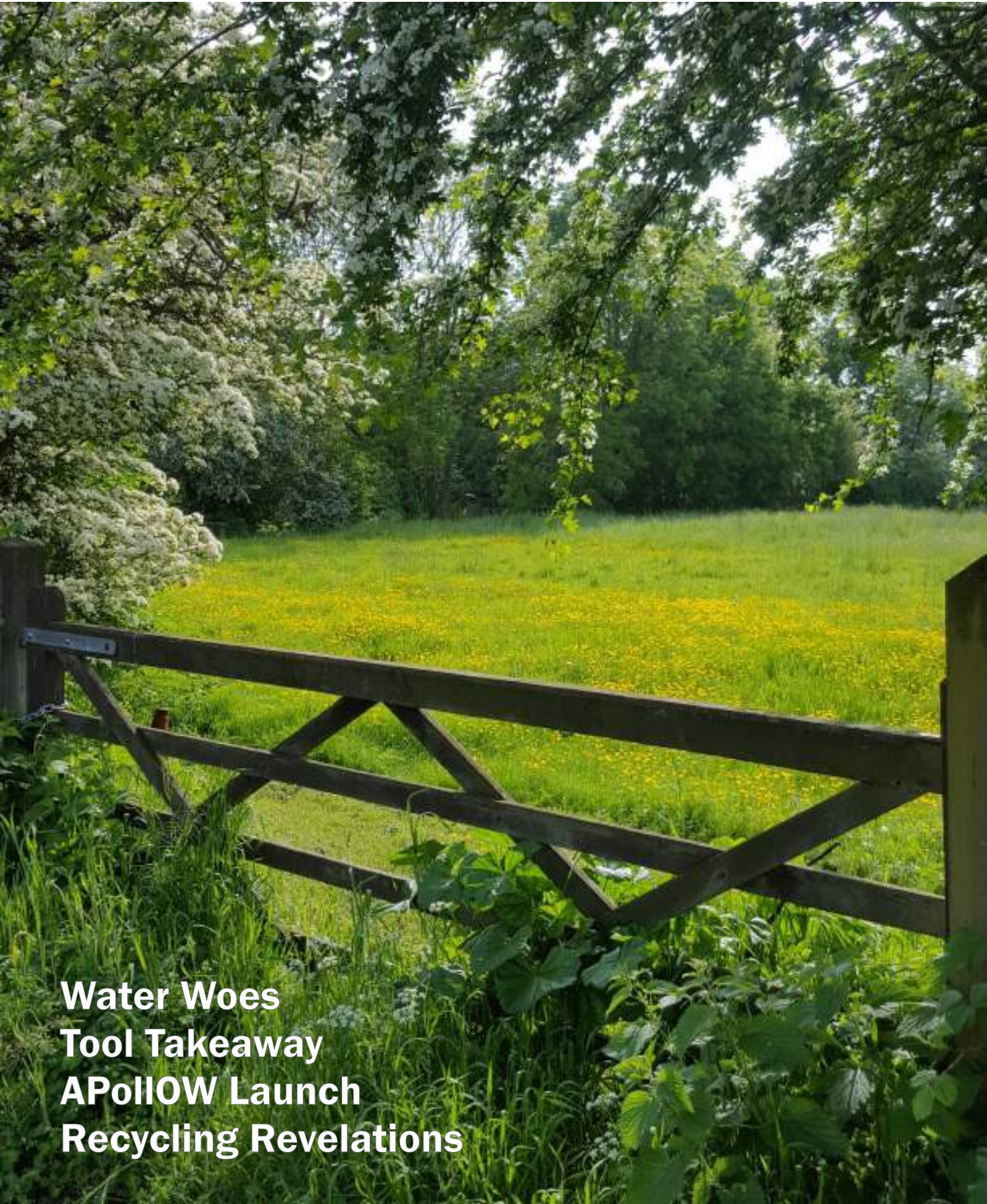


Oakington & Westwick

April / May 2025

Journal



**Water Woes
Tool Takeaway
APollOW Launch
Recycling Revelations**

What's On

Weekly

Mon	Monday Cafe , 9.30–noon. Church Hall, £1 Liz Davis – 01223 232745
Mon	Youth Club , on a Bus, 7–9pm. Recreation Ground, School Year 7 and above. Free. 07853 795256
Mon	Oakington Singers , 7.30–9pm. Church Hall. Elaine Bailey – elainebailey1@live.co.uk
Tue	Senior Pilates , 11.30–12.30pm. Pavilion. Classes through out the week. Contact: Claire Young – 07766 554413
Tue	Cubs , 6–7.15pm. Term time. Pavilion. Richard Young – richard.young@crafthillscouts.org.uk
Tue	Mental Wellbeing (adults only), 6–8pm. Contact Ildiko Dulo – cats@koka.me.uk / koka.me.uk/cats
Tue	Table Tennis , 7.30–9pm. Pavilion. Gillian L'Angellier – 01223 234758
Wed	Mixed Ability Pilates , 10–11am. Pavilion. Classes throughout the week. Contact: Claire Young – 07766 554413
Wed	Yoga , 7–8.15pm. Pavilion. Denise Sibley-Moore – 01954 202235
Thu	Mature Movers , 10–10.45am. Pavilion. Katie Harknett – 07541 721059 / info@elementalfitness.co.uk
Thu	Little Steps playgroup, 10–11.30am. Term time. Church Hall. littlestepsoakington@gmail.com
Thu	Ten Sing , 7–9pm. Term time. Histon Baptist Church. Terry King – cambridgetensing@gmail.com
Thu	Short Mat Bowls , 7.30–9.30pm. Pavilion. Dawn Stokes – 01223 236427
Thu	Quiz Night , 8pm. White Horse Pub. 01223 232417
Fri	Beavers , 6–7pm. Term time. Oakington Primary School. beavers@oakingtonscouts.org.uk
Fri	Scouts , 6–7:30pm. Term time. Pavilion. Cara Hanman – cara.hanman@oakingtonscouts.org.uk

