others.

Liz was involved in forming CINTRA (Cambridge Interpreting and Translation) a not-for-profit company set up for public services in legal, medical and local government fields. When she retired as voluntary Chairman of Directors

a few years ago, they had grown to 700 interpreters and translators on their books who were working in almost every known language! Alongside this, Liz also worked for 27 years as the only Staff Interpreter at Addenbrookes working with Italians who came to the UK for liver transplants.

Liz has always given her commitment to a host of voluntary positions, from Parish Councillor, the Methodist Chapel in Oakington, where she acted as Senior Steward, the Salvation Army shop and CAMSIGHT. She now attends the Histon Methodist Chapel since the Oakington one closed.

About 25 years ago Liz started voluntary work with CAMSIGHT (the Cambridge Society for the Blind and Partially Sighted), and is still volunteering to this day for what she calls "an amazing charity!"

After the Methodist Chapel closed, the Monday Café and many small groups moved to St Andrew's new Church Hall. Liz still helps to organise this and so the Monday Café has been able to stay open after more than 10 years as a community facility.

Nowadays her only other "civic duty" is to keep the Telephone Box Library tidy and to make sure that the books are recycled as speedily as possible between that and the other three bookstalls with which she is involved

Liz says that she sees Oakington as her "forever home" and even planned to be buried here. Settled now in the village, Liz and Peter, her second husband and an ever increasing family of 11 grandchildren and two great grandchildren, are happy to have their roots firmly planted in a hopefully flood free Oakington at Apryl House.

If you would like to know more about CAMSIGHT check out the website www.camsight.org.uk.

Celine Pinter

Bin Days



Thurs 22 March, Sat 7 April, Thurs 19 April, Thurs 3 May, Thurs 17 May



Thurs 29 March, Fri 13 April, Thurs 26 April, Fri 11 May

Thank you...

to Pat and Colin Bradley for picking up litter round the village!



Adverts removed for online version

Beetle Drive! Beetle Drive! Beetle Drive...?



Anyone passing the Pavilion on Saturday 24th February hearing screams of "Beetle!" and fearing a plague of biblical proportions, be not afraid. It was Oakington & Westwick Neighbours hosting another successful Beetle Drive. A fun game for all ages who can draw... and also for us Jackson Pollock wannabes.

Lots of cakes, tea & coffee, cakes, soft drinks, prizes, cakes, a raffle, cakes, biscuits and did I mention cakes?

It was good to see such a range of ages join together and display that same highly charged expression of tormented desperation to win, or to at least be able to put pencil to paper.



Proceeds from the Beetle Drive went towards furthering the work of Oakington & Westwick Neighbours.

The next date for your diary is **'The Big Lunch'** - The UK's annual get together for neighbours', a bring and share picnic on the Rec for everyone to enjoy on Saturday 9th June.

Paul Kershaw



Local Police Contact

Police Community Support Officer **Bujar Mani**

T: 101 ext: 7113152 M: 07525227383

E: bujar.mani@cambs.pnn.police.uk

Stand For What You Believe In

Parish Council elections take place on 3 May 2018. All nine Oakington & Westwick Parish Council seats are up for re-election.

As a councillor you can become a voice for your community and effect real change. There are no formal qualifications needed. Providing you meet the eligibility criteria, all you need is an interest in improving the quality of life for those living in the parish and a willingness to get involved.

If you are interested in finding out more, please speak to one of our existing parish councillors or contact me on 01223 232398 or oakingtonpc@btinternet.com

"Become a voice for your community"

Please hurry though as nominations must be delivered to South Cambs District Council, Cambourne between Monday 26 March and Friday 6 April. (I can provide you with an election pack or you can contact elections@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713287).

Laura Lawrence, Clerk

Reporting non-emergencies to police online



Non-emergency situations can now be reported to the police online if people would rather do so than call 101.

Cambridgeshire Constabulary's website enables this via specially designed forms, or using a live webchat.

The live webchat option enables people to communicate directly with a member of staff in the control room, just as would be the case when calling 101. Online forms are processed in the same way as a call and the person reporting can expect a response within 24 hours.

Due to the high level of demand there are often queues when calling 101. Reporting online is quick, easy and free of charge.

To view the online reporting section of the constabulary's website visit www.cambs.police.uk/report/. The live webchat function is available by clicking on the green icon on the bottom right of the page.

