

Oakington & Westwick

Aug/Sep 2022

Journal

**Trees
& Bees**

**School
Report**

**Groundwater
Levels**

What's On

Weekly

Mon		Monday Café , 9:30–noon. Church Hall, £1. Liz Davis – C 232 745
Mon		Brownies , 6–7:15pm. Pavilion. Hanna Lumley – 07557 090322
Mon		Oakington Singers , 7:30pm. Church Hall. Elaine Bailey – elainebailey1@live.co.uk
Tue		Happy Feet , 10–11am. Church Hall. For under 5s, term times. Ben Phillips – familyworker@standrewsoakington.co.uk
Tue		Cubs , 6–7:15pm. Pavilion. Contact iain.ramsay@oakingtonscouts.org.uk
Tue		Table Tennis , 7:30–9pm. Pavilion. Gillian L'angellier – C 234 758
Thu		Little Steps 10–11:30am. Church Hall. For under 5s, term times. Ben Phillips – familyworker@standrewsoakington.co.uk
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 – C 236 427
Fri		Tool Share open, usually 4:30–6pm. Contact gerard@cambridgereuse.org.uk / 07857 704636
Fri		Beavers followed by Scouts , 6pm. Pavilion. beavers@oakingtonscouts.org.uk , cara.hanman@oakingtonscouts.org.uk
Fri	5 Aug	Minibus to Bar Hill , 10am. To book ring Teri Seaber – 07711 531004
Fri	5 Aug	Mobile Library , 1:50–2:20 pm. Coles Lane
Sat	6 Aug	Village Walk & Talk , 10:30am. Meet by church on High Street. Alice – OWNeighbours@gmail.com
Sat	20 Aug	Bike ride to Fen Drayton Lakes, 11am. Meet by church on High Street. Alice – OWNeighbours@gmail.com
Fri	2 Sep	Minibus to Bar Hill , 10am. To book ring Teri Seaber – 07711 531004
Fri	2 Sep	Mobile Library , 1:50–2:20 pm. Coles Lane
Fri	2 Sep	Country Dancing , 8–10pm. Histon Methodist Church Hall. £2/50p. Kathryn Coles – C 233 191
Sat	3 Sep	Village Walk & Talk , 10:30am. Meet by church on High Street. Alice – OWNeighbours@gmail.com
Sat	3 Sep	Village Yard Sale . Various locations round the village. Hanna Lumley – jhlum@me.com
Mon	5 Sep	Transport Action Group meeting. White Horse. Email Jim Bryant for details – owcp.tag@gmail.com
Thu	8 Sep	O&W WI , 7:30pm. Church Hall. Wax wraps demonstration. Elaine Bailey – elainebailey1@live.co.uk
Sat	10 Sep	Lakeside Tea & Jazz , 3–5pm. 9 Longstanton Road. OWN – OWNeighbours@gmail.com
Mon	12 Sep	O&W Parish Council , 7:30pm. Pavilion. All invited. clerk@oakingtonandwestwick-pc.gov.uk
Tue	13 Sep	Tuesday Talk & Tea , 2:45pm. Church Hall. AGM, talk on card making. Joan Pettit – joanpettit93@yahoo.com
Sat	24 Sep	Drawing/painting group , 10am–12:30pm. Church Hall. Jenny Lloyd – Lloydjenny13@hotmail.com
Wed	28 Sep	Sustainable O&W , 7:30pm. Church Hall. sustainableow@gmail.com
Fri	30 Sep	Quiz Night . School. For details contact PSA – psa@oakington.cambs.sch.uk
Sat	1 Oct	Village Walk & Talk , 10:30am. Meet by church on High Street. Alice – OWNeighbours@gmail.com

BIN DAYS

Thu 4 Aug, Thu 18 Jun,	Black bin
Fri 2 Sep, Thu 15 Sep,	
Thu 29 Sep	
Thu 11 Aug, Thu 25 Aug,	Blue &
Thu 8 Sep, Thu 22 Sep	green bins



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.

Help needed – Short questionnaire!

I am a student currently doing my A Levels. As part of my Geography coursework, I am investigating “To what extent is the village of Oakington a commuter village?” I would be very grateful if you could take five minutes of your time to complete this short questionnaire:
<https://arcg.is/1yHv1K0>

Thank you!

Ella Darling

Oakington & Westwick Sports Pavilion Monthly Lottery 2022 - Winners			
Month	Ticket No	Area	Winnings
June	300	Days Meadow	£100
July	520	Orchard Way	£100
If you would like to enter the lottery, please text JOIN plus your name, house number & postcode to 07831 828898.			

Cover photo: Geoffrey Butlin

Welcome to a bumper edition of the Journal, including four pages of photos remembering the Platinum Jubilee weekend here and the Village Day. Thank you to all who helped with these events – so many people commented on how lovely it was to get together!

Things quieten down a bit in August, but not everyone's on holiday: work is due to begin soon on improved traffic calming through the village and – as a bonus – a 20 mph zone in Oakington (not yet Westwick.) Shortly after, the long-planned ideas of the Open Spaces project will start to

become a reality on the Recreation Ground.

This Journal production week has seen record-breaking temperatures, but the weather should soon be more conducive to getting out and about and enjoying the countryside. There are several articles in this issue about the wildlife around us, and what to look out for.

Have a good summer!



Jenny Prince & Irène Butlin, 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:

Jenny Prince (*editor*), Irène Butlin (*co-editor & advert layout*), Jenny Broadway (*distribution*), Jane Goodyer (*advertising*), Geoffrey Butlin (*adviser*), Ranko Pinter (*chair*).

Send contributions to
oakwestjournal@gmail.com

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

DEADLINE FOR
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER ISSUE:
Tuesday 20 September

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

Adverts	For 1 year	One off
Business card	£75	£17
¼ page (portrait)	£117	£29
½ page (landscape)	£216	£54

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

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

Where Does the Village Day Money Go?



As we have a number of new residents in our community, this seems an appropriate time to provide information about the Community Association (CA), which is the organisation behind the publication of this Journal! The CA is an **umbrella organisation** for local voluntary and non-profit making clubs, with a membership of more than twenty groups who run a wonderful variety of regular activities for young and old and those in between.

The Journal



This is the biggest financial liability of the CA. Each issue costs over £600 to print, so almost **£4,000** a year. To cover this, we are grateful to all our advertisers who help to finance the printing. The bulk of the annual advertising income appears in the beginning of the year, but gradually dwindles down. Otherwise the Journal is produced entirely by volunteers. The editors spend a week putting together each issue but over 60 individuals are engaged in organising, writing articles, editing, and delivering each issue to 650 households!