Mon	31 Mar	O&W Annual Parish Meeting , 7.30pm. Pavilion. All invited. clerk@oakingtonandwestwick-pc.gov.uk
Fri	4 Apr	Minibus to Bar Hill , 10am. To book ring Teri Seaber – 07711 531004
Fri	4 Apr	Mobile Library , 1.50–2.20pm. Coles Lane.
Sat	5 Apr	Village Walk & Talk , 10.30am. Meet by Church on High Street. Alice – OWNeighbours@gmail.com
Tue	8 Apr	Tuesday Talk & Tea , 2.45pm. Church Hall. “Unnoticed Things in Cambridge.” Marian Cleaver – 01223 232897
Thu	10 Apr	Chess Club , 7pm. Interested in joining? contact Ranko Pinter – ranpin@gmail.com or 07766 052025
Thu	10 Apr	O&W WI , 7.30pm. Church Hall. AGM / “Mrs Beeton’s Flying Picnic”. Elaine Bailey – elainebailey1@live.co.uk
Sat	12 Apr	Stories for Mental Wellbeing , 10–noon. Pavilion. Ildiko Dulo – cats@koka.me.uk / koka.me.uk/cats
Sat	12 Apr	Messy Church , 3–5pm. Church Hall. Cate Lambert – catelambert@hotmail.co.uk or 07533 152519
Mon	14 Apr	O&W Parish Council , 7.30pm. Pavilion. All invited. clerk@oakingtonandwestwick-pc.gov.uk
Tue	15 Apr	Easter Crafts for Kids , 10–11am. Pavilion. Contact Ildiko Dulo – cats@koka.me.uk / koka.me.uk/cats
Thu	17 Apr	Philosopher’s Café , 7pm. Interested in joining? contact Ranko Pinter – ranpin@gmail.com or 07766 052025
Wed	23 Apr	Book Club , 7.30pm. White Horse. Contact Natalie – nataliewant@hotmail.com
Wed	30 Apr	Sustainable O&W , 7.30pm. Church Hall. <i>ApoilOW</i> pollinator observation training. sustainableow@gmail.com
Fri	2 May	Minibus to Bar Hill , 10am. To book ring Teri Seaber – 07711 531004
Fri	2 May	Mobile Library , 1.50–2.20pm. Coles Lane.
Sat	3 May	Village Walk & Talk , 10.30am. Meet by Church on High Street. Alice – OWNeighbours@gmail.com
Thu	8 May	Chess Club , 7pm. Interested in joining? contact Ranko Pinter – ranpin@gmail.com or 07766 052025
Thu	8 May	O&W WI , 7.30pm. Church Hall. Elaine Bailey – elainebailey1@live.co.uk
Sat	10 May	Stories for Mental Wellbeing , 10–noon. Pavilion. Contact Ildiko Dulo – cats@koka.me.uk / koka.me.uk/cats
Sat	10 May	Plant Swap Stall , 10am–noon, 2–4pm. 36 Coles Lane. OWNeighbours@gmail.com
Sat	10 May	Messy Church , 3–5pm. Church Hall. Cate Lambert – catelambert@hotmail.co.uk or 07533 152519
Sun	11 May	Plant Swap Stall , 10am–noon. 36 Coles Lane. OWNeighbours@gmail.com
Mon	12 May	O&W Parish Council , 7.30pm. Pavilion. All invited. clerk@oakingtonandwestwick-pc.gov.uk
Tue	13 May	Tuesday Talk & Tea , 2.45pm. Church Hall. Silk painting, Pat Carne & friends. Marian Cleaver – 01223 232897
Thu	15 May	Philosopher’s Café , 7pm. Interested in joining? contact Ranko Pinter – ranpin@gmail.com or 07766 052025
Fri	16 May	Ceilidh , 6–8pm. Girton Glebe School. Fundraising for Oakington beavers/cubs/scouts. See page 24.
Wed	21 May	Book Club , 7.30pm. White Horse. Contact nataliewant@hotmail.com
Wed	21 May	Sustainable O&W , 7.30pm. Church Hall. Talk on “Foraging etc”. sustainableow@gmail.com

BIN DAYS	Fri 11 Apr, Fri 25 Apr, Fri 09 May, Fri 23 May.	Black bins
	Fri 04 Apr, Mon 14 Apr , Fri 02 May, Fri 16 May, Fri 30 May	Blue & Green bins



SAVE THE DATE
VILLAGE DAY
Saturday 28th June, 1–9pm

This edition of the Journal is packed with advice or as Martin Lewis would say “News you can Use”. Everything from how to report the potholes – see page 5 – to more things you can recycle. Find out how to borrow tools for simple plumbing jobs or to cut down a tree. Or want to grow your own vegetables? There are still some allotments available; details on page 11. Elsewhere are suggestions on what to sow in it now, as well as tips on protecting your house from theft, including information about a local trusted traders website with traders you can trust!

Page 21 marks the anniversary of a village institution which quietly and week by week demonstrates that it’s the connections we make which keep us going, whatever else life throws at us. It really is the benefit of living in a community big enough to offer a range of events and groups but small enough to get to know people. And it’s always easier to meet people now spring tempts us outside!

*Jenny Prince & Graham Tregonning,
Editors*



The Journal is published on behalf of the Oakington & Westwick Community Association, to inform residents about events, activities and issues in the parish. It’s delivered free to all residents and is funded by advertising, the Parish Council and the Community Association.

Journal Team:

Graham Tregonning & Jenny Prince (*editors*), Adrienne Chaplin (*distribution*), Jenny Broadway, Ranko Pinter (*chair*), Ella Whellams (*ads layout*)
Ela Yates (*business manager*)

Send contributions to
oakwestjournal@gmail.com
or phone: 01223 233510 (Jenny)
or 01223 233208 (Graham)

**DEADLINE FOR JUNE/JULY
ISSUE:
Tuesday 20 May**

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Adverts for the next issue must be received by **13 May**.

Inclusion of an advertisement does not imply endorsement by the Oakington & Westwick Journal of the product or service advertised.

Oakington Primary School Parent Staff Association

We were blessed with a sunny day on 8th March when we undertook the community tree planting at the school. We were joined by families with children at the school as well as future families, along with some of the Beavers who meet at the school on Friday evenings.

We planted a mix of Rowan, Cherry and Silver Birch trees which the school received as a donation from the Woodland Trust last year. We grew them on in our tree nursery in the school garden over the past year. We hope they will grow well and create a new woodland over time along the back fence of the school field.



Thank you to all those from the village and school including past, present and future pupils who have sponsored the trees. Plaques will be added to each tree so families can monitor their tree’s progress over time.

The children enjoyed planting the trees and especially adding primroses around the base of the trees and hope these will return year after year. We even had time and volunteers to clear the area at the front of the school and the children enjoyed helping spread wild flower seeds, so we look forward to seeing these bloom later in the summer.

If you have any questions or would like to contact us please email us on psa@oakington.cambs.sch.uk.



Angela Barber, PSA Vice Chair



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Parish Councillors

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chair@oakingtonandwestwick-pc.gov.uk

Vice-Chair: Stephen Moore
John Bailey Julie Grove
Tony Starling Ranko Pinter
Jake Camilleri
Two Vacancies

Parish Website

www.oakingtonandwestwick-pc.gov.uk

Correspondence to the Council should be addressed to the Clerk:

Mrs Laura Lawrence – Email:
clerk@oakingtonandwestwick-pc.gov.uk

Post: 4 Meadow Farm Close
Oakington CB24 3AS

Phone: 07903 295860

District Councillors

O & W, Longstanton, Northstowe
Natalie Warren-Green – 07990 553997
cllr.warrengreen@scamb.gov.uk
Tom Bygott – 07765 475 513
cllr.bygott@scamb.gov.uk

County Councillor

O & W, Longstanton, Northstowe, Over
Firouz Thompson – 07974 680875
firouz.thompson@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
On Facebook:
[longstantonoakingtonnorthstowe](https://www.facebook.com/longstantonoakingtonnorthstowe)

Member of Parliament

St Neots and Mid Cambridgeshire
Ian Sollom ian.sollom.mp@parliament.uk
www.iansollom.org Facebook: IanFSollom

VILLAGE INFORMATION

Community Association

oakington.westwick.ca@gmail.com

Oakington & Westwick Neighbours

(OWN) – 07902 111786
OWNeighbours@gmail.com

Oakington Primary School

01223 232328
office@oakington.cambs.sch.uk

Pavilion Booking Administrator

Tony Leadley – 07936 024587
oakingtonpavilion@gmail.com

Village Stores & Post Office

Thiru Kunaratnam – 01223 232327

Hardship Fund

Contact Jo on 07714 760582, Bee on 07718 068941, Celine on 07541 997299
or oak.west.hardship.fund@outlook.com

From our Parish Council Chair

“Water, water, everywhere, / Nor any drop to drink.” (*Rime of the Ancient Mariner* by Samuel Taylor Coleridge).

Anglian Water has stated on its website that this region will **run out of water** in 2030. Less rainfall, higher temperatures and greater demand will cause this. Water rationing is already happening to some businesses in Suffolk, as evidenced in a recent ‘Look East’ television interview.

A new reservoir in the Fens will supply enough water for 250,000 homes, new or otherwise. But... it won't supply a drop until at least 2036, at the very earliest. A temporary supply from Grafham Water to Cambridge is planned 'soon' and a permanent pipeline is projected, although it is still in the planning stage. This permanent pipeline will bring water from North Lincolnshire and will feed the Fens reservoir in 2036. At the time of writing I have been unable to get specific dates from Anglia Water. Meanwhile the Government has established a 'Water Scarcity Group' attended by the Director of Greater Cambridge Shared Planning.

