



# Oakley Newsletter



**Spring 2020**

Number 82



**Front Cover : Oakley Church**  
**By Laura Saunders**

### **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**

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look out for  
Ten more



# *Parish Council News*

## *Spring 2020*

By Jane Walker (Chair)

By the time you receive this newsletter we will have the result of the Neighbourhood plan referendum. I hope that you all took the opportunity to read the NDP booklet that came through your door in January as it sets out the parish's priorities and areas that will be developed over the next 10 years. If you voted to accept it, the NDP will be part of local planning law and the Borough Council must refer to it when deciding on planning applications. Whatever the result, which I do not know at the time of writing, I would like to thank the whole NDP team for all of their hard work over several years to get to this stage. The process is very legalistic and laid down in the law, but our team negotiated this brilliantly to give us a finished document that we should all be proud of. Thank you.

Also through your door in January, you should have received a new Village directory. Once again this is an invaluable resource to enable the village to support our local organisations and businesses. Thank you to Sara and her team for pulling it altogether and thank you to our sponsors and advertisers for continuing to fund its production.

### **Parish Precept**

This year the Parish Council has agreed to increase the precept (The parish's part of your council tax bill) to £54,400 which is a 2% increase on a band D property. This works out as an extra £1.10 over the year for a band D property. The new projects that we have identified for the coming year are: hydraulic gates at the Furlong play area as the current gates do not close properly and so are unsafe for children; we are replacing litter bins around the village on a rolling programme and we will embark on a project to increase bio diversity in Brockwell meadow.

Continued on page 3

## **OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

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We hope this will make it more attractive for humans as well as building up another wildlife sanctuary for the middle of the village in the same way that we have done so successfully at Linch Furlong. (More of this further on page 19).

Following our pre-budget consultation on other ideas that residents would like us to spend money on, we are not pursuing the outdoor gym equipment for the green as we had no requests for it.

### **Community Litter pick**

We are planning to hold our annual Community litter pick at 10am on Saturday 2nd May, starting on the village green. The scouts and ATC will be providing help and refreshments and there will be chocolate eggs for all children taking part. Please join us to help keep our village clean. All litter picking equipment will be provided.

### **Village trees**