The Annual Village Day

This is our main fundraising event of the year where members help to make it happen! It is organised by a Village Day Committee, assisted by lots of other volunteers. Running this event is a major financial responsibility, where the outcome is affected by weather and footfall. This year the surplus was a healthy £1,722 after income of £2,493 and expenses of £771.



What happens to the Surplus from the Village Day?



It would be great to think that all the surplus from one year could be used to improve the following year's Village Day! Some of it will be, so *please join the VD committee next year!* However, the CA relies on surplus from the Village Day to cover overheads and reserves.

CA Overheads and Reserves

Our biggest cost is the Annual Liability Insurance - around **£700**. Historically the CA didn't have this expense as the Parish Council kindly paid for the Village Day Insurance and other groups ran Bonfire Night. However, since 2017 the CA has also taken on the responsibility for organising the Bonfire Night and some other occasional initiatives, hence the premium is now high. We also pay for a Zoom Licence and Website that any group may use for free.



We have to keep some Reserves as well, for instance to underwrite any losses. Bonfire Night presents the highest risk because fireworks have to be purchased before we know what the weather and turn-out are going to be like. Following several years of complications, by 2017 the reserves had dwindled to £45, but they now stand at £4,000.

If you would like further information, please email us for detailed accounts of the Village Day or for the Annual Accounts which are presented at the AGM - and to which all residents are welcome (next one 24 January 2023).

CA Committee: Ranko Pinter, Arthur Sillett, Bernie Yates, Liz Davis, Irène Butlin
oakington.westwick.ca@gmail.com

Parish Councillors

Chair: Stephen Moore

chair@oakingtonandwestwick-pc.gov.uk

Vice-Chair: Tony Starling

John Bailey	Julie Grove
Will Bailey	Ranko Pinter
Matt Davidson	David Reeves
One Vacancy	

Email address for all councillors

clerk@oakingtonandwestwick-pc.gov.uk

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: 01223 232398

District Councillors

Sarah Cheung Johnson – 01954 489089

cllr.cheungjohnson@scambs.gov.uk

Alex Malyon – 01954 202859

cllr.malyon@scambs.gov.uk

County Councillor

Oakington, Westwick, Longstanton,
Northstowe & Over

Firouz Thompson – 07974 680875

firouz.thompson@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Member of Parliament

Anthony Browne – 01223 603677

anthony.browne.mp@parliament.uk

VILLAGE INFORMATION

Community Association

oakington.westwick.ca@gmail.com

Neighbourhood Watch

Jillian Wilkinson – 01223 233585

oakwestnhw@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

From our Parish Council Chair

Hello everyone! This contribution to the journal consists of mixed good and bad news. So, here goes!

Vandalism. We are very fortunate in the village to enjoy a safe and calm environment and very little vandalism. Recently though, we have sadly been experiencing a number of acts of vandalism. Around the Pavilion lights have been smashed and the fence of the MUGA (enclosed five-a-side football pitch) has been damaged. Worst of all, there was an attempt to vandalise the defibrillator on the wall of the Pavilion. The defibrillator can be accessed in case of a heart attack and has been used on a number of occasions to save people's lives. Vandalising the defibrillator could lead to someone dying! It appears to be the same individual involved and he lives the village. We do have CCTV cameras and we are already in touch with the police over the matter. I am also sorry to say that we have had yet more vandalism of the telephone box. Please know that we will prosecute anyone found vandalising Parish Council property. If anyone has any information on the possible culprit(s), please let us know.

Motorcyclists. We need your help on another disquieting matter. Many of you have seen and heard a couple of young motorcyclists riding, at some speed, through the village and along the closed part of Longstanton Road. Given the number of families and other walkers who now use the old airfield road, our concern is that one day someone will get hurt. You will easily recognise them, as one motorcycle is particularly noisy. Please phone 101 to complain if you see the particular motorcyclists on the airfield road, or take photos of the number plate (but do not put yourself at risk of confrontation) and send them to us and we will liaise with the police - *chair@oakingtonandwestwick-pc.gov.uk*.

Water Table. You may have read reports about the water table dropping in Longstanton as a result of the construction of Phase 1 of Northstowe. We are obtaining expert opinion on any future impact on Oakington and I will give a full report in the next Journal.

Open Spaces Project. Now onto sunnier aspects of our village. We are very pleased indeed that the Parish Council, in association with the EAG, have been awarded funding from the FCC Communities Foundation for an all-weather path around the outside edge of the Recreation Ground. This will include attractive places to sit, additional trees and planted wildflower areas. Our aim is to encourage everyone, of all ages, to enjoy the Rec throughout the year and to appreciate it as a community asset. At the same time, we have liaised with the football club to ensure that there is adequate room for the football pitches. A very big thank you must go to ex-Councillor Geoffrey Butlin, who conceived the idea, has driven the project forward and has kindly agreed to be the project manager. We envisage the path construction to begin in September.

An additional benefit of the periphery path is that it will link up with the Community Orchard and Wildflower area. If you have not yet been for a picnic, then I urge you to make yourself a sandwich and a drink, and head down there! Particular thanks to Graham Tregonning and his band of volunteers for making a wonderful job of caring for our community orchards.

Speed Restrictions & Westwick Pavements. For some time now, we have kept you informed regarding the proposed speed restriction measures which are to be introduced along Cambridge Road and Water Lane/Station Road. We have now received confirmation from the County Council Highways Department that the work will begin at the end of August. At the same time, the pavement in Westwick will finally be repaired and renovated. It has been a long battle to get this – well done County Councillor Firouz Thompson, our champion!

Village Day. Finally, wasn't the Village Day wonderful! No, that wasn't a question, but a statement of fact. Thanks to the Community Association and all the volunteers, but especially to Ranko Pinter who worked so hard to make it happen.

Dr Stephen Moore

chair@oakingtonandwestwick-pc.gov.uk



From our District Councillors

We wanted to use our report this month to update residents on what is being done to address the water issues that are affecting Longstanton village, which you may have read about. We know that these issues of are also of concern to Oakington residents.

