



Oakley Newsletter



Autumn 2015

Number 64





Front Cover

The Drive, Oakley
by Terry Youngman

The Oakley Newsletter

is published quarterly by Oakley Parish Council and delivered by parish councillors free to every house in Oakley – about 1,000 copies.

Opinions and information

in the Newsletter, both text and adverts, may not be endorsed by the Editor or the Parish Council.

Next issue

Final copy date for the Winter issue is 18th November 2015.
The publishing date is 1st December.

Advertising rates

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Quarter page: £30
Half page: £60

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Loose inserts, any size up to A4: £100
Invoices will be issued by Ann Paice, with payment to Oakley Parish Council.

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White Hart Press
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Hello Children

look out for
9 more



Parish Council News

Autumn 2015 By PAUL PHILLIPS (Chair)

Hello Everyone

It is incredible that by the time you receive this newsletter our lovely summer will be fast disappearing. Having said that, let us be grateful for what we have had which I think you will agree has been a very nice summer. Let's hope that the next few weeks will be good too. I hope you have all enjoyed the summer whether it be at home or away.

Parish Council Public Meeting

In the Summer edition of the Newsletter which was circulated in early June 2015 we informed the village of the proposal to install a 3 G Football Pitch on the Lincroft School New Field, Station Road, Oakley.

There is no doubt that this will be a very major project that could have a number of implications for the village. As a consequence Oakley Parish Council think it very important that our community can make informed decisions. We will be holding a special Parish Council Public Meeting at Lincroft School, Station Road, Oakley commencing at 7.30pm on Wednesday 16 September 2015. It is intended that the meeting will not last more than two hours during which time there will be presentations about the proposal, information from the Parish Council and opportunity for questions and answers. The proposal could have positive and negative implications for the whole village so please come along; listen, then please give us your views. Even if you live on the other side of the village we would welcome your view. Please don't be complacent thinking 'it won't affect me'. By coming along you will find how it might affect you. A separate flyer concerning this subject is being circulated with the newsletter so there can be no excuse for people saying they didn't know about the Special Meeting.

Defibrillator Awareness.

During the afternoon of 28 May 2015 a Defibrillator Awareness Session was arranged for residents of Oakley following the installation of a Defibrillator on the wall outside the Village Hall. Sadly the session was very poorly attended, but those who did attend learnt a lot.

Continued on page 3

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In order to increase awareness of the equipment I will endeavour to help you through the procedure should you ever have the misfortune to be required to use one.

Public Access Defibrillators [PADS] can be found in public spaces like shopping centres, Gyms, railway stations and village halls and in our case it is on the wall to the right of the front door of our village hall. They are safe and simple to use as long as you follow instructions. The machine gives clear voice instructions. Really and truly you don't need training to use one. Once in position the defibrillator detects the heart rhythm. It won't deliver a shock unless one is needed.

After a cardiac arrest every minute without CPR [cardiopulmonary resuscitation] and defibrillation reduces someone's chances of survival by 10%. When you call 999 the operator can tell you if there is a public access defibrillator nearby. Don't delay or interrupt chest compressions to get the defibrillator yourself, send someone else to get it. As I said earlier defibrillators are really easy to use.

They don't all look the same but they all function similarly. If you come across someone not breathing or breathing erratically, the most important thing to do is call 999 and start CPR. If you are alone get help by calling then keep doing CPR, don't stop. Once the defibrillator is open it actually talks to you and all you have to do is follow the spoken instructions.



Christmas Tree Lights Switch on

In conjunction with our Churches the Annual Christmas Tree Lights switch on will take place on **Saturday 5 December 2015** at St Marys Church at 5pm. It will follow a similar format to previous years so please make a note in your diary.

Parking outside Oakley Lower School and Lincroft School.

In the summer newsletter I drew attention to the indiscriminate parking on the zig zag lines outside both schools in Station Road. Since then concern has been expressed by a number of parents. Parents of children at both schools are responsible for this inconsiderate and unlawful behaviour. To those offenders I ask please change your ways, not only for the benefit of other children, but for your children too.

We are once again going to ask the Police and Bedford Borough Camera van to give regular attention with the emphasis on prosecution rather than advice.

Average Speed Cameras



At long last I think we are nearly there!

The average speed cameras in Pavenham Road and Station Road have been calibrated and commissioned and are now live. Anyone who offends from now on might be due to receive a little brown envelope in the post. High Street, Church Lane and Lovell Road cameras will be installed quite soon.

Paul Phillips, Chairman.