At the March Parish Council meeting District Cllr. Dr. Tumi Hawkins informed Councillors that council planning departments cannot refuse permission to build on the basis of the lack of water supply. Already there are 36,000 permissions granted in South Cambs but not progressed further. The Government wants more and more homes to be built in the region, and the five-year housing supply plan for South Cambridgeshire is for about 11,000 new homes. And so we have a seemingly impossible situation – more demand, but no more supply for a decade.

On a brighter note: the **conifers on Stocks Green** have been replaced with a new fence and by now plans will have been drawn up for the repairs to the grassed areas. Reinforcement to some of the grassed areas will provide firm crossing points to the Baptist Chapel and hopefully the vehicular access by the fence will be now wide enough to protect the grass.

On an even brighter note: the parish council has been awarded a Net Zero Villages grant of £20,395 for **Pavilion solar panels and storage batteries**. This will help reduce energy bills, enabling the Pavilion to continue to be a major community facility for our village.

The culvert at the field end of **The Drift** has been rebuilt, ensuring safe access to the permissive pedestrian route into the fields.

Planning for emergencies within the parish is on hold at the moment due to the lack of people prepared to help. One resident has volunteered, but of course cannot do it alone. Please contact the Parish Council Clerk if you can give a few hours to this project.

Still no news I'm afraid about a likely date for the new hedging and fencing along **Dry Drayton Road**, despite three approaches from the PC to Homes England since the last Journal was distributed.

The parish missed out on the County Council Highways Capital Maintenance Programme for '25–26 unfortunately. We did have significant improvements to the Dry Drayton Road hollows and bumps quite recently and there are some really dreadful stretches of road in other parts of the county. The road surface on **Water Lane** near the Crossroads gets worse week by week. Please keep sending in reports and photographs if possible to tinyurl.com/3as35sbv on the County Council website. It's the only way we can register the appalling state of the road. Potholes similarly are a County Council Highways matter and the Highways Department needs to know exactly where they are.



David Reeves

From our District Councillors

It's good to be sitting in the spring sunshine writing to you. Thank you for contacting me throughout the winter to support your interactions with South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC). In addition, a useful SCDC contact number for all the District Council services is 01954 713000. This is open 8am – 5:30pm, Monday – Friday (until 6:30pm on Wednesdays). For specifics about how to contact a service, go to www.scamb.gov.uk/your-council-and-democracy/contact-us.

Picking up on two key concerns you have been contacting me about:

Land use and Preserving Nature

The government has launched a consultation on a new strategic approach to managing land use in England, to give decision makers the data they need to protect agricultural land and increase Britain's food security. The consultation explores the land use changes implied by commitments to restore nature, support food production, improve climate resilience and deliver new housing and infrastructure. It seeks views on the type and scale of land use changes that might be needed, as well as the actions government could take to support this. The consultation closes on 25 April. To read the consultation document in full and comment, visit: www.gov.uk/government/consultations/land-use-in-england.

Waste Service Update - Blue bin recycling contract

Residents have approached me about local news coverage of the new bin recycling contract with concerns about transporting waste to North Ireland and the carbon footprint involved. Following a thorough public sector procurement process, Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service (GCSWS) launched the new contract on March 3rd, with Re-Gen Waste Management Ltd.

Importantly, you will experience no changes to your recycling service. The same items can continue to be placed in blue bins, and collections remain unchanged. While the materials will for now be processed at Re-Gen's facility in Northern Ireland rather than locally at Waterbeach, this decision was made after careful evaluation of all options, with Re-Gen offering the best combination of cost-effectiveness, processing quality, and environmental compliance. In addition, Re-Gen is planning to open an operation in England by the end of 2025 meaning the journey will be closer to Cambridge.



*Cllr Natalie Warren-Green
SCDC Cabinet Member for Environmental Services &
Licencing*

Contact details for all Councillors are on page 5.

Four day week referendum

In my group's alternative budget proposals, we have called for a referendum on the four-day working week at the council. We believe the public consultation document produced by the council's ruling group is inadequate, as it does not even ask residents if they agree with the four-day week – or if they are happy to pay for it.

The number of children being born in the UK continues to fall, and there will be an ever smaller working proportion of the population to fund a retirement for those in old age. That means that we need to (1) increase productivity through technology, (2) work for more years before retiring and (3) work more hours every week. The UK is falling far behind other countries in productivity growth and delays to the retirement age are being resisted. That makes it more likely that the Government will feel under economic pressure to increase immigration far beyond its current record levels, and that means ever more housebuilding in the Cambridgeshire countryside.

While more maternity and paternity leave would be beneficial for this problem, alongside opportunities for flexible working for families with young children, a generalised gift to the whole working population of increased leisure time, as appealing as that might be, is counterproductive in our current economic and demographic circumstances. An increase in wages, on the other hand, would be a positive step.

Annual report to tenants and leaseholders

Concerningly, in several areas, SCDC is among the lowest scorers compared to other local authorities. South Cambridgeshire's approach to managing complaints is falling behind compared to other organisations, with a satisfaction rate of just 29%. When it comes to whether the landlord listens to tenants' views, only 54% of residents were satisfied. The report can be found on the council's website (<https://tinyurl.com/bdcxerhy>).

Increased electric vehicle charger funding

Funding for electric vehicle chargers has increased from £5,000 to up to £12,000 per project. The grant is open to parish councils, community groups and charities for public EV chargers in car parks associated with community buildings and village halls.

We are pleased to see increased funding for these projects. We understand funding is unfortunately not guaranteed to be available into the next financial year, so we would encourage all interested local organisations to apply as soon as they can on the council's website at <https://tinyurl.com/3rh62xxe>.



Cllr Tom Bygott



Rare Opportunity To Visit Bourn Windmill

A great day out for all the family! Come and see the oldest windmill of its type in the country, help push it around, ride in it, and

enjoy tea and cake in its grounds. Opening weekend: Saturday 10 May 2–4.30 pm and Sunday 11 May 11am–4.30 pm. Then on Sundays each month 2-4.30pm: 15 June, 13 July, 17 August and 14 September. Lots of parking space. Sat Nav: Caxton Road, Bourn CB23 2SU

From our County Councillor

I hope you are all enjoying the arrival of spring and the longer, brighter days.

Cambridgeshire's roads are in a poor state, and residents' frustration is understandable. While the Government has provided an additional £6.1 million for maintenance this year, it also discontinued a £2.3 million grant, making it harder to tackle the issue. Decades of underinvestment have led to a staggering £600 million backlog in essential repairs.

The current administration has prioritised road maintenance, allocating £59 million this year – double the previous expenditure and the largest single-year investment in over a decade. However, reversing years of neglect will take time. In the meantime, I continue to raise concerns about problem areas, including potholes on Water Lane and Cambridge Road.

Please keep reporting issues at highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk, as every report helps ensure repairs are scheduled.

Local Highways. Under the capital maintenance programme, work on Dry Drayton Road in Oakington – from Cambridge Road to the raised table – will resume this summer, continuing the surface dressing works left incomplete last year due to the gas works.

Earlier this year, delegated decisions approved funding for:

- The extension of the 20mph zone in Westwick
- A speed limit reduction and the installation of speed cushions at 100m intervals on Oakington Road.

Transport and the Busway. Transport remains a significant challenge in Greater Cambridge. Many residents struggle to board overcrowded buses on the busway – when they arrive

at all – and unreliable connections to London-bound trains add to the frustration.