We are very distressed by the impact of the reduction in groundwater levels on ponds and wells in the village of Longstanton. We were very saddened to read the recent newspaper story about how the reduction in groundwater levels has impacted local farmer Clive Hayden. We had met with him and other residents soon after we were elected in 2018 to discuss the concerns about this issue. We are continuing to work to get these issues fully investigated and for action to be taken resolve them.

We do understand the frustration at how this is being addressed and the time it has taken to find answers. We have always shared those frustrations. We remain sincere though, in our desire to resolve these issues and to work constructively with residents to do that.

We are aware of a local campaign, led by the Fewes Lane Consortium and the Crowdfunder that has been organised to fund this campaign. Unfortunately, concerns about some of the claims being made by those organising the campaign and attacks on us personally have made it impossible for us to be involved directly with this campaign.

As officially elected District Councillors we are expected to work with the council, planning officers and others, via the proper routes to get to the bottom of what has happened and get action taken. This is what we have done and what we will continue to do.

“Concerns were first raised in 2015” Concerns were first raised by Longstanton residents and the Parish Council in 2015, before we were elected, regarding reducing water levels in the

Kingfisher Pond (now part of Northstowe) and other ponds and wells. Concerns were continuously raised throughout that period until at the end of 2017 it was reported to the previous administration that the Kingfisher Pond had completely dried out. When we were elected as District councillors in 2018, we immediately sought to engage with residents and Longstanton Parish Council on this issue, arranging meetings with residents, the Parish Council, the developers L&Q, and council officers. Subsequently we fought for and secured funding from South Cambridgeshire District Council for a fully independent report into the falling water levels.

The consultants who prepared this independent report, HR Wallingford, were chosen by Longstanton Parish Council who then agreed the scope of the investigation. We committed to full transparency of the final report. Each phase of the report has been sent directly to the Parish Council and other contributors. Residents can also obtain copies on request. This report confirmed that the drop in water levels was due to the dewatering that had taken place

to allow construction on Phase 1 of Northstowe. At that time, the removal of water did not require consent from the Council or the Environment Agency. We are pleased the position has subsequently changed, and consent would now be needed from the Environment Agency, to protect groundwater resources.

“This report confirmed that the drop in water levels was due to ... construction on Phase 1 of Northstowe”

Work is now ongoing to understand why water levels are not recovering after these works on Phase 1. One possibility which has been identified through investigations led by Northstowe Town Council suggests that there may be some “leakage” from the groundwater aquifer under Phase 1 via the surface water drains, and this is currently being investigated. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Northstowe spent time walking the site with us and explaining what they think may have happened.

A CCTV survey of the drains is planned but at the time of writing, the area is currently inaccessible due to road construction, so this has been slightly delayed. We are continuing to push for this to take place as soon as possible.

We are also aware of some information that was shared, via the crowdfunding campaign, about groundwater abstraction on Phase 2. The developer Homes England – who themselves are a Government agency, not a private developer – confirmed that no abstraction took place in this area. The area of temporary flooding identified as evidence of the water being abstracted was subject to archaeology investigation that reduced the ground level by 600mm across a large area. This is predominantly clay and so caused surface water run-off to pond. It is slowly drying out over the summer. This area will eventually become a sports hub and the ground level will be raised back to normal again.

“No abstraction took place in [the Phase 2] area”

We are aware that many in the community, particularly in Oakington, are also concerned about the impact of further development at Northstowe. Construction work on Northstowe Phase 3, which the Council gave planning permission for earlier this year, has not started yet. This is currently not linked to experiences of reduced groundwater in Longstanton. When the decision was made by the planning committee to give planning permission for Phase 3 of Northstowe, the Environment Agency was consulted, who, along with planning officers, carefully considered the issues of reduced groundwater levels. The Environment Agency raised no objection to the plans, but conditions were placed on the developers requiring ongoing monitoring of the groundwater. This planning decision is now the subject of a Judicial Review, as many residents will know.

“This planning decision is now the subject of a Judicial Review”

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about these, or any other matters. See our contact details on page 5.

Alex Malyon and
Sarah Cheung Johnson



From our County Councillor

I hope you are all managing to get a break during summer, whether you are going away, or staying at home with family or catching up with friends. Here follows a summary of Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) current matters.

Census

Cambridgeshire has seen one of the UK's biggest population increases over the past ten years. Overall, the number of people living in the county rose by more than 57,000 in the last decade to 678,600. This 9.2% rise is higher than the East of England average, and in the national picture, the East grew faster than any part of the UK.

The figures confirm CCC's contention that previous Office of National Statistics figures – on which the government bases its grant allocations – under-estimated the size of the county's population. Included within the Cambridgeshire Census figures is an overall 26% rise in the number of people aged 65+, against an 18.6 per cent national average rise – with a high percentage increase of people in the 70-74 age band. While the more urban areas like Cambridge have seen population growth across all age ranges, its more rural areas have seen small or no growth in the 0-19 age groups but large increases in older populations. See www.ons.gov.uk/census

Highways

A14 Bar Hill Bridge Ramps. Patching took place over four nights in June and during that time a CCC specialist team also carried out ground investigations and testing, which will be discussed with National Highways who built the A14. The CCC Highways team also inspected the raised area over the A1307 leading to the B1050 and are creating a Traffic Management plan for it also to be repaired.

B1050 Roundabout. CCC's Road Safety Audit Stage 1 (Concept) and Stage 2 (Detailed Design) have been completed. The final Stage 3 (Post Construction) is still outstanding and CCC will meet with Homes England and Sisk to get this over the line. Road safety audits are carried out on all significant County Council and Developer promoted highway schemes. This is to ensure adequate levels of safety are maintained and that problems previously identified at similar sites are avoided in new works. The Traffic Management (cones) enable final works to be completed safely.

A14 Dead/Dying Trees. Following our motion at CCC, we are now liaising with National Highways, who carried out a survey in May. We met with them on 22 June to discuss the survey analysis and an action plan and we will share this when available.

Capital Maintenance Programme

Schemes planned during 2022/23:

Footway Slurry Seal

Mead View (July/Aug), Holme Close, Lowbury Crescent.

Footway resurfacing

Station Road, Westwick, from bridge to nursery.

Traffic Calming. A14 Legacy and Northstowe S106 funding will be financing the agreed **speed cushions and road humps** in Cambridge Road, Water Lane and Station Road following approval by the Parish Council and a Public Consultation.

20 mph Scheme. An application was put forward by the Parish Council for the LHI (Local Highways Initiative) bids earlier this year. The plan is to combine all the works for traffic calming, 20 mph and the Westwick footway resurfacing together.