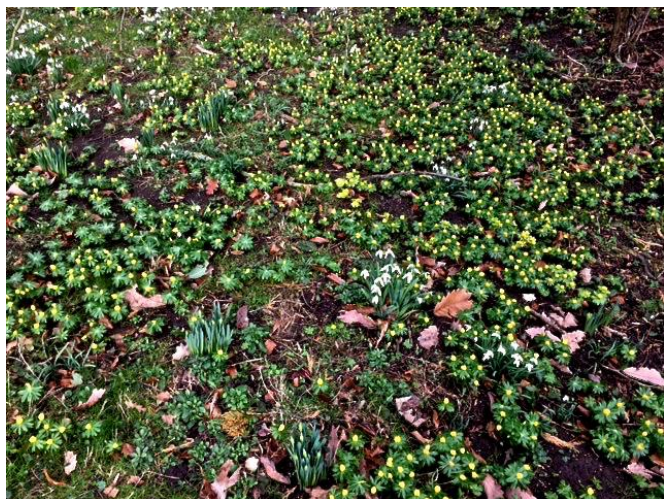
Superintendent James Sutherland

Advert removed for online version



How do you fancy squid and chips instead of cod? Because the UK seas are warming up, cod seem to be moving north in the search for cooler water. What other changes can we expect from wildlife with **Climate Change**?

In January we saw aconites, snowdrops and willow catkins in flower; in February daffodils and primroses. Migrating birds such as blackcaps are arriving earlier and brimstone butterflies have been spotted in February. Is spring happening earlier because of climate change?



Records from the Met Office's National Climate Information Centre suggest that spring temperatures are 1° C higher than the average during the period 1961 to 1990 and the number of days with frost is 15% lower. This is extending the growing season of plants.

Most of us recognise this increase in temperature is linked to more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. In 1750, the figure was 280 parts per million (ppm), by 1960 the figure was 315ppm and by 2016, the number reached 400 ppm. As you know, carbon dioxide is the main greenhouse gas that stops the sun's energy reflecting back into space.

The predicted weather patterns suggest warmer springs and summers, more droughts, more storm events, and more flooding bringing difficulties for us all. More soil erosion will result, but one of the biggest concerns is melting ice near the poles and rising sea levels. New pests and diseases are arriving, particularly with warmer conditions. We all have a responsibility to take this threat seriously and reduce fossil fuel use where we can.

Wildlife can suffer with the changes. Habitats can be destroyed and animal species can find themselves out of sync with plant development, and predator prey relationships disrupted. But wildlife but can also adapt to the new conditions over time, or migrate.

You may have seen **little egrets** in Oakington. Two or three are often to be seen around the brooks near Mansell Wood. They are about half the size of herons. Twentyfive years ago they were very rare but our warmer conditions have attracted them from mainland Europe to East Anglia and the South East.

So, let's still celebrate the arrival of spring, having come through another winter.

"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant. If we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome."

Anne Bradstreet, American poet (1612-1672)

John Terry – johnterry23@hotmail.com.uk

Advert removed for online version

Brownies

Is your daughter nearly 7 and interested in joining Brownies? We meet Wednesday evenings and enjoy crafts, games, activities, singing, adventurous days out and unit holidays!



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

Anne Christie oakingtonbrownies@gmail.com

Country Dance Club

Jane and I look forward to seeing you at Histon Methodist Church Hall on Friday, 23rd March, at 8.00 p.m. for another fun evening of dancing to live music. All dances will be called and walked through. Everyone welcome.



Adults: £1.50 Accompanied Children: 50p.

Kathryn Coles

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 at the Oakington and Westwick Sports Pavilion on Thursdays; the afternoon session starts at 2.00 pm and the evening session at 7.30 pm. For further details please contact:

Dawn Stokes on 01223 236427

Tuesday Talk & Tea

Foot tapping afternoon of folk music courtesy of Richard & Tim Brading was enjoyed by all in February.



Diary Dates:

- **10 April** Talk on Getting Published - an author's prospective by Cottenham author - Rosy Thornton
- **8 May** Social afternoon sharing members' holiday or favourite antique memories

Both meetings at St Andrew's Hall 2.45pm accompanied by English tea. Looking forward to enjoying your company - come and join us.

Joan Pettit (chairperson)

An Invitation to Lunch

Tuesday Talk & Tea members are delighted to organise a Lunchtime Meal of Soup & Dessert for £5.00 a head at **St Andrew's Hall Friday 23rd March 12.30 - 2pm**. Look forward to seeing you !