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Borough Council News

by Cllr Pat Olney

Speed Cameras

The speed cameras in Pavenham Road and Station Road are being calibrated and will soon be operational so keep practising keeping to 30 miles an hour.

Church Lane and Lovell Road cameras will not be operational yet. Cllr Jane Walker and I have been very concerned about the children walking along Lovell road to Lincroft School as have both Oakley and Clapham Parish Councils. Therefore we have asked for the Lovell Road camera to be moved from the junction with Station Road to near the Railway Bridge in Lovell Road. The Borough Council have agreed to move the camera to ensure the safety of those children. This means that we will have to wait a little longer for those cameras to become operational. However please be mindful of those children and please reduce your speed in Lovell Road.

Possible 3G Sports Pitch at the Lincroft New Field on the corner of Station Road/ Lovell Road.

This is a significant development for the village and Oakley Parish Council have organised a meeting so that Lincroft School can inform you about what such a 3G Sports Pitch is and how it will operate.

The Meeting is on the 16th September at Lincroft School at 7.30 to 9.30pm Chaired by Cllr Paul Phillips of Oakley Parish Council.

This will be a pre-consultation meeting where you can learn about the pitch and there will be time for questions and comments. The Lincroft School Consultants and Oakley Parish Council will listen very carefully to all your questions and comments.

Pre-consultation is part of the planning process. The consultants will also be having pre-planning discussions with the Borough Council Planning Department before a planning application is submitted.

Once submitted the Borough Planners will then consult various statutory organisations including Oakley Parish Council and also the neighbours surrounding the site.

The Planners will then make a recommendation after considering all the consultations and with regard to planning regulations. If there are no objections then the recommendation can be delegated. However the recommendation will probably go to the Borough Planning committee as there is public interest.

At the Planning Committee both objectors and the applicants can make representations to the committee members.

Possible Outcomes are; there could be a site visit (the decision will be made at the next meeting), an approval of the officer's recommendation, a refusal of the officer's recommendation.

Please attend the meeting and find out all you can about this proposal so that you can make your own judgement about this new sports development.

Winifred Fowler Award.

recognises people in the borough who give their time selflessly to their community. It can be awarded for people who volunteer in the community, in the arts, sports or the environment. So many people, for many years, give their time and energy serving voluntarily. I am sure you know of someone who is an Unsung Hero. Please nominate them. You can get the forms from www.forms.bedford.gov.uk/winifredfowler. It would be great to have someone from this area recognised.



Bedford Bypass – Sainsbury's to Branston Way

Thank you to everyone for their patience whilst the roundabout near Sainsbury's has been reconstructed. It should be completed by the time you read this. I am sure you are as interested as I am watching the construction of the bridge over the railway. The construction firm are predicting that the Bypass will be open early in the New Year.

Cllr Pat Olney

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Oakley Allotments

It has been an unremarkable summer so far. It seems to have been rather drier than in past years, with relatively short periods of heavy rain, lower average temperatures but a good number of sunny days.

Watering the allotment has not been quite so vital and deciding whether to water at all with the prospect of forecast rain has added a new element of guesswork. The best technique is to water plants thoroughly once weekly on a heavier clay soil rather than water daily. This encourages deeper root growth with potentially better nutrient uptake, plant strength and drought resistance.

A fellow tenant commented recently that he recalled his grandfather had had an allotment and grew very successfully with very little watering after the plants went in the ground as water was not readily available.

As in years past, the successes of one year are not repeated in the next; last year I grew superb fennel with very little effort, but this year the fennel has bolted and become very tall and leggy - more suited to flower-arranging than for use in salads etc. I have had very little success with broad beans or peas although studying the seed packets suggests that broad beans can be sown well in to the year. So, I am not giving up just yet.

It is not that we lack quantity of production just variety. I have suggested to Julia that we could subsist quite well on what we are growing at the moment, so we may experiment for a few weeks and just buy the other foods that we can't produce ourselves. We will probably grow more than we can use anyway.

It is promising to be a good year for fruits - strawberries were very successful as we picked just over 13kgs from a relatively small area. Our one gooseberry bush produced over 1,000 sweet, red berries and so loaded the branches that they laid on the ground. Our afternoon tea-break enabled us to trim the newly-picked gooseberries as we watched the Wimbledon men's final in the van and a well-timed rain-shower started. We now have a mature cultivated blackberry laden with fruit about to ripen and I can see more jam-making sessions on the calendar soon.