While the Tiger bus pass scheme has been a success for young people, demand for better public transport far outstrips what is available. Stagecoach has yet to provide meaningful solutions, leaving many with no choice but to rely on cars, adding to congestion and environmental concerns.

The decision by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) to introduce bus franchising is welcome and could lead to improvements. However, what this means for the busway in the short term remains unclear. We will keep pushing for better transport options and encourage residents to continue raising concerns with Higher Education Colleges, Stagecoach, CPCA, and us.

Get Involved in Your Community. Award-winning Oakington & Westwick Parish Council is looking for new councillors to join the team. This is a great opportunity to make a real difference in the community by representing local voices and shaping key decisions. If you're interested, do get in touch with them.

Local May Elections. A reminder that local elections for Cambridgeshire County Council and Mayor will take place on **Thursday 1 May**. These decisions have a direct impact on our area, so I encourage everyone to use their vote and have their say.

As always, I am here to listen and stand up for our community. If you have any concerns or suggestions, please get in touch.



Firouz Thompson

Contact details for all Councillors are on page 5.

From our MP

March began for me with the news that I would have the opportunity to ask my first ever question directly to the Prime Minister in the House of Commons. Against the backdrop of the current crisis in Ukraine, and in my role as Lib Dem Spokesperson for Universities and Skills, I called for action on the UK's defence skills shortage. While international politics may seem distant from local concerns, we must maintain our unwavering support for their fight against such tyranny, not just for their sovereignty but for the principles we cherish.

Local Healthcare. Over the past month, I have been visiting GP surgeries across the constituency. Despite the fantastic efforts of GPs and other staff to prevent patients from feeling the pinch, many practices are facing ongoing funding deficits that are affecting the availability of appointments and the state of the surgery buildings.

I will be making representations later this month to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Integrated Care Board, who set the healthcare strategy for the area. As well as this, ahead of the Spending Review, I will continue to press the Government to ensure areas of high population growth such

as Cambridgeshire receive the support they need to guarantee quick, accessible primary care in their communities.

Child Maintenance Service. At one of my recent surgeries I met a constituent who had been having issues with the Child Maintenance Service (CMS) that went back years, and they were hitting a brick wall when trying to contact the Service about this. In late February, I led a parliamentary debate on fixing the CMS which gathered support from MPs of all backgrounds. By raising this crisis directly with the Government, I hope we will be able to effect much needed change for both paying and receiving parents.

MP Surgeries. I continue to hold in-person and online surgeries to speak directly to constituents about their issues. If you feel you have a problem that I could help with, or you have a matter you would like to discuss with me, please don't hesitate to contact me to request a surgery appointment (see page 5 for contact details.)

To receive regular updates on the work I am doing for this area, sign up to my newsletter at www.iansollom.org/emails.



Ian Sollom

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Oakington & Westwick Neighbours



With daffodils and other flowers appearing in our gardens and on roadside verges, spring is definitely arriving! OWN, combined with SOW, is again arranging a **Plant Swap** on Saturday **10 May** and Sunday **11 May** so it's time to get planting seeds and propagating plants to swap and share. Don't worry if you feel you haven't got green fingers, come along anyway and get some plantlets and advice. The stall will be open 10am–noon both days and 2–4pm on Saturday. Visit 36 Coles Lane, Oakington.



In June, the **Big Lunch** will be taking place at the Pavilion and on the Rec. For newcomers to the village, the Big Lunch is a national initiative from the Eden Project to encourage communities to get together to have a bring and share lunch. In recent years we have celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and the King's Coronation, but we don't need an excuse to celebrate – we simply celebrate our community. It's a lovely occasion (especially when the weather is kind!), with plentiful food, pleasant company and live music. It's happening on **Sunday 8 June from 12pm to 3pm**. Bring a plate of savoury or sweet food if you can – everyone is welcome.



Other regular dates to remember are:

- the **Tesco minibus shopping trip** on the first Friday of the month. If you would like to take advantage of the door-to-door service contact Teri on 07711 531004 by midday the day before.
- the **village walks** which take place on the first Saturday of the month (see the calendar inside the front cover of the Journal). Meet by St. Andrews church at 10.30am.

We are so pleased that our new steering group members are getting stuck in, but we still need one or two more to ensure that OWN's events and activities can continue. Please get in touch if this is something you would like to get involved with.

Jo Bryant

To contact OWN: 07902 111786, owneighbours@gmail.com

Oakington and Westwick Allotment Society



We still have four new plots of 10m x 9m to rent at £10 a year. Incredible value and cheaper than the gym. If you are interested or need more information please contact ann.rayner42@icloud.com.

Ann Rayner

Environment Action Group



The SOW/EAG **Nature Recovery Project** is continuing apace, with plans for a pollination project and the British Trust for Ornithology Garden Birdwatch (see Nature Notes on page 17) that we will work on this year.

As Spring gets underway, we are also liaising with Oakington Garden Centre to ensure that the **Oakington and Westwick in Bloom** flower tubs provide a really attractive display. We are very grateful to the Garden Centre team for the work they do in planting up the tubs, and to the volunteers who water the plants.

Looking ahead, we hope to share a stand with SOW at the **Pollination Festival** to be held at the Garden Centre in June. Meanwhile, our other projects continue in the background, and we hope to report on these in due course.

Finally, we are happy to see that the Parish Council are supporting the **Wilson Road Solar Farm** because we believe the site could provide valuable biodiversity improvements following its earlier land use, as well as low carbon energy.

John Terry & Stephanie Smith

Community Association



OAKINGTON AND WESTWICK VILLAGE DAY 2025

Save the date! **Saturday 28 June**, 1pm – 9pm

Pop this date in your diary and share with friends, family and neighbours to enjoy this great community event.

Music, food, drinks and activities for all the family.

A few hours to spare in the next couple of months? We need your support.

Village Day planning is well underway but to make it happen we *desperately* need additional volunteers to make it a great success.

We need:

- Two additional members for the planning team
- Volunteers on the day to ensure smooth set-up and running of the event

Please get in touch! oakington.westwick.ca@gmail.com

Many thanks,

Andy, Arthur, Brian, Ela, and Elodie (CA Committee)





Pippa Westoby

LETTER CARVER

I'm a Lettering artist based in Cambridge. My work consists of hand carved memorials, house plaques, garden ornaments, and painted lettering for births, anniversaries and weddings. All my work is bespoke. You can see more of my work on my website : www.pippawestoby.co.uk or on my Facebook page : Letter Carving in Stone - Pippa Westoby.

Contact email : pippa_westoby@yahoo.co.uk



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Tool Share – what, why, how & who

Did you know Oakington & Westwick have a Tool Share? It's a store of tools – DIY and garden – available for anyone to borrow. Sharing tools saves everyone money, storage space and the trouble of keeping tools maintained – and it saves resources as well. Often when a tool is bought it's only used a couple of times a year. It makes much more sense to share.

What tools are available?

Strimmers, plumbing spanners, a chainsaw, a glue gun, a long ladder, a jet washer, a pick-axe, a shredder, to name only a few.

A fuller list is on sustainableow.co.uk/tool-share. They are kept at Crossways at the crossroads.

How do I borrow a tool? Email Jess at the Chess Shop on the crossroads (jess@5asidechess.com) or drop in 10am–3pm weekdays. You can borrow for a week unless otherwise arranged, and a small donation is appreciated to go towards improving and extending the Tool Share.

Who organises the Tool Share? Ross and Diane at Crossways kindly provide the space and Jess Winters arranges the loans; it is supported by Sustainable Oakington & Westwick. However we are looking for a couple of volunteers who could help tidy and label the tools (and has anyone got a labelling machine they could donate?) We hope to extend the collection in the future by donated and purchased tools, and to obtain shelving to arrange it more efficiently.