New Bus Stops. Many thanks to Stagecoach who took onboard the suggestion of providing bus stops on either side of Dry Drayton Road to get to the Garden Centre. Following Health & Safety and Risks Assessments, flags have been put up at the safest spots for passengers to get on/off the bus.

County Wide News

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND): The Council's Children & Young People Committee unanimously agreed on 5 July on the strategy to deliver more SEND school places and on amending the specification of new build primary schools to include 55m² of additional SEND space per up to two forms of entry.

Household Support Fund: CCC has been allocated £3.58 million as part of the Government's Household Support Fund to help people who need financial support, and the Strategy & Resources Committee has allocated a further £1.87m to supplement this locally. If you're struggling to pay for essentials such as food, heating and water this winter please get in touch and see how the Household Support Fund could help you. www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/coronavirus/household-support-fund

Inflation adds to council costs: The County Councils Network and the Society of County Treasurers have revealed that spiralling inflation has left 40 of England's largest councils with £729m of additional unfunded costs since they set their budgets in March.

To balance their budgets, as they are legally required to and control costs, councils warn they face a winter of 'difficult decisions'. The increased costs nationally include:

- £428m for adult social care services
- £72m for children's social care
- £397m for capital projects
- £107m for energy prices
- £136m for external contract and labour costs
- £77m for school transport services
- £259m for staff pay

These inflationary costs far outstrip any increases in Government funding or council tax.

Please find my contact details on page 5.

Firouz Thompson



DRY CLEANING SERVICE AT THE SHOP

Items to be dry cleaned are picked up from Oakington Village Stores on a Thursday and brought back the following Thursday.

Please ask Thiru or Anu for more details.



Harvest Concert 7 October

Seeking Talents

If anyone is interested in performing please contact elainebailey1@live.co.uk

From our Headteacher and Governors

After two years of Covid, it has been wonderful to see the children back in school bringing their energy, fun and enthusiasm for learning.



We continue to be impressed with how our children have adapted over the last few years and have really enjoyed hearing them telling us about the huge range of knowledge they have acquired this year: reception children telling us about the solar system, KS1 children talking to us about King John and the Magna Carta and the children in KS2 discussing globalisation and the cold war whilst learning lines, dances, and music for the much-loved summer production!

It has been wonderful to see the new knowledge-rich curriculum being implemented and we are already seeing the children becoming young historians, geographers, and artists with a real passion for learning new things. We are excited to see this develop as the new curriculum continues to be rolled out next year.

We are very proud of all our teachers and staff and are thankful for all the hard work, commitment, and care that they give every single day. We are delighted with our latest SATS results, which are significantly above the national average. They are testament to the amazing work of the both the staff and children at our school. We will continue to strive

for the very best for our children and are already looking forward to building on this success in the next academic year.

Key Stage 2 SATS (% reaching expected standard)	Oakington	National
Reading	80%	74%
Writing	76%	69%
Maths	80%	71%
Combined	70%	59%

Finally, we are very sorry to be saying goodbye to some of our wonderful teaching assistants this year. It was not a process that we ever wanted to go through, but unfortunately the current finances were unable to support the staffing structure that we have fought for so long to protect. We would like to thank all our teaching assistants for their incredible contribution to the Oakington school community and wish those that are leaving us all the very best in their new roles and pursuits.

We know the staff and children will be looking forward to their well-deserved summer holiday. We would like to wish them and all the parents and carers a very happy summer break.

Nathan Clark & Governors

From our PSA

With one school year closing and another on the horizon, it is a great time to take a look back at all of the exciting events and activities enjoyed recently by the children, staff and parents which have been put on by our hard-working and dedicated PSA.



We were delighted to be able to hold our annual **Summer Fair** again which was extremely well attended – the bouncy castles being the stars of the show! Most

importantly, the fair raised in excess of £900 which will be used for various projects to support our children's learning and development.

We have also enjoyed a number of delicious Cake sales organised and run by each class in turn, a fantastic Cider & Cheese Night run by Emma and Leo from local producers Blue Barrel Cider, and Welly Wanging at the Village Day.



We really appreciate the support given to these events by our parents and local community which are so important in helping the school with all of the incredible work they do for our children.

To welcome in the new school year, we have a **Quiz Night** arranged for **30 September** and we are currently looking at dates for our Christmas Fair which promises to be a festive spectacular! As ever, we would like the Christmas Fair to be a real community event so if anybody is interested in helping out or hosting a stall, please contact psa@oakington.cambs.sch.uk or speak to the school office.

And finally, we are delighted to announce that our PSA is now a **charity**! This is an exciting and positive move for us as it will allow us to apply for grant funding, receive charitable donations and generate income via Gift Aid – the more funds we can raise to support our school the better! We are really excited to see where this new journey takes us .

Jo Farrington, PSA Secretary



Rounders and BBQ
on the Recreation Ground



Platinum Jubilee Celebrations



Community Sing
with Oakington Singers



Midfield Lodge Celebrations



Afternoon & evening
entertainment at
the Pub



Street Party in Mead View



Clubs and Groups

Cambridge Ten Sing

On 7 July a group of Cambridge Ten Singers put on an informal concert, the first since the Pandemic hit us. This performing arts group for young people impressed with not only a variety of songs, but also dancing, signing and even playing ukuleles which they had learned during lock down!



In September they are looking for new members, aged between 11 and 18. It's a great group for finding friends and having fun together and where the older members help and support the younger ones. They meet Thursdays in term time at Histon Baptist Church, 7–9pm. For more information please contact the administrator, Terry King, at cambridgetensing@gmail.com.

Irène Butlin

Oakington & Westwick WI

The WI members (and guests) have enjoyed a variety of activities in the last couple of months, from an interesting talk on 'Women of Cambridge' at their June meeting to a cruise on the Cam with afternoon tea to a Summer Social evening in July. Coming up in August is 'Shakespeare in the Park' while on **8 September** they have a demonstration on wax wraps!

To join this interesting, mixed and fun group of women, contact their secretary – lindaneech@hotmail.co.uk.

Editors



Has Wimbledon got you hunting for your tennis racket?



If so, Oakington & Westwick Tennis Club would love you to join them! There's still plenty of time to get some games in on this year's subscription which runs from 1st April – 31st March. Great value rates – only £65 for a family, £45 for adults and £20 for juniors. You can just turn up and play on our two outdoor hard courts. Coaching is also available and social events are organised during the year.