Some crops, particularly courgettes, seem never to fail. I have grown a yellow variety this year for a change, as well as the more common green ones. The yellows are different in that they have a firmer texture and a slightly different flavour (yes, courgettes do have a flavour!)

but they do not seem to be quite as prolific as the green.

Courgettes can be prepared in a number of ways - I have included a Snippet Recipe in this newsletter.

As for the allotments generally - a number of plots are looking a bit neglected and I have asked tenants to at least keep weeds under control if they do little else this year. One of our founder-tenants has decided to stop due to other demands and so we have a full plot (or 2 half-plots) available with no significant waiting-list.

We had a very successful working party on the 7th of June. A good number came along for a 2-hour session of general maintenance. Tracks were mown and we finally managed to lay a more durable surface on the worst sections of the main track. The result looks very good and should improve accessibility when wetter conditions return. Many thanks to those who were able to come along to help.

I have been asked to judge vegetables at a village show in the north of the county at the beginning of September. Of course, I confessed that my knowledge of such matters was not great (read "non-existent") but the invitation stood, nevertheless. I will let you know how I get on in the next newsletter - if you ever hear from me again...
Steve Nicholas

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Farming and Country – Autumn 2015

By John Saunders

As this is a wet morning I have started to write my next article for the village magazine. Harvest is about a week away, when the rape and winter barley will be ready to combine. We do not want a wet day on Wednesday July 15th as it is St Swithen's Day, when they say if it rains on this day it will rain for forty days on and off.

It is now 17th July and we have started harvest with winter barley, luckily the moisture is fourteen percent. It has to be fifteen percent or lower when it goes into store, if it is above that it has to be dried, which is very expensive. The next day we did the rape near the bypass. This has to be nine percent moisture or lower, so it is vital we get some dry weather.

In the last magazine I wrote about Mr Prothero, who lived at Oakley House, was agent to the Duke of Bedford and founded Oakley Cricket Club. In the 1890's the whole of Oakley belonged to his Grace Hastings Duke of Bedford. The estate was well kept up by Mr Charles Clarke the head gardener and a staff of seven gardeners. Mr Alfred White was a water bailiff and head gamekeeper and was assisted by his son Joseph. Alfred White's grandson Julian played rugby for Leicester, England and the British Lions until quite recently and was married in Oakley church in 2009. In Alfred White's time pheasants, partridge and wild duck were reared in large quantities and hares were in abundance. You could count more than one hundred in one field in Westfield and Town farms. Town Farm was farmed then by the Marquis and Mr Cheatle was farm manager. They had a large enclosure on the farm for rearing game which was fox proof. There was very little traffic in the village and the game used to roam the roads and scratch like chickens.

Mr Prothero came to Oakley in 1898 and from the very first he took a keen interest in the village and its inhabitants. He had a bookcase fitted in the reading room which used to be opposite Reynes Drive in the High Street. They also held concerts and dancing classes in there. He did a lot for the village until 1914 on that fateful day in August when so many men in the village joined the army.

In 1918 the Duke sold the Oakley estate and lost one of the best men Oakley has ever seen. Mr Prothero, who wanted to buy the estate, could not because the Duke wished to keep it in the family. So Lord Ampthill lived at Oakley House.



Mr Prothero by then had become Lord Ernle and he bought an estate in Berkshire. At this time he had become Minister of Agriculture in the last years of the war. It was a sad blow to Lord Ernle when his son Jack was killed on the morning that the armistice was signed.

My information was taken from an article produced by Edward Newell, who was correspondent for the village for fifty years, which will be on display in the village museum at the old School soon.

John Saunders

Brownies

1st Oakley Brownies

The summer term was very busy as we increased our numbers to 36 to enable more girls to enjoy Guiding in the Village. We enjoyed doing the Gardening Badge learning about looking after vegetables. The Brownies planted a variety of seeds and vegetables plants. We enjoyed a bumper crop of strawberries and we will be making soup from the vegetables next term.

Some of the Brownies enjoyed a fun packed day at Luton with Rainbows, Brownies and Guides from all over the County to celebrate 100 Years of Brownies in Bedfordshire.

For our end of term treat we had an Ice Cream Van and as you can see the Brownies had great fun.