How about sharing tools which people already own? We do that too! There is a Tool Share WhatsApp group – join that and you can ask if anyone on it has the tool you need, which you could borrow.

If you want to borrow a tool, or join the WhatsApp group, or could offer a little help (even one-off), please get in touch with Jess: jess@5asidechess.com.

*Jenny Prince, Sustainable Oakington & Westwick
sustainableow@gmail.com*

Days "Orchard"

On 6 March a mini apple orchard (four trees) was planted in Days Meadow, courtesy of Greenbelt, the estate management team, with funding from Natural England. The trees were supplied by the Community Interest Company "Trees are Good" based in the village and run by Emma and Leo Jordan.



Graham Tregonning

Oakington and Westwick Pavilion

The Lottery – We Need YOU!

We now need a new volunteer to run the Lottery – could that be you? The Lottery is an important fundraiser for the Pavilion, and we really do need it to continue.

The role involves organising the delivery of the forms, collating the details of each ticket holder, liaising with the Pavilion Treasurer and drawing the lottery once a month from March to December, in a public place to determine fairness and scrutiny.

Mark, our previous lottery co-ordinator, is very willing to help with the handover and support and guide the person who takes over in the initial stages.

We can easily consider running the Lottery this year from April to January if you can support us – please! Contact Elaine on elainebailey1@live.co.uk.



The 3G Pitch

The 3G Pitch is well supported but we have a few slots available. Should your team wish to book for the season please contact oakingtonpavilion@gmail.com for availability and prices. Please note that due to the new surface, strict footwear requirements have been introduced, which are non-negotiable; this is to ensure the surface is not damaged.

Please support your Pavilion!

*Elaine Bailey
Pavilion Committee Chair*

Try Something New

Do you have a few hours to spare? Would you like to contribute to our friendly village community?

Volunteering opportunities this month include...

- Help with emergency planning – page 5
- Parish Council vacancies – page 7
- Join the OWN steering group – page 9
- Village Day planning and help on the day – page 9
- Help tidy the Tool Share – page 11, above
- Run the Pavilion Lottery – page 11, above
- Help with monitoring pollinators – page 17

Oakington Singers

It was with enormous sadness that we learnt of the passing of our much loved choir member Chris Loweth recently. Chris had been a founding member of the Oakington Singers



THE OAKINGTON QUARTET
c. 1978 by David Williamson
Left to right: James Alexander,
Chris Loweth, Jean Williamson,
Miriam Gilder.

which originally formed as The Oakington Quartet back in 1978. It was lovely to see their formation immortalised in this wonderful sketch by Joan Williamson's husband David. The likenesses are very clear to see!

Chris sang with us for over 40 years. Some sentiments from our members: "a proper gentleman who had a beautiful tenor voice", "a pleasure to be in his company", "a lovely man, an invaluable support", "he made me so welcome when I joined", "smashing bloke". It was an honour therefore to pay our tributes by singing at Chris's funeral in January, including a piece by his, and our, favourite composer, Sir John Rutter. We shall cherish our many memories of him.



On a more jolly note, a very enjoyable 'Monday At The Musicals' was had by all at the Girton Golf Club. The food was delicious, the singing of so many favourites by The Oakington Singers was much appreciated, the sing-along enjoyed and nearly £400 raised for the East Anglian Air Ambulance. If you missed this one, look out for similar performances in future... by popular request of course!

Helen Williams



We are a four-part community choir which rehearses on a Monday in the Church Hall, 7.30–9 pm. Come along and give us a try! For more information, or if you would like us to sing at your event, please contact Helen Williams on 01223 232614 / helenwilliams5@outlook.com or just drop in.

Oakington Vikings



EA Charter
Standard

Our Teams and Contacts

- First Team James & Ronnie 07834 465188
 - Under 16s Marcus & Josh 07866 635241
 - Under 14s Winston 07968 716290
 - Welfare officer Frank 07841 995713
- www.facebook.com/OakingtonVikingsFC

Oakington and Westwick WI

Oakington WI had great fun joining in the Cambridge Federation Jigsaw challenge. We met at the Oakington Pavillion. The first team to finish were our own Oakington 1st team taking 52 minutes to complete.

We had an excellent speaker in March, Alison Moore from Cottenham, who shared her journey into the restoring and collecting of dolls' houses. Alison brought a selection of her collection of dolls' houses with her.

Next month, Thursday 10th April at 7.30pm, is our AGM, when we will also have Jean Coxall, with a fascinating talk, "Will I ever learn to say No! Mrs Beeton's Flying Picnic" – an insight into the making of a television programme with Annabel Croft.

We have a varied monthly programme planned over the next few months. Why not try us? Do get in touch if you would like some information about our WI.

Elaine Bailey



We meet on the second Thursday of each month at 7.30pm at the Church Hall. We are a friendly group and if you want to try us out the first meeting is free. Contact Elaine Bailey elainebailey1@live.co.uk for more information.

Tuesday Talk & Tea

- **8 April** Honour Ridout will be talking on "Things you might not have noticed in the centre of Cambridge."
- **13 May** Silk painting with Pat Carne and friends.

Marian Cleaver



The Tuesday Talk and Tea Club meets in the Church Hall at 2.45–4.45pm on the second Tuesday of the month, for a talk or activity followed by a delicious home-made tea. We welcome all comers, especially if the subject that month is of special interest to you.

More info: 01223 232897 / marianccleaver@gmail.com.

Oakington & Westwick Tennis Club

Join the Tennis Club!

At the AGM the committee decided to keep subs the same this year. Rates are only £65 for a family, £45 for adults and £20 for juniors.

Renewal of the annual subscription will be on 1st April. New members are always welcome to join the club and if you would like to find out more, please email oakingtontc@gmail.com.

Gill Attmore



Club members can use hard courts at the Recreation Ground. Our subscription year runs 1 April – 31 March. Membership: £65 family, £45 adults, £20 for juniors. To join or for more info, contact oakingtontc@gmail.com.

Sustainable Oakington & Westwick

Lots of us are keen to recycle as much as we can, so there was a good audience for the SOW talk on recycling in January. Two ladies explained about the special bins they have set up in their villages to collect and recycle certain items you can't put in the blue bin. We have started a list (see page 23) to share information on what you can recycle where.

The annual Repair Cafe on 8 February was very successful, with 12 repairers, 89 items brought in and 65 fixed and saved from waste. We had some great feedback, with many saying they had learnt from the repairers. "Very friendly and helpful." "What a great thing for the community and planet, keep up the good work!"

We collaborate with the Environment Action Group (EAG) on the Nature Recovery Project which this year is highlighting pollinators. We are looking for volunteers who could spend a quarter of an hour outside, weekly or just whenever they can, counting pollinators. See page 17 for more details. If you could help or are just interested to find out more, email SOW or just come to the "training" session on 30th April.

- **30 April** Pollinators and how to take part in our village monitoring scheme (APollOW)
- **10 May** Plant swap, 10am–12, 2–4pm. See page 9
- **11 May** Plant swap, 10am–12
- **21 May** Foraging etc: in search of wild comestibles and other useful stuff

Jenny Prince



For everyone who's concerned about nature and the environment. All are welcome to SOW meetings, at 7.30pm in the Church Hall on the last Wednesday in the month.

sustainableow@gmail.com / sustainableow.co.uk

Oakington & Westwick Short Mat Bowls Club



If you would like to give bowls a try, come and join us as our guest. We play throughout the year at the Pavilion, on Thursday evenings 7.30–9.30pm. We have spare bowls and you just need some soft, flat-soled shoes. If you would like more information, please contact Dawn Stokes on 01223 236427.

Oakington & Westwick Table Tennis Group



Table tennis is good for your mental health as well as your physical health – heart rate, reaction times, coordination, muscles and joints. Join us for fun and laughter – we are a small, friendly club, of mixed ability. We play every Tuesday at 7.30pm at the Pavilion, and welcome new players. Bats provided. For more information contact Gillian L'Angellier on 01223 234758.