Further information can be found on the noticeboard at the courts by the Recreation Ground in Queens Way. Alternatively, if you have any questions please contact oakingtontc@gmail.com.

Gill Attmore

Chess Corner



A knock-out chess tournament at the Village Day, between the members of After-school Chess Club of the Oakington Primary School attracted the attention amongst others of our local policeman Tom Lazaro. To make up the numbers two fathers also 'joined the fray', and in the thrilling finals, despite emotions running high as Aiden Griffiths from year 6 beat his father Alistair, everyone behaved and no arrests were made!

Chess puzzle 4-22. Black to move and check mate in two moves.

Solution to the chess puzzle 3-22 from the last Journal:

Black Rook from c3 to h3 check. White Pawn on g2 takes Rook on h3. Black Pawn from g4 to g3 checkmate!

Ranko Pinter



Meeting Online? A reminder to village groups that you can still borrow the **Community Association Zoom licence**. Contact oakington.westwick.ca@gmail.com.

Sustainable Oakington & Westwick

At the end of May, Sarah Smith from local company Green Blue You explained how the things we buy can affect biodiversity and climate change. She suggested that when thinking about buying/getting something, ask: Do I need it? Do I need it new? What was used to make it? Can I reuse it? Can I recycle it?



In June we heard from local tree expert Jake Camilleri about the many benefits of trees, about threats to our native species and what we can do to help. (See page 23.) In dry weather, water young trees in your street or locality. If a tree does die, leaving the dead wood in situ is fantastic for biodiversity.

It was good to chat to lots of people at the SOW stall at the Village Day and the children especially enjoyed learning what to recycle where via the beanbag game!

As well as great talks and discussions at the monthly meetings, there are several other activities coming together. Get in touch to be kept in the loop, or just come along. We are not meeting in August but our meeting in September (**Wednesday 28th, 7:30pm** at the church hall) will be part of Great Big Green Week – look out for more information nearer the time.

The extreme heat we experienced in July may not itself be proof of climate change, but does illustrate the sort of conditions we are likely to have regularly if we don't significantly reduce greenhouse gases – another big wake up call. Alarming too, that the candidates for the PM's job have barely mentioned the importance of reducing emissions!

Contact sustainableow@gmail.com / sustainableow.co.uk / 0785 7704 636 (Gerry Cavander).

Jenny Prince & John Terry

Oakington & Westwick Table Tennis Club

We are a small, friendly club, of mixed ability. We play throughout the year, every Tuesday at 7.30pm at the Pavilion, and welcome new players. We have four tables and spare bats - all you need is a pair of trainers. Junior players must be accompanied by an adult. For more information contact Gillian L'angellier on 234758.



Mick Dorling

Oakington & Westwick Garden Society

The end of an era

The Garden Society was started in 1984 and has continued with seven meetings, a plant sale and an outing every year until Covid lockdown. Sadly the current committee feel unable to carry on. If there is anyone who is younger (under 75!) and a keen gardener who would like to take over the organisation then we would be delighted to help them.

Otherwise, we would like to thank all our members for their continued support over the years.

Happy Gardening,

*Julie Grove (233951), Ann Rayner (234203),
Lillon Harrison (237216), Arthur Sillett (237001)*



Tuesday Talk & Tea

Background information on the worthwhile work of the Dogs Trust was thorough and entertaining – dogs are really pampered!



Testing our knowledge of past biscuits and sweets via a quiz caused fun, then followed by strawberry tea. It proved to be a very good afternoon.

- **9 Aug** Now cancelled
- **13 Sep** Short AGM followed by talk on printing & card making by Moira Neal

St Andrew's Hall, 2.45 pm. Come and join us at the start of our new year to enjoy company, chat and English tea.

*Joan Pettit (Chairperson)
(joanpettit93@yahoo.com)*

Country Dance Club

There will not be any dancing in August, but Jane and I look forward to welcoming you back on **Friday 2nd September**, at Histon Methodist Church at 8.00 p.m. We will have a Caller and music provided by our excellent band.

Adults: £2.00 Accompanied Children: 50p.

Everyone most welcome.

Kathryn Coles



Oakington & Westwick Short Mat Bowls Club

We would be very happy to welcome new players at our weekly sessions. We play from 7.30 to 9.30 pm on a Thursday evening at the Sports Pavilion in Oakington.

If you would like to give bowls a try, come and join us as our guest for the evening. We have spare bowls and you just need some soft, flat soled shoes. If you would like more information on the Club, please contact Dawn on 01223 236427.



Dawn Stokes





Environment Action Group

You may have seen our stand at the **Village Day** in June, which featured a miniature pond complete with tadpoles as well as an environment themed version of Nordic Kubb.

To show our appreciation to the volunteers who help us, the EAG held a **Tea Party** in the Butlins' lovely garden. The Parish Council very kindly funded the teas. Views were gathered on what else the EAG could do and on how to encourage more people to join us.



If you missed talking to us at these events and have ideas or would like to become more involved in our activities, please contact James Youd on jamesyoud51@icloud.com.

Our **Flood Mitigation Group (FMG)** understands that, since our report in the previous journal, the Environment Agency have received the information regarding the A14 that they requested from National Highways. This had been

preventing them from completing their modelling of Oakington Brook, which was in turn delaying Homes England (Northstowe developers) from progressing with attenuation pond design. We hope that the Environment Agency will be able to complete any further modelling within the next few months and pass the results to Homes England. We will be pursuing this as much as possible as the construction of an attenuation pond is our primary aim for reducing the flood risk to the village.

We were asked by Cllr Firouz Thompson for a list of **drains** within the village where there is regular and persistent pooling of water. We have previously sent a list of 27 drains that we believe are essential to keep clear in order to avoid localised build-up of water in the roads. This second report details the places where water often accumulates, such as outside the school and at the bottom of Mill Road.

The Parish Council's **Open Spaces** project, which the EAG is supporting, to develop the area around the recreation ground with a hard path and seating areas has secured £81,000 of funding from the FCC Community Action Fund. If all goes to plan, we hope to begin cutting turf in September and to carry out planting in November or December, with everything finished by Christmas.

We also continue to work on our **Information Boards** project (jointly with the History Society) and to investigate ways to remove excess bulrushes and duckweed from the **village pond**.