Sadly we were not able to find a lorry to take part in the Carnival Procession but we did enjoy making our Scarecrows. (Page 13)

Oakley Pre-school news



We enjoyed a very successful Oakley Carnival this year! The committee, staff and children worked together to make our dragon and princess hats, swords and shields for our entry into the parade. On carnival day the children dressed as princesses or knights and the parents helped to hold up our 7 metre long dragon! As staff we decided to dress as super heroes which was great fun! Our entry looked very impressive and we were pleased to take the first place shield for the 'Best Float' in the procession! Pre-school had also made a scarecrow for the scarecrow trail on the Sunday. We were delighted to find out on Sunday evening that ours had been voted the favourite scarecrow of the trail! We would like to thank everyone who helped with the making of our entries for carnival and for those who voted for us. We would also like to thank the organisers of the carnival. It is a great event that brings the village and local community together and we always look forward to taking part.

In July, we said 'goodbye' to our older children, who will all be starting at Oakley Lower School in September. One of our Deputies, Mrs Glenzie, also left us for a new role. We would like to wish them all well in their new settings.

September will see us welcome 14 new starters to our pre-school community. We are busy preparing for the new term. Fund raising is continuing towards our extension fund and we have some events booked for the autumn. We would be grateful if as many of you as possible could **join us** for these:



Bacon Butty morning at pre-school Saturday **12th September 10am -12pm**. The pre-school room is open so you can come along and see what we do, while enjoying refreshments.



Bingo Night at Oakley Village Hall, Saturday **26th September**. Doors open **7.30pm**, eyes down at 8pm.



Admissions

If you would like to register your child for a place at pre-school, please contact us

on 01234 826452 or

by email grow@oakleypreschool.org.uk

you can also follow us on Facebook.

For information on funding you can contact the Family Information Service 0800 023 2057

Sally Martiello



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AMIGO

A successful garden party at the home of Pat Olney took place on Tuesday 26th May. It was a great opportunity to chat and admire Pat's wonderful garden and to enjoy a tasty buffet that was provided.

Another enjoyable day out in London was spent on the 24th June when our excellent Guide Charlie de Wet was on hand to meet us at Café 101 near St. Paul's Cathedral. After a walk around the cathedral visiting places of interest and Postman's Park, we were taken to St. Bartholomew's Hospital Museum and the Church of St. Bartholomew the Less. Following an excellent lunch at the Cloister Café in the Church of St. Bartholomew the Great, we were taken on a conducted tour of the Church. Charlie had to leave us for another engagement, but we made our way to the Museum of London where we were able to wander at leisure before meeting up with our coach for the journey home. This was the fifth trip that has been arranged with Charlie and we look forward to meeting her again next year.

I was able by the skin of my teeth to be at Roxton in time to lead an evening ramble for Amigo on Tuesday 28th July. I had been on a coach outing that day and was able to get the coach driver to drop me off at Roxton. The weather was fine and after a very pleasant walk around Roxton, following some riverside paths by the banks of the River Great Ouse, we had a look at the outside of the congregational church. This is one of only two thatched chapels in England.



The 2015/16 session will begin on Tuesday 22nd September for an enjoyable game of skittles at the Bedford Arms, Souldrop. Arrangements have been made for a buffet of sandwiches and chips at the cost of £6.00 a head payable in cash on the night. If you wish to have the buffet, please let John Dixon know by Wednesday 16th September.

A programme of events is being planned which will include an evening of songs and poems, a visit to the observatory and telescope in the grounds of Bedford School, carol singing at the Bedford Arms, Oakley and much more. Further details will appear as soon as possible in the Churches newsletters.

John Dixon



Joshua

Orphan & Community Care

This week in the office we had an unexpected visitor. A sponsored student, Jona, had completed his tertiary education with good grades and had come to show his appreciation to Joshua for the years of help they had given him.



This is hugely exciting news to receive and a massive achievement for Jona.



In Malawi, education is like gold dust with only 18% of the population reaching even secondary school, let alone tertiary.

After a written exam and having an interview, Jona was accepted into the Combino Technical College to study in the Electrical and Installation Department. Within this he studied subjects such as Principles, Science, Technical Drawing, Technology and Calculations, as well as English Communications and Entrepreneurship.

Alongside this, students are expected to complete three months in an industry placement. In his workshop practice he was awarded an A+ and is described as a "trustworthy, responsible, and reliable person" by his Principle. Reading these reports, we were glowing with pride.

Joshua had been sponsoring Jona since secondary school, at which he gained his Malawi School Certificate of Education, all the way through to his college education. It was his dream to become an electrical engineer throughout his education. He not only enjoyed it, but has gained many skills, meaning that he can stand on his own two feet and now sees a bright future for himself.