1st Oakington Scout Group

Scouts have had an interesting Spring term. We've made batteries with household items, made radio receivers, cooked pancakes, practised our fire lighting and refreshed our first aid knowledge. As the days get longer we will be spending a little more time outdoors enjoying the lovely environment of Oakington.

With the Easter holidays approaching, we are looking forward to our annual area Easter Camp where we spend three nights sleeping in tents and four days enjoying the great outdoors. The camp is attended by a number of scout groups from the area, including Comberton, Longstanton, Over and Bar Hill, and is a great chance to meet other scouts, put our fire lighting and safety knowledge to the test, cook for ourselves, go hiking, try out things like air rifles and archery and have some fun.

Oakington Scouts currently has a small number of places available for new joiners. If you have a child between 11 and 14 years old who would be interested, do get in touch: cara.hanman@oakingtonscouts.org.uk.

Cara Hanman



Scouts (11–14) meet 6–7:30 pm on Fridays at the Pavilion. For more details contact Cara: cara.hanman@oakingtonscouts.org.uk

1st Oakington Beavers

Oakington Beavers have been having lots of fun in the Spring term. We've climbed the height of Ben Nevis at Clip 'n Climb to raise funds for Cambridgeshire Search and Rescue. We've learnt how to light a candle safely and tried out some experiments with fire. Some of us also helped out with planting trees at the school as part of a wider community effort. Next term we're looking forward to getting out in the warmer weather and going on camp again.



We're currently at capacity, but if your child is interested in joining Beavers in the future, please get in touch.

Kathryn Bigg



Beavers (aged 6–8) meet 6–7pm on term time Fridays at Oakington Primary school.

If your child is interested in joining Beavers, please contact Kathryn.Bigg@oakingtonscouts.org.uk.

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Avoiding Scams and Burglaries

I thought I was fairly up-to-the-minute on scams and home security, but I attended a couple of training sessions recently which gave me some new and useful insights. So I am taking this opportunity to share them.

OWN organised an excellent talk by The Cambridgeshire Bobby Scheme, who provide at-home support at low cost particularly for the over 60's. Here are notes from the talk.

Car theft – thieves are really only interested in your car if you are lucky enough to have a “high end” BMW, Land Rover or similar. These tend to be stolen for parts and can disappear so quickly that even an in-car tracker might not guarantee you get it back. They can be stolen now by using an aerial to scan your car key while it is lying on your hall table. To prevent this, store your key in a metal tin or special pouch, known as a “Faraday Cage”.

Joy riders can often open and start cars without a key, unless your car has an ignition which requires the insertion of the key. Surprisingly the simplest solution, if you are concerned, is the old-fashioned steering wheel lock.

Burglary – thieves are generally no longer interested in bulky items like TVs, they are mainly looking for bank cards and jewellery. They know all the bedroom hiding places or the teapot in the kitchen. The best hiding place is in the food cupboard, for example in the box of cornflakes at the bottom between the box and the lining. They are unlikely to be prepared to empty out all the cupboards in your kitchen on the off-chance of finding valuables.

Video doorbells have proved to be very effective at discouraging break-ins. Numerous videos have captured someone approaching a house only to turn away, when they spot the doorbell camera.

Remember burglaries are more likely to happen during the day if you have popped out to the shops, when people often don't bother to activate their house alarms, rather than at night, when you are more likely to be in.

When on holiday obviously the recommendation of having a couple of lights on a timer is still sound, as sometimes thieves will watch a house before deciding when to break in. If you are going to be away, why not ask a neighbour who has a couple of cars to keep one of them on your drive? The other visual disincentive, particularly for the back of your house, which is the preferred access point, are the fairly cheap window breakage alarms (two for £12). Having these visible in your downstairs windows will put off most thieves.

The biggest risk at the back of your house is your garden shed; thieves go for cordless tools that can easily be sold at car boot sales. Make sure the shed and back gate are protected with good quality bolts and padlocks.

The Cambridgeshire Bobby Scheme is there to provide advice to everyone; for a donation of £65 they can assess your property and fit the necessary basic security devices (these are free to over-60s after a burglary).

They will also install a Ring video doorbell for anyone at a

cost of £149. Email: info@thebobbyscheme.org
Website: thebobbyscheme.org Tel: 01480 413311
Text: 07866 602100.

Trusted Traders – unfortunately some of the Trusted Trader websites online cannot be trusted! However a local lady has set up her own website safelocaltrades.com which has been approved by Cambridge and Peterborough AgeUK; all the traders have been DBS checked and you can get recommendations from the website or by phoning 0800 014 1832.

Many thanks to Jon Morris from The Bobby Scheme for sharing all these insights and advice on scams with us.

Get safe online – Finally a couple of months ago I sat in on a Zoom Call explaining the getsafeonline.org resources. This is an amazing one-stop-shop website where you can check such things as if a website is legitimate, typical scams, how to spot AI and, if you are new to the internet, it has a step-by-step guide to how to stay safe. You can also sign up to their monthly newsletter “Protect” and regular alerts from the Neighbourhood Alert scheme.

Graham Tregonning



There is a **DEFIBRILLATOR** at the pavilion (hanging outside the patio doors). If you come across someone who has had a cardiac arrest, call 999 and start CPR, while sending someone to fetch the defibrillator – open box, take out defibrillator, shut box (alarm goes off), open defibrillator and it talks to tell you what to do.

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Are there fairies at the bottom of your garden?

Well maybe not, but there's bound to be some wildlife and you could record it as part of our local Nature Recovery project, organised by Sustainable Oakington & Westwick (SOW) and the Environment Action Group (EAG). You may remember that last year we started this project in Oakington and Westwick as part of the Natural Cambridgeshire plan to double wildlife. After some initial pilot work last year, in 2025 we would like

1. to participate in the BTO (British Trust for Ornithology) **Garden Birdwatch** (www.bto.org/gbw) and
2. to organise a **pollinator survey**, which we are naming **APollOW** (A Pollinator Survey of Oakington & Westwick), as our main project which involves recording some basic data on plants and counting pollinating insects at 15 sites in the village, as well as those of your choice.

You will know how important this work is to try and counter the decline in wildlife that has occurred since the 1970s, and how valuable it is for our well-being to get us out into natural surroundings. We aim to take weekly readings from April to September recording FIT (Flower-Insect-Timed) counts and logging them on a mobile device or paper. As well as contributing important information to our own project, you will – at the same time – be contributing to the UK Pollinator Monitoring Scheme (UKPoMS), the UK's national programme for assessing pollinator numbers. (ukpoms.org.uk).

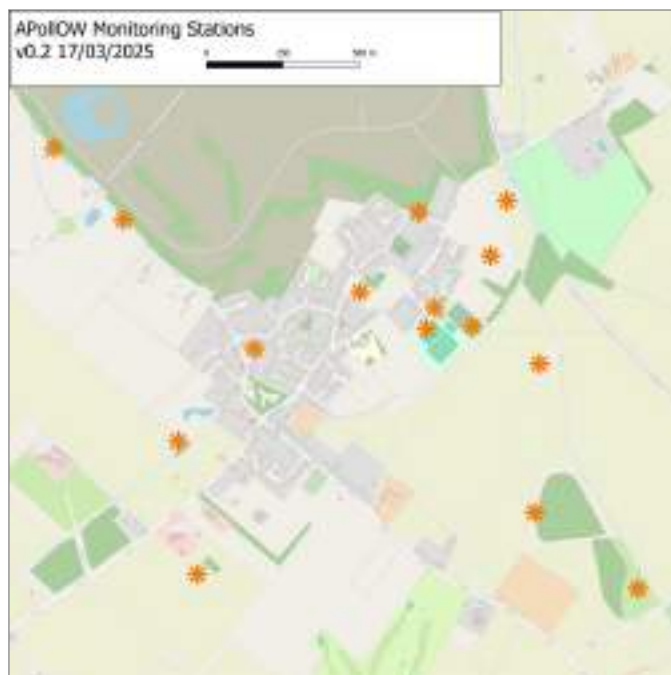
You don't have to be an ecologist to take part, just interested in nature and you will learn as the project progresses. We welcome children as well as adults.