Stephanie Smith, Secretary

Transport Action Group

Since its inception the Transport Action Group (TAG) has worked collaboratively with the Parish Council (PC) on issues that impact Traffic and Transport safety throughout Oakington and Westwick. Sometimes progress seems to be either very slow or non-existent. However, we have recently been advised that a number of safety improvements will be implemented at the beginning of September.

Firstly, money from A14 Legacy Fund was made available for traffic safety improvements for parishes affected by the A14 upgrade. The PC has been awarded money to install some new traffic calming measures and to improve existing speed cushions and tables.

Secondly, Oakington will become a 20 mph zone throughout. This is unexpected as TAG, in collaboration with the PC, has twice applied for a Local Highways Initiative (LHI) to do this and on both occasions the application has been rejected as it did not meet the required criteria. A change in policy and the provision of additional funding has made this possible. The work to install the appropriate signs and road markings is likely to occur concurrently with the A14 funded changes described above. We are grateful to our parish, district and county councillors for their support in achieving this.



We would have liked the 20 mph zone to include Westwick but this has not been allowed by the County Council Highways Department. We have some understanding of what needs to be done to get the 20 mph extended and we will be

working towards meeting the requirements possibly through a future LHI. There will be some safety improvements in Westwick using the A14 money with a buffer zone of 40 mph as you approach from Cottenham with new and enhanced signage where the current 30 mph zone begins.



The changes to the Citi 6 and 5 routes have meant there are regular buses using Dry Drayton Road. After talking with the Oakington Garden Centre owner, TAG lobbied the PC to approach Stagecoach for a **bus stop in Dry Drayton Road** and we now have a bus stop at the entrance to Fare Acres Farm.

Members of TAG have been monitoring any developments associated with the proposed **East West Railway (EWR)**. We have heard that EWR are carrying out ecological studies around the village. We have asked them directly for an explanation as they have discounted a northern approach coming near to the village twice already. We are still waiting to see the results of a consultation on the preferred southern approach that was carried out last year. An announcement from the government about the future of the new route to join Bedford and Cambridge is expected after the current leadership election.



TAG meets on the first Monday bi-monthly – the next meeting is on 5 September at the White Horse. If you would like to join us, please contact us at the address below and we will email the agenda and meeting details.

Jim Bryant, Chair
owcp.tag@gmail.com 07807184691

Oakington & Westwick Neighbours

It seems unlikely, given the hot, dry spell at the moment, but Sunday 5 June was grey and damp. That didn't stop the **Platinum**



Jubilee Big Lunch being a big success. (See pictures on page 13!) The Pavilion was decorated with red, white and blue bunting both inside and out and, despite the miserable weather, the mood was upbeat and festive. Over 120 people came together to celebrate both the jubilee and the first opportunity to meet and share food since before the Covid pandemic. As ever, there was more than enough to eat and there were some amazing entries in the Platinum Pudding competition. Live music was provided by Anne Bury, and children's activities by Ben and Sharon Phillips. A big thank you to all who came, provided food and drink, entered the competition, helped set up, served teas and coffees, washed up and (most importantly) helped clear up afterwards. The event even featured in Cambridgeshire Live's roundup of village jubilee celebrations!



It was lovely to bring together for a photo-shoot on that day almost all the contributors to the **Community Quilt**, now hanging above the doors into the main pavilion hall. OWN was very involved in providing the community response during the Covid-19 pandemic. Alice Jondorf, a member of the OWN Committee, suggested making a community quilt to record the creativity and resilience of the village during this crisis. People

were invited to make a square or squares showing what was important to them, or what made them happy, and these were made into a quilt about 2m square. Techniques

included knitting, crochet, patchwork, sewing, and embroidery. The end result is vibrant and colourful, and it is fascinating to see the different things that mean so much to us.

Village Day on 25 June was also a success, with a constant stream of visitors to the OWN stand. The day was also an opportunity to publicise the upcoming **Lakeside Jazz and Tea**, OWN's only fundraiser each year, on Saturday 10 September. Experience live music, tea and amazing cake in the wonderful setting of the private lake at 9 Longstanton Road for a suggested donation of £5. Some seating will be available, but feel free to bring a rug or folding chairs. To limit numbers, we are only advertising this event within the village.

If you are looking to get more involved in our local community, maybe if you already volunteer, and you would like to help with planning and supporting a range of neighbourhood activities, we are recruiting to the OWN committee! Do get in touch if you would like to give it a go.

Contact OWN on 07902 11178 / owneighbours@gmail.com.

Jo Bryant

CONNECT 2



Looking forward to seeing anyone available for the Walk and Talk on the first Saturday of each month. Come dressed for the weather, and we usually walk for approximately one hour. We meet at 10:30am at the High Street end of the church. Next walks are **6 Aug, 3 Sep and 1 Oct**.

We'll be setting out for a bike ride straight up the busway to the Fen Drayton Lakes on **Sat 20 August**. Meet at **11am** at the High Street end of the church. All welcome, with children accompanied, please. It's a ride of 6½ miles each way and we will take it quite gently. Bring a picnic if you can, and some to share with anyone who forgets or isn't able to bring anything. Looking forward to seeing you as we **CONNECT 2** the local wildlife at the lakes.

Alice J

Community Association



By all accounts the Village Day held on 25 June was a great success! Based on the ticket sales, over five hundred people attended this event and enjoyed themselves, as you will see from the photographs on pages 16 and 17.

Both the Village Day and the Bonfire Night – the two major village events organised by the Community Association – take a fair amount of work. It is therefore not surprising that the substantial proportion of those involved in organising these events are retired people like me and the CA committee. However, I was heartened to see that, when a call out came for volunteers to help with this year's Village Day, a fair number of you who still have day-jobs did come to help with planning the event, setting it up, running the day itself and clear up afterwards.

After months and years of separation and isolation, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Lunch (kindly organised by OWN on CA's behalf) and the Village Day this year provided our community with not only a much needed opportunity for enjoyment but also opportunity for closeness, for bonding and for communal togetherness. This, in my view, is the most important aspect of such days.

The experience of working with all the volunteers to make the Village Day happen has given me an uplift for which I am utterly grateful, and it provides me with a renewed optimism when approaching the next big job of the Community Association – **Bonfire Night**, which will take place on 5 November. So please put the date in your diary, and if you are willing and able to help us with organising the event, please contact us at oakington.westwick.ca@gmail.com.

Ranko Pinter, Chair

Grass: to cut or not to cut? That is the question!