This is a huge achievement for Jona and brings so much joy to his life and to our office. In his own words, "I would like to thank the whole Joshua organisation for working hand in hand with me to reach this stage. I promise that I will make good use of this chance". We wish him all the luck in the world.

Jacky Mould



The Great Oakley Bake Off!

We are sure that you are dying to know how our very own Bake Off competition went. Thanks to a lot of organisational effort from Sara Glennie, the cakes and their creators came along in their droves. Over four large tables-worth of cakes. We were overwhelmed by their variety and quality, and the enthusiasm of the bakers.

First and foremost there is a great big THANK YOU to all the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Parents who impressed everyone with their outstanding cake-making endeavours. There were all the cakes that you could possibly imagine; from far-from-humble flapjacks to strawberry and cream concoctions that looked liked there were 500 kilocalories a mouthful. But as everyone knows, calories do not count if eaten for a charity. (Well that is our story and we are sticking to it.)

Next, a special thank you to Bedford Borough Mayor Dave Hodgson who, with Christine his charming wife, graced the proceedings as judges. It was extremely kind and generous of them to spare the time for such a local event as ours. We were very grateful for their presence. Thank you.

To all those people who came along to sample the crumbly comestibles, thank you for attending and enjoying those gorgeous cakes. We hope that you found it a most scrumptious afternoon.

And finally, to those Group Members and Parents who assembled and dismantled gazebos, laid out and stacked chairs, prepared and served drinks, did the washing and drying up, and tidied up when the last plate of cakes had finally disappeared, thank you for your help in making it all run so smoothly.

Yes, we did raise some welcome money for the replacement Scout Hut floor. But if you wish to add your help to our fundraising in any way then, please contact OSG Chair Simon Marshall on 07828 195001 or shmphone@gmail.com

Jon Abbott, Group Scout Leader, and his team of Leaders and Adult Helpers will be providing a wide range of fun and challenging activities for boy and girl members between the ages of 6 to 14 this Autumn term. The Scouting programme provided for the Sections is a mix of badge work, games, themed evenings, visits and weekend activities.

If you are the parent/guardian of a child between the ages of 6 and 14 who may be interested in joining Oakley Scout Group, the relevant contact numbers are below.

Beavers	6 - 8 year olds	Wednesdays	18:15-19:30	phone Karen	07918 181815
Cubs	8 - 10.5year olds	Thursdays	18:30-20:00	phone Martin	07917 137179
Scouts	10.5 - 14year olds	Tuesdays	19:00-20:30	phone Dean	07854 312255

Bedfordshire Memory Walk 2015

Date of walk: Saturday 10th October 2015

Time: Event begins at 10am, walk begins at 11am

Place: Priory Country Park, Bedford

A call goes out for people in Bedfordshire to sign up to walk for a world without dementia as part of Alzheimer's Society's biggest annual fundraising event.

The Bedfordshire Memory walk is taking place at the beautiful Priory Country Park on Saturday 10th October.

There are 2 routes to choose from: a 2km and a 10km route. The 2km route is pushchair /wheelchair and dog friendly which creates a great opportunity for a family day out with the kids! There'll also be an assortment of fundraising stalls such as a cake stall, raffle and face painting. The 10km route continues beyond the lake, through meadows and woodlands, using paved footpaths, grass and woodland paths, making it unsuitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs. The routes are subject to change.

Follow signs for the Priory Country Park. There are three main entrances - two on the north side (Barkers Lane and Riverfield Drive). The third is on the south side between Cardington Road/ A421 - but please note this is the farthest car park from the start point of the walk. The Barker's Lane entrance is the closest to the event site.

You can register online today on the easy to use <https://www.memorywalk.org.uk/participate/bedford/> You also have the option to register as a team or family.

Alzheimer's Society Community Fundraiser, Marc Shaw, said: 'Arm in arm, step by step, and pound by pound, people will be walking to raise money for services and vital research.'

Memory Walk is Alzheimer's Society's flagship fundraising event taking place across England, Wales and Northern Ireland this autumn raising not only money but awareness too!

The money raised will fund research into a cure for dementia as well as helping to provide services for people living with the disease.



Anyone who would like to know more about the Bedfordshire Memory Walk, can call 0300 330 5452 for more information.

Visit our Facebook page today - <https://www.facebook.com/bedfordmemorywalk>



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Oakley Neighbourhood Plan - Questionnaire

Thank you for your help in saying what you would like Oakley to look like in 2032.

The main conclusions that you came to was that you wanted to keep the green spaces and the views. You loved the community we live in and wished to keep that community spirit.