Here's what's involved:

- Download the FIT Count app (ukpoms.org.uk/fit-count-app), or a paper form from ukpoms.org.uk
- Go to one of the pre-selected sites in the village (see the map) or a site of your choice, perhaps your garden. Spend 15 minutes recording some aspects of your site and counting pollinators within a 50x50cm square.
- When the time is up, tag your count to the project and upload. If you are on paper, there is a data entry form, or drop it through the project coordinator's letter box. Done!

To make it even more straightforward, we are planning two training sessions, so that as many people as possible can get involved:

- on **Wednesday 30th April**, 7:30pm at the Church Hall (at the SOW meeting)
- in the Community Orchard, a weekend date to be announced – keep an eye on Oakyfolk and the SOW website.



There is more information on the SOW website (sustainableow.co.uk/nature-recovery-project).

If you would like to take part or find out more, contact the project via SOW at SustainableOW@gmail.com. We'd love to hear from you.

*John Terry (johnterry23@hotmail.co.uk)
& James Heywood*



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Book Club

My Brilliant Friend by Elena Ferrante

This is about an intense friendship between two girls growing up in a violent and impoverished working-class district of Naples where role models are hard to find. The two girls, Elena, sometimes called Lenù, and Lila forge a tight friendship and independence of spirit nurtured by the inspiration they find in each other. The story tells of their friendship and Elena's attempts to escape the poverty and bullying through education and all the troubles that causes. There's an underlying tension in their friendship that goes against the expected narrative of growing up; it's constantly on the edge of disaster. The final chapter is so gripping that some of us want to read the second novel.



The club generally enjoyed it and a couple loved it. It's the first of four volumes in Ferrante's Neapolitan Novels series.

Our next meetings are Wednesdays **23 April, 21 May** and 18 June, at the White Horse; all welcome, just come along.

Maria Varallo

Chess Corner

If back in 2020 you liked *The Queen's Gambit* on Netflix, you may like the new BBC TV series about chess entitled *Chess Masters: The Endgame*. This eight-episode reality competition, airing Mondays at 8pm on BBC Two and also available on BBC iPlayer, features twelve passionate and highly-skilled players from the UK's chess community competing in rapid games and solving intricate chess puzzles to earn the title of Chess Master.

The show is hosted by Sue Perkins, with expert commentary from Chess Grandmaster David Howell and chess coach Anthony Mathurin.

Solution to chess puzzle 1-25 from last Journal.

1st White	1st Black	2nd White
Qb1	a5-a4	Nc3 #
if	c4-c3	Qb3#

'#' = checkmate



Chess Puzzle 2-25

White to move and checkmate in two moves.

Please send your solution to me at ranpin@gmail.com.

Ranko Pinter

Have you enjoyed a game, film, TV series or podcast that you could recommend to others? Send us a review!

Gardening Notes

April: Time to plant out first early potatoes. Squash, sweetcorn and courgettes can be sown now and grown on in a greenhouse or cold frame. Seedlings of beetroot, carrots and parsnips that were sown last month can be thinned out to avoid crowding. Successional sowing of lettuce and radish seed should be started now and then every few weeks.

If the soil has warmed up hardy annuals like marigolds and Love-in-a-Mist can be direct sown. Deadhead tulips and daffodils but leave the foliage to divert energy into the bulbs ready for next Spring's display.

Renovate evergreen shrubs like Aucuba, Euonymus and Choisya by cutting back by half. Then give a liquid feed or a thick mulch of compost to encourage new growth.

May: Earth up new growth on early potatoes and plant later varieties. French and Runner Beans should be started in modules ready to plant out when all danger of frost has passed. Plan for a winter harvest by starting slower growing cabbages, broccoli and kale. To avoid blackfly pinch out the growing tips on Broad Beans when the lowest flowers have made small pods. Think about netting strawberries to protect them from hungry birds!

Tie in new shoots on climbers such as Clematis and Honeysuckle. At the end of the month plant out summer bedding such as Begonias, Pelargoniums and Salvias.

Don't forget to open the greenhouse when the temperature rises and hoe regularly to keep weeds under control. Then sit back and enjoy your efforts!

Happy gardening!

Follow our tips later in the year to get the best out of your wisteria in April.

Ann and Peter Rayner



Video Game Review

The Legend of Zelda: Tears of the Kingdom



This is a masterful continuation of the beloved franchise, offering an expansive and immersive experience that both honours its predecessors and introduces innovative gameplay mechanics. Set in the vast and beautifully crafted world of Hyrule, the game invites players to explore, solve puzzles, and engage in combat with a sense of freedom and creativity rarely seen in the genre. Every corner of Hyrule is filled with secrets, lore, and breathtaking landscapes that encourage exploration. Visually, the game is stunning, with a vibrant art style that brings the world to life. The soundtrack is equally impressive, adding to the overall atmosphere. Tears of the Kingdom is a triumph, offering a rich, engaging, and unforgettable adventure that stands as a testament to the enduring legacy of the Zelda series.

Ming Tregonning

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For More Advice & Help Call Christopher:

07772 111 222

www.christopherthelocksmith.co.uk

Monday Cafe – 20th Anniversary Year

The Monday Cafe was set up in the Methodist Chapel by members of the congregation who were concerned about newcomers moving into the village, some from abroad, who found it difficult to meet their neighbours. It was never a "Chapel" organisation but always intended for everyone. It started with a small committee comprised of two chapel members and some other interested members of the community. In the early days we were able to provide support for a few mothers and babies who had no wider family here but nowadays the demographic is nearly always retired folk, although younger visitors are always welcome! With an average of twenty customers each Monday, it has proved to be a safe space for some people with mental health issues and we are happy to provide that support.

When the Methodist Chapel closed a few years ago we were welcomed into the lovely new Anglican Church Hall and now we have a Team of ten volunteers.

We never intended to be a fundraising group but even though we only charge £1 per customer we have a generously low rent and the Team provide the refreshments, so we accrue funds in spite of ourselves! We agreed early on to only give money to local causes and so we have been able to provide a few things for the School and top up funds for other groups in the village, as well as for the Hardship Fund.

Liz Davis

Talking Together (COPE)

TALKING TOGETHER is a two-tiered programme of telephone based and Zoom sessions offered by the Cambridgeshire Older People's Enterprise (COPE). It offers older adults the opportunity to share ideas, experiences and life-long learning from the comfort of their homes. The programme is designed to address issues of isolation and loneliness which can occur when involvement is limited by health or access to transport. Over the course of six weeks, participants are connected to a conference call from their landline or mobile phone to engage with one another and the group leader for weekly sessions of forty-five minutes.

The groups are facilitated by skilled leaders from some of Cambridge's museums, the National Trust's Wicken Fen and Wimpole Farm, and members of the arts and health communities as well as independent scholars. Registration is limited to ten people for each group to allow discussion.

For those with computer capabilities, a second tier offers one-off hour-long participatory Zoom sessions for up to twenty people, led by the network of facilitators. Closed captioning allows those with hearing limitations to attend.

The programmes are free, but registration is required. Contact: COPEtalkingtogether@hotmail.com or ring COPE at 01223 364303.

Deborah Katznelson



Why we love... The Monday Cafe

Here's what the regulars say...