You may have read about 11-year old Isabella from Oxford, who was heartbroken when her local council mowed down some orchids growing amongst the grass on a roundabout in front of her house. She had spotted bee orchids and pyramidal orchids and wrote to the council asking them not to cut the grass until the orchids had a chance to shed seed. The following Monday, the council sent in the mowers.

Supporters of Isabella pointed out that the mowing was completely unnecessary; it's a very quiet roundabout and drivers' views were not obstructed. The resulting 900,000 tweets included support from Chris Packham. The story underlines the conflict between most people's desire for tidiness and others who put nature first.

How do we stand in Oakington?

The County Council contractor trimmed up our grass verges in the middle of June but one resident clearly communicated his wish to delay mowing. Kris Semple of Orchard Way put



a sign in the verge outside his house and the mowers missed him. His sign asked for bees to be remembered but wild flowers attract other pollinators including butterflies and to a lesser extent beetles, ants and wasps. Kris also sows wild flower seeds into the

sward like vetch and cowslip, sourced locally. The great thing about verges is that they can be part of corridors of wild flowers.

Flowers need pollinators to spread their pollen (made by the male bits called stamen) to reproduce with other flowers, usually of the same family. Pollination involves transferring the pollen to the female bit (called the stigma).

How does the flower attract pollinating insects? It secretes a sweet syrup called nectar, which is the stuff that hives bees turn into honey. Pollination is a by-product of the insects' search for food in that bees collect pollen on their bodies and legs and transfer it when they visit another plant. Butterflies are not so effective as bees at pollination because they cannot carry so much pollen on their bodies. But they try. Insects need to eat both nectar (for energy) and pollen (proteins, vitamins and minerals) and they feed both to their babies.

Examples of flowers that grow in grass for pollination by bees and butterflies are:

- May: bugle, dandelions.

- June and July: clovers, hawkweeds, buttercup, birdsfoot trefoil, self-heal, orchids, yarrow, wild carrot (*Daucus carota*, as in the picture of Kris's sign).

The grasses themselves miss all the fun because they are mostly wind-pollinated.

You may also have heard about the appearance of 100 bee orchids in Lillon Harrison's and Charlotte Jordan's Pony Field in the middle of the village in June. There were about 10 last year but 2022 produced a glorious sight. Ain't nature amazing?

John Terry



Volunteering in our Hospitals

The pandemic has impacted all of us in some way. The NHS has seen unprecedented pressure and chronic demand, true too for us here at Cambridge University Hospitals. During the pandemic you may have spent time supporting your local community. Perhaps you are looking for a longer term volunteering opportunity, or you feel now is the time to get involved. May be you've been inspired by our amazing NHS and want to 'do your bit' or 'give back' for the support and care received. We welcome your help.

We have a variety of different roles on offer; all help to improve the experience of patients. People decide to volunteer with us for many reasons, from giving back to the community, to meeting new people or trying a new challenge. Find out more information on our website www.volunteering.cuh.org.uk or call on 01223 586616.

Jane Robinson

Deputy Voluntary Services Manager, CUH

Congratulations

Congratulations to James Alexander who in September celebrates 50 years as vicar of Oakington!
(More information in the latest Church magazine.)

Editors



Biosecurity ... what's that?

It's a word everyone should know! I do not mean to sound hyperbolic when I say that our survival may depend on our ability to practise biosecurity. In short, biosecurity is taking actions to prevent disease-causing organisms leaving one place and entering another.

Over the past 50 years, we have accidentally imported and introduced many new species into the British Isles. Some have surely gone unnoticed; some species have naturalised. Some, however, have wreaked havoc across our various ecosystems. When Dutch Elm Disease was introduced via timber from the United States during the 1970s, for example, the disease quickly spread and killed some 25 million trees.

But since 2000 the rate of introduction has rocketed. Ash Die Back, arriving in 2012 is predicted to kill 195 million trees. Box Caterpillar, introduced in 2012, is making a meal of our native box tree. Sweet Chestnut Blight, which originates in Asia, has killed some 4 billion chestnut trees across North America and has recently reached the UK. Oak



Processionary Moth, introduced in 2006, has become established in the south east, and can cause a nasty rash upon contact.

It should be everyone's goal to prevent, spot and eradicate any new and emerging pests. It is possible to help in this fight by practising biosecurity.

Some practical steps you can take are:

- To wipe excess dirt/mud off your shoes/ bikes/vehicles before you travel to and from the UK.
- Try to buy plants that have been propagated within the UK or from a nursery with a strong biosecurity policy. A useful tip is to check the label or pot for a plant passport, which ensures some checks have been made in the importation of the plant.
- Educate yourself on new and emerging pests and diseases. The best website to do this is forestresearch.gov.uk.
- If you spot an unusual bug or plant while out for a walk, or within a woodland, please take photos, get a location and post it online to try to get it identified. A great place to do this is the TreeAlert system on the previously mentioned Forest Research website. You can submit a report, and an expert on the other end will receive it and ID it for you. Doing so may well prevent a new pest from becoming established. We need as many eyes and ears working towards this as we can manage.

*Jake Camilleri, Sustainable Oakington & Westwick and
Cambridge City Tree Officer*

Seasonal Tip from the OCOP Team

When is a dead tree dead?

With the hot dry spell and more to come, young fruit trees may be suffering from lack of water. The obvious signs are leaves browning at the edges and/or fruit (if there is any) dropping off. Obviously you need to keep watering them the best you can. But what if you arrive back from holiday and all the leaves are brown and "dried to a crisp", is the tree dead? Should you cut your losses, dig it up and plant a new one next year? Well maybe not. It is worth continuing to water it regularly, for the rest of the summer, and see what happens next spring. If the leaves were there for long enough, they may have photosynthesised sufficiently to take the tree through to next year, as long as you continue to keep the roots moist.

For more information, advice on your trees, or our leaflets on pruning (with pictures) email:

*Oakington Community Orchards Team (OCOP)
oakcomorchards@gmail.com*



Oakington Village Stores Opening Hours

Monday to Saturday 6am – 7pm, Sunday 7am – 4pm

Post Office Opening Hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am – 1pm, 2 – 4.30pm

Wednesday 9am – 1pm, Saturday 9am – 12.30pm

Telephone Box Library

A huge thank you to Parish Councillors David Reeves & Tony Starling who worked like Trojans during June renovating the phone kiosk library, including a complete repaint and replacing all the glass panes.

But very sadly indeed, due to recurrent acts of vandalism by an unknown person or persons, the Parish Council has been forced to close the phone kiosk library for the foreseeable future, as it is unsafe to enter it.