We are now putting together the questionnaire based on your responses. We need you to fill in the questionnaire because your answers will determine what the village will look like in 2032.

We aim to get the questionnaire to you by the middle of October and we would like you to return it within a fortnight.

We have kept the questions brief so that it should only take 5 minutes to complete. You can do it online or fill a paper copy and give it in to the post office or a committee member.

However ***we do need you to fill it in*** and help us to make sure the Village reflects your vision.

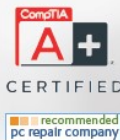


So look out for the neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire in October and have pens at the ready. Do not let developers or the Borough Council plan our village. Make sure that you plan the village.



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OAKLEY 2015 CARNIVAL

Superheroes and Princesses



Congratulations
to Oakley Pre-School
Winners of the
Procession and the
Scarecrow Competitions





A wonderful celebration of Village Life



A letter from Revd Linda

Recently several people have spoken to me about the Millennium window in St. Owen's Church which was kindly donated by John and Angela Cleverley. If you have studied this window you will know that the fish symbol is depicted at the bottom of the window.



Christians have used the fish symbol, also known as the ichthys (ixthus, ichtus) symbol since the first century. It was used to mark meeting places and tombs, or to distinguish friends from foes. In the early days of Christianity and during the persecution by the Roman Empire and at other times throughout history, Christians were persecuted or killed for following their faith. If they worshipped in secret places a fish symbol outside the door was a way for believers to know where they could worship and meet with other Christians. It is said that when a Christian met a stranger in the road the Christian sometimes drew one arc of the simple fish outline in the dirt.

The fish symbol also identifies the believer with baptism in water. Baptism by total immersion symbolises Christ's death, burial and resurrection. The word ichthys is pronounced IKTH-us. The meaning of the word and symbol is very clever. The word ichthys means fish in Greek, but the letters are also the initials of five Greek words that mean "Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior" (Iesous Christos Theou Yios Soter).



Jesus Christ told His disciples in Matthew 4:19: "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." As the early Christians followed Christ's command to follow Him and lead others to the Lord, the fish symbol became a natural extension of Christ's command and also a way to recognize and identify others who knew the symbol's meaning.



Above is an early circular ichthys symbol carved into marble in the ruins of Ephesus, created by combining the Greek letters IXΘΥΣ. In English today we have words derived from the Greek word for fish: such as ichthyology, the study of fishes; ichthyofauna, the fish of a certain region; ichthyoomy, the anatomy of fishes; ichthyography, a written work about fishes. The symbol became popular again in the early 1970s and is now an icon of modern Christianity recognized around the world. It can be seen on the rear of vehicles or as pendants or necklaces as a sign that the owner is a Christian. A wonderful testimony and witness to Christ.

All blessings

Linda



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Steve's Snippet No.14

Courgette recipes (simple and quick)

Courgettes are one of the easiest of the summer vegetables to grow and possibly one of the least inspiring. They can be watery and bland if served unimaginatively but it doesn't have to be that way. Don't remove the seeds, unless they are very chewy, as they add valuable nutrients and texture.

Sautéed with a few herbs in a little oil and/or butter, they are a good vegetable to accompany others in a meal. Let them brown a bit as it adds quite a bit more to the flavour, lack of which is the biggest criticism. Add chopped onion, garlic, spices – go wild, there isn't a rule-book!

Cut in to ribbons with a vegetable peeler they can be steamed in a lidded pan, drained and used as a healthier alternative to pasta. Use a traditional Bolognese sauce to go with them or grated cheese and pesto. Great! (Cutting in to ribbons is fine but fiddly – I now just slice them thinly with a mandolin).

Best though are courgette fritters:-

2 medium courgettes, 2 tablespoons of self-raising flour, 25g of finely grated parmesan



Grate the courgettes in to a sieve, add salt and leave to dry and drain for some minutes then rinse off excess salt. Press out more moisture if necessary using kitchen towel or cloth – this is the key, otherwise the cooked result can be mushy.

Combine the pressed courgettes, flour and parmesan, shape in to small egg-sized balls, flatten and fry in very hot olive oil, turning and cooking until browned and crispy.

Add other flavours as you wish at the mixing stage – salt, pepper, garlic, chilli flakes, herbs, spices...

... and then there's courgette, chilli & chocolate cake...