Tennis Club

Oakington and Westwick Tennis Club welcomes new members all year round and now is a great time to join. Memberships run from April to April, so joining now will mean you benefit from a whole 12 months of access to our well-maintained courts, situated at the village recreation ground. Other benefits of membership include social events, social tennis, and entry to the club ballot for tickets to Wimbledon.



The club is entirely run by volunteers, which means membership fees are kept incredibly low. With family memberships costing just £65, you can enjoy a whole year of tennis for a family of four for just over £16 each. Joining is quick and simple: just email the Treasurer at francispinner@aol.com for an application form.

Frank Pinner

Oakington Singers

After a quiet start to the year, we are now looking forward to singing Easter music at services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday (29 and 30 March) at St Andrew's Oakington.



We rehearse every Monday evening from 7.45-9.30 pm in St Andrew's church hall, Oakington. So if you are a singer yourself and fancy joining us, or if you would like us to sing at your event, please contact:

Paul Tann on 01223 235567

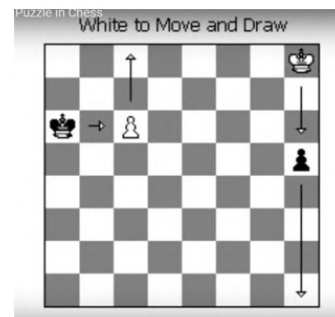
Chess Café

If these dark evenings get you down, why not instead of watching telly, come to the Chess Café in the CommuniTea Café on Wednesday at 7pm. There, for a couple of hours, you can cheer yourself up by meeting and talking with some old and some new people, whilst playing chess and other board games, or not playing at all!

Solution to the chess problem from the January issue of the Journal:

1. Rb2. By blocking the progress of the black pawn, it forces the only possible move for the black - Ka5.
2. Ra3 ++ check mate! Black pawn cannot take the rook because of the 'discovered check' by white bishop on e1.

In the second chess problem of this year the white's position looks hopeless. His pawn can be easily caught by the black king, whilst his white king seems to be too far from catching the black pawn. And yet! With a clever manoeuvre white can save a draw. Can you see how?



Ranko Pinter ranpin@gmail.com

Spring Market & Lottery



The lottery is run by the Pavilion Committee, a team of volunteers mostly from the village groups who regularly use the Pavilion. Proceeds go to improving Pavilion facilities, benefitting many local clubs as well as residents who can hire it for parties.



Oakington & Westwick Sports Pavilion Monthly Lottery 2017 - Winners



Month	Ticket No	Area	Winnings
March	044	Norfolk	£100
April	552	Waterbeach	£100
May	024	Cherry Orchard	£100
June	203	Water Lane	£100
July	234	Manor Farm Close	£100
August	254	Meadow Farm Close	£100
September	452	Coles Lane	£100
October	341	The Drift	£100
November	342	The Drift	£100
December	252	Meadow Farm Close	£150



Oakington & Westwick Sports Pavilion 2018 Monthly Lottery



If you would like to join the 2018 lottery, please complete the form below & return to the Pavilion with your payment. Thank you.

The Lottery is run by the Oakington & Westwick Sports Pavilion Management Committee. This has been very popular and successful over the years with all profits from the lottery going towards the future development of facilities at the Pavilion.

The lottery commences at the end of March. The monthly prizes will be £100 with a prize of £150 for the December draw.

The cost of one annual ticket is £10 for 10 draws (March - December 2018). Tickets must be applied for and paid by 31st March 2018. There is no limit to the number of tickets that you can buy.

We hope that you will take part, you could be lucky and it helps raise funds to develop facilities at the Pavilion which in turn are enjoyed by many local clubs & groups.

Please complete the form below and we can either call to collect your payment or you can take it to the post box at the pavilion. Please make cheques payable to Oakington & Westwick Sports Pavilion. On receipt of your payment your ticket will be allocated and delivered to you in due course.

Thank you to all those that have supported the lottery in the past and to all newcomers for 2018. Please call 235187 if you would like us to collect your payment! Thank you.

Number of tickets required @ £10.00 per ticket per year: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Telephone: _____

Promoter: Oakington & Westwick Sports Pavilion Management Committee, Queensway, Oakington, Cambridge, CB24 3AW
Registration Number: SL0120