"Good to catch up with village news, meet friends and a good reason to get out on a Monday." (Lesley)

"And tea and cake and biscuits and refills as well as the catching up. Good to walk in and find out who is there, depending on the time." (Chris)

"It's good to see familiar faces and to feel a sense of integration in the village." (Caroline)

"A friendly place for a coffee and a chat and catch up with friends." (Di)

"Great to catch up with friends, drink coffee and eat nice cakes." (Joan) One of the best cake providers herself! – Ed

"Short answer is that we enjoy coming because it's always good to talk! The slightly longer answer is that it provides a non-threatening space to talk to friends but also to talk to people that you may not often talk to! When we arrived in Oakington it was a very welcoming and supportive space and a lovely way to get to know people." (Jenny)

"I enjoy coming because I can catch up with my friends." (Marian) Her little dog, Molly, has become our mascot – Ed

"The Monday Cafe is a great way to start the week – you can come and go as you please. Lots of friendly people, tea, coffee and cake for £1.00 – what a bargain!" (Patsy)

"Nice cakes and everyone speaks to everyone else." (Les)

"A good place to meet folk when people are new to the village." (Pat) "Very friendly atmosphere." (Richard)

"The Monday Cafe has been a great way to meet people as a newcomer to the village last year." (Lowri)

"Monday Cafe brings me lots of fun, contact and cake! So nice to see people from the village, new and old." (Anon)



I think that a wider benefit has been to many of our members who have come to live here after retirement to be nearer their families, which is a blessing, but it often means that they miss their own friends of the same age and so can find new ones here. It also provides good "signposts" to other local groups and common interests. Overall I think "it does what it says on the tin" or, in this case, the poster – "A good place to see old friends and make new ones".

Liz Davis



THE OLD GRANARY



Open plan office suites available now in an attractive converted granary.

Situated 3 miles to the northwest of Cambridge and only 2 miles from the A14 and M11. The Guided Busway is approximately 150 metres away.

Unit 1a benefits from gas fired central heating, ample car parking, bicycle parking, kitchen, WC and showering facilities. Unit 6 boasts a large open plan space with a mezzanine, own kitchen & shared WC & Shower.



Unit 1a. 1,234 Sq Ft (Approx)



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Local Recycling – a cut-out-and-keep summary

In our area we can recycle almost all types of packaging and many other items too. SOW has started this list (more details and updates on sustainableow.co.uk/reuse-repair-recycle).

But there is an excellent website www.scams.gov.uk/recycling-and-bins/what-goes-in-which-bin telling you how to recycle all kinds of things (not just what the bins take).



Ignore! This label just means the packaging is collected for recycling by less than 50% of UK local authorities. Our blue bins *can* take items with this label.



Please let us know of any updates or suggested additions to the list below – email sustainableow@gmail.com.

Jenny Prince
Sustainable Oakington & Westwick

Appliances – repair	For repairing appliances of all types: www.ifixit.com . Step-by-step instructions for repairing a huge range of appliances, as well as spare parts and community advice. They also score products for repairability – worth checking here before you choose to buy. Or book into a local Repair Cafe (tinyurl.com/uvdfjtj8)
Blister packs (for pills and tablets)	Take to Superdrug in Cambridge.
Blue paper towel roll	Put in <i>green</i> bin. If put in with paper for recycling it contaminates it.
Bottle tops	Because they are small they should be screwed back onto bottles (squash plastic bottle first) before recycling. However beer bottle tops (levered off with a bottle opener) <i>can</i> be recycled loose in blue bins as they are easy to sort with magnets.
Bread bags – and other plastic bags/wrappers which don't have a foil lining but which may have the black "Can't be recycled" logo on	They have this logo because in many parts of the country you can't put them in council bins, but we <i>can</i> put them in our blue bins – so long as it doesn't have a shiny foil-like layer on the inside or outside – for this, see "Crisp packets", below.
Bubble wrap	Can go in the blue bin but Emmaus (emmaus.org.uk/cambridge , shop in Landbeach) may also be able to make use of it for their online sales.
Cereal packet inner bags	Can go in blue bin. (Same as for bread bags.)
Cling film	Try to avoid, but clean cling film can go in the blue bin for recycling/incineration.
Clothes	Be wary about which clothing banks/collections you use - sometimes unusable clothes end up dumped.
Coffee cups	Apart from a few places (eg Costa) these can't be recycled – they say compostable but our green bins can't take them as they compost too slowly. Solution is a reusable coffee cup.
Coffee pods/capsules	Can be taken to Milton recycling centre (or use refillable metal capsules or choose a coffee machine which doesn't need them)
Compostable "plastic"	Put in black bin – not blue (contaminates the other plastic) or green (does not compost fast enough.) Recyclable plastic can be a better choice.
Contact lenses and containers	Take to Boots in Cambridge.
Crisp packets, biscuit wrappers, pet food pouches and other scrunchable plastics with a shiny foil-like layer inside or outside	If it's got a shiny foil layer you can't put it in the blue bin, but some supermarkets including Tesco in Bar Hill and Co-op in Cottenham have collection boxes instore.
Pet food and baby food pouches	See "crisp packets"
Pringle tubes	<i>New</i> pringle packets can now be recycled normally in the blue bin.
Razors	For Gillette razors you can send off for an envelope which can be used to send them back for recycling. tinyurl.com/f57c5pzk
Textiles	Textiles other than reusable clothes, such as clothes beyond reuse, old duvets and pillows, can be taken to Dunelm.
Toothpaste (or similar) tubes	Many of these can now be recycled in the blue bin (wash first) – cut in half and if no foil lining they can go in blue bin. (Look out for HDPE 2 recycling logo.)



Messy Church will be starting at

St Andrew's Church Hall

Saturday 12th April 2025 3pm to 5pm

then monthly on the second Saturday of each month

Messy Church is doing church differently. It's a time for the whole family to spend time together, enjoying craft activities, eating together, celebrating and sharing the gift of God's love.

The theme for this first meeting is Celebrating Easter. We will have six different craft tables, will spend some time celebrating with music and finish with a simple meal.

Messy Church values are about being Christ-centred



for all ages



creativity



hospitality



celebration

This is an opportunity for families to come together, have fun and build up our community.

Looking forward to meeting you all and sharing some fun together.

If you require any further information, please contact me.

Cate Lambert

Email: catelambert@hotmail.co.uk

Mobile: 07533 152519

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SUN 11 MAY 2-4
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1st Oakington Beavers, Cubs and Scouts



Ceilidh



Featuring our own Beavers leader's band

Fluidic

to lead you in the dancing!

All dances are fully explained by our caller and are suitable for beginners and children.

Friday 16th May 2025
6pm - 8pm

@ Girton Glebe School
Cambridge Road, Girton

Admission is £15 per Adult and £5 per Child (under 18's).
Cash or Card payments on the door.



Fundraising for Oakington Scout Group
(beavers@oakingtonscouts.org.uk).

Free Door to Door Bus – Oakington to Tesco, Bar Hill

The first Friday, every month
Next trips: **Friday 4 April & Friday 2 May**

If you'd like a free lift and the offer to carry bags to your door, please contact Teri on **07711 531004** to reserve your place. The bus picks up about 10am – after the school run – and returns about 1pm.

OPEN TO EVERYONE – ALL AGES



Hardship Fund

Did you know that Oakington and Westwick has a Hardship Fund?

The Fund provides small grants between approx. £50 and £100 for everyday essentials such as food, utilities, travel, children's clothes, school items or any sudden emergencies.

For confidential support call Jo on 07714 760582, Bee on 07718 068941 or Celine on 07541 997299 or email oak.west.hardship.fund@outlook.com.

For more information see
owneighbours.wordpress.com/hardship-fund