Steve Nicholas

 <h2 style="text-align: center;">Welcome to SHARNBROOK MILL THEATRE</h2> <h3 style="text-align: center;">Summer-into-Autumn Shows & Events</h3> <p style="text-align: center;"> www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk @smttheatre www.facebook.com/groups/233885789967345 </p> <p>Rec. Charity 242164</p>					
Thursday 3rd - Saturday 5th September		Monday 14th - Saturday 19th September		Monday 16th - Saturday 21st November	
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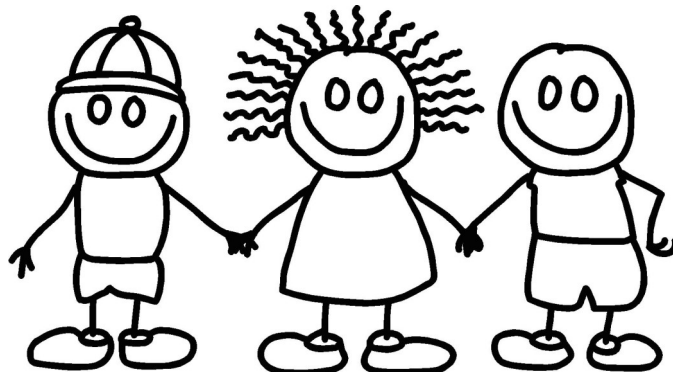


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- Always make payment via a credit card or PayPal where you have some avenue of recompense should you not receive your product.
- Conduct some online research on the web-site, company name and business address to identify any poor feedback or irregularities.
- Check the authenticity of websites before making any purchases. A "who.is" search on the website will identify when the website has been created, so be wary of newly formed domains. This search can be conducted using the following website <https://who.is/>
- If the item advertised seems too good to be true, it probably is!

If you believe that you have been a victim of fraud you can report it online at http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report_fraud or by telephone on 0300 123 2040.



Oakley Toddlers

Monday 9.30-11.00am
term time only in the Village Hall

£1.50 crafts/toys/singing/drinks & snacks

Oakley Toddlers has been running successfully over the last two decades, providing a warm friendly place for mums, dads, grandparents and carers to meet and play with their children.

Anyone interested in volunteering to help run the group please contact us at oakleytoddlers@hotmail.co.uk or drop in to meet us and see what is involved!



HELP NEEDED PLEASE

Oakley Youth Club has been running well over the last few months. We have around 25-30 kids attending each week.


While this is great for the kids of Oakley and the club is a valuable asset, we are becoming over subscribed for the number of volunteers we have available to cover each session.

We can manage until the summer but from the start of the new school year, September 2015, I am going to need help from parents whose children attend the club.

If every parent committed to helping out just once a year we would be able to have fully supervised sessions and would not have to cancel any.

Please contact me at scockings@btinternet.com or call 07730 979482 to volunteer your support.

Thanks. Sam Cockings, Youth Leader.



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What a wonderful season for AFC Oakley Mini Soccer!

At the Oakley Carnival this year it was the first time EVER that players from our teams played in the arena. All players thoroughly enjoyed it and hopefully it will continue. The age groups who played are the U8s and U9s this coming season. The club would like to say a huge thank you to the Carnival Committee for their support and to Oakley Parish Council for their continued support.

In AFC Oakley you will be pleased to know that we take the development of our coaches seriously. All coaches are funded to become qualified FA coaches and in that way we can ensure the best possible coaching for players.

In the Under 6s we have a new coaching team who have now all fully qualified as FA Coaches. The U6s have a lot of players starting on September 5th at 10am behind Oakley Lower School. U6s is all about having fun and learning a few

skills. If your child is interested in coming along please let us know (contact details below) The Under 7s will be building on all the great skills they have learnt with the coaching team and will be having a few friendly matches this season as well as developing their skills and growing together as a group.

The U8s have joined a non-competitive league. This will be the first time for the group. They get to experience regular matches against local teams. This is the year that players put into practice the skills they have learnt as part of AFC Oakley. The Under 8s, 9s and 10s are going on tour this year too.

The U9s have seen several families realising that AFC Oakley are a great football club and their numbers have grown dramatically. The players did very well last year and are hoping to build on their developing skills. The U9s will have 3 teams in the league this year. If any players are in school Year 4 in 15/16 there are 3 places left in the squad. If you are interested just get in touch.

The U10s move from playing behind Oakley Lower/Lincroft over to the 'New Field'. It feels like a graduation. They will certainly be outstanding again and are great group of players and coaches.

If anyone is interested in joining the club please email afcoakleymdh@gmail.com or call 07766 206583.

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OAKLEY WI



We meet at Oakley Village Hall on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm.