Editors

Jubilee Rounders

A rounders afternoon took place on the Rec on the Saturday of Jubilee weekend. Around twenty families came along and everyone enjoyed themselves. The weather was great – not too hot. We barbecued and had a few drinks, and lots of fun was had! See picture on page 12.



Jo Mowatt

The Hairy Footed Flower Bee

Ramblings of a bee lover...

In early spring time you may have observed what, at first glance, looks like a small black Bumble bee with distinctive furry ginger back legs, characteristically hovering manically



*Hairy-Footed Flower Bee (female),
Anthrophora plumipes
(photo: Julie Grove)*

about above the early cultivars, diving and darting in and around the flowers. These are Hairy-Footed Flower Bees and can be observed in all temperatures and conditions: they have a lower metabolic rate than the larger bees, not requiring as much energy in order to fly, and can cope with colder mornings. A ground-nesting solitary

species, they live in nooks and crannies in the ground, another attribute giving an advantage over above-ground nesters. We have a high gravel content at Church View, being attached to the former village gravel pit, which provides suitable nesting opportunities for this species. The black form are the females, the males being slightly less significant, more like a small buff-coloured bee with a white face.

First identified by Pallas in 1772, this tiny pollinator may be an important factor in the ongoing concern for future food security. It is

anticipated that by 2050 one of our most common Bumble bees, the Common Carder, *Bombus*

pascuorum, may no longer be seen in our gardens. Rising temperatures mean that these larger Bumble bees with their 'furry' coats will be unable to survive in the extreme heat

predicted, in particular in the East Anglia region, by this time. Being above-ground nesters, using bird boxes and wall cavities etc., may also put the larger Bumble species at a disadvantage – research into this is ongoing. If you are interested in the effect that climate warming will have on declining pollinator species and the longer-term implications for food security, leading expert Prof. Dave Goulson's new book is worth a read: '*Silent Earth: Averting the Insect Apocalypse*'.



*Common Carder Bee,
Bombus pascuorum (photo: Julie Grove)*

Julie Grove

Oakington and Westwick Neighbourhood Watch



The National body is warning us to close windows when out of the house: the warm weather requires more ventilation but we want no more opportunist burglaries!

We are also told that car theft is increasing in Cambridgeshire, as well as thefts from inside cars. Lock your car securely and don't leave anything tempting on display.

Finally, the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) is warning the public about the continued increase in reports about scams where victims are targeted on WhatsApp by criminals pretending to be someone they know – typically their children.

Criminals will usually begin the conversation with "Hello Mum" or "Hello Dad" and will say that they are texting from a new mobile number as their phone was lost or damaged. They will then ask for money to purchase a new one, or claim that they need money urgently to pay a bill.

The criminal will provide bank details for the payment to be made to, with some coming back with further demands for money.

Jillian Wilkinson

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Book Corner

The Dress Shop of Dreams

by Menna van Praag

This is a wonderful romantic book which has a magical twist. I couldn't put this book down and loved every page that I read. The story is about love and loss, and questioning whether you have to suffer loss before you can love again. It takes place in Cambridge and for those of us that know Cambridge well it brings to life those tiny winding backstreets that we have walked. The Dress Shop and the Book Shop are the two main locations in the story. The author has brought such colourful, magical images of the collection of dresses that are created by Etta, one of the main characters. Once a woman puts on one of her dresses, it transforms them into a different person feeling beautiful and confident.

A delightful read !



Sue Kaufman

Film Review

12 Angry Men (1957, B&W) U

On a swelteringly hot day, with better places to be, twelve men are tasked by a disinterested judge to return their verdict on a slum kid who obviously murdered his father. A quick vote and they can be out of there. They all vote guilty, except for one.

We can all relate to swelteringly hot days, peer pressure and quick judgments. We can also relate to remakes of classic movies never being as good, and films don't get more classic than this, deservedly acclaimed for its cinematography, the techniques of which draw you in so much you can feel the tension crackling in the room.

On TV occasionally, rentable, might be in a DVD rack somewhere.



Paul Kershaw

My Hobby

I started making fancy cakes just after my first daughter was born, 40 years ago this month. In those days children's cakes were not as elaborate as they are today. I liked the idea of representing what my children liked in the form of a cake. Sometimes I would also treat some of their friends. Over the years I made cartoon characters, Barbies, Batman, fairy castles, pirate ships and Claudia's favourite, Winnie the Pooh.

As they grew up their favourite things changed, so I found myself making Gucci handbags and Jimmy Choo shoes as that was the only way I could fulfil their wishes. I also made one of these cakes for a friend.

Over the years I've made cakes for all sort of occasions.

As time went by I started making cakes for friends and colleagues at work. However they were for special occasions and I always made sure that the cake represented the person and they were symbolic of things that happened in their life. They became very personal.



When the son of one of my friends and his wife came to Cambridge to celebrate their wedding which took place in India I offered to make them a cake for the party. After I got all the information I needed I worked on it for a couple of days making sure that it didn't only represent their wedding but also places where they had spent part of their life (Cambridge / Norway / Germany / Sydney / New Zealand).

I am now the proud grandmother of three lovely girls and I am making cakes for this generation.

I have enjoyed every single cake I made and I hope to carry on making them!



Paola Moore

LAKESIDE JAZZ & TEA



Tea and cakes, live music and garden games
beside a beautiful lake in Oakington

Saturday 10 September, 3 – 5pm

In aid of OWN (Oakington and Westwick Neighbours)

Music from Black Coffee Jazz & Oaktet

Suggested donation: £5 for adults; £1 for children up to 12

Venue: The lake at 9 Longstanton Road, Oakington



Oakington & Westwick Hardship Fund

If you are experiencing
financial hardship
or are in need:

call or text Ben on **07342 945373**

or Jo on **07714 760582,**

or email oak.west.hardship.fund@outlook.com

Your confidentiality will be respected.

Village Yard Sale Saturday 3rd September

Brownies

A chance to clear your clutter and make
some cash!

Pay £5 for your stall to go on the Village Yard
Sale map – profits go towards Oakington
Brownies.



To find out more, email
jhlum@me.com or join the
'Oakington Yard Sale 2022'
Facebook group.

Hanna Lumley



HAPPY FEET MUSIC & DANCE GROUP for ages 0-4

Tuesdays 10-11am
St Andrews Church Hall
Oakington
£1 per family

From September