TUESDAY 8th SEPTEMBER 2015

Local businesswoman, Hazel Kaye will be describing her story so far, followed by a practical demonstration and some useful tips.



TUESDAY 13th OCTOBER 2015

Orthopaedic surgeon, specialising in hip and knee operations, Mr Manooj Sood, tells us about the latest developments in surgery and alternative treatments.

TUESDAY 10th NOVEMBER 2015

Carol Jones provides a cookery demonstration with some timely ideas for Christmas.

TUESDAY 8th DECEMBER 2015

Pavenham Golf Club is the venue for our Christmas Party with musical entertainment provided by Clive Rudd.

Members also enjoy coach outings, walks, theatre and cinema visits.

For further information check the village notice boards or telephone 822577 or 823788.

Visitors are most welcome.

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Oakley Gardening Club



In our Summer programme we enjoyed a fine evening visit in May to The Old Rectory's Garden in Wrestlingworth. On a drizzly June evening we still enjoyed visiting six of our members' gardens in Oakley and on a lovely sunny evening in July we visited a three acre garden at Flaxbourne Farm, Aspley Guise. We now look forward to our winter programme held at the Methodist Church at 7.45 pm, to which visitors are cordially invited. Details are as follows:

21st September 2015: Speaker: Corinne Price - "Restoration of a Regency Gem"

19th October 2015: Speaker: Dorothy Jamieson - "From Stowe to Sheringham"

16th November 2015: Speaker: David White - "Life as The Queen's Gardener"

There is no meeting held in December. Please join us - you will be made very welcome.

Audrey Mehew, Committee member - tel: 823380 if you would like further information.

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oakley Motorcycle club

A very busy summer for OMC saw numerous events and competitions take place at Oakley Sports & Social Club.

Throughout the summer there have been a number of "best bike of the decades" rounds held for the bike of the Year Award. This culminated on the final night when the round winners brought their bikes for the final. I am pleased to say the award was won by Oakley resident Tony DICKASON with his immaculate 1973 Norton Commando 750.



As many will be aware we also held a Dragster and Hot Rod night which was attended by many villagers as well as bike Club members. We saw several dragsters arrive including the 8000 brake horsepower Santa Pod car. This was complimented by over 30 hot rods and classic cars.

Yet again our OMC balloonist member attended from Northants bringing along some of his mates and we witnessed 5 balloons take off from the OSSC field. Two surprised village residents who were invited at the last minute to take a flight in the Brian Curry sponsored balloon of the OMC member Tim Hern. Two people who have now scratched "Balloon flight" off their bucket list!

Finally, as it has now been 10 years since Oakley Motorcycle Club first started, on 9th August we held our 10th anniversary fun day and invited as many as possible to come along and enjoy the free afternoon. This included a band, food, kids face painting, bouncy castles, airline stock sale products, Motorbike display and a



visit by the East Anglian Air Ambulance which, unfortunately, wasn't being flown by HRH Prince William, to celebrate the £26,000 plus raised by Oakley Motorcycle Club. Unlike the Bike Festival of 2014, it did manage to land much to the enjoyment of the many kids and parents who were able to look over the aircraft. However, within 15 minutes, they had a call and were airborne once again.

For more photos of the summer events please go to the Bike Club website gallery on this link <http://www.photos.oakleymc.net/index.php/>

Baysie Roger Bays Chair - OMC



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The kitchen offers very tasty hot food served on certain days and evenings, homemade pizzas baked in our very own pizza oven. Check our fabulous menus out (download them from our website), pop down and try a bite - you won't be disappointed.

The Oakley Sports & Social Club house has two large LCD HD screens and a high definition projector, bringing you live sport from terrestrial, Sky Sports and BT - all in HD. Football, rugby, golf, darts, and many other main sporting events covering internationals and home fixtures. We have many football teams across the age groups up to adult teams under the Oakley Football Club (AFC) banner; Cricket teams Youth and Adult; Dart team, Pool team, and a petanque pitch.

As a Club we offer excellent facilities that are available to hire upon request for functions and parties at very competitive rates. The bar offers a large selection of drinks, alcoholic and non alcoholic, with a guest ale provided.

Membership of the club is a virtual give away at only £5 per year! You could save that on your first round of drinks compared to the current average pub prices. In order to take advantage of the great facilities at Oakley Sports & Social Club, membership is required. Membership can be completed online using the link below or over the bar in the clubhouse. Current members, please don't forget to renew your membership for 2014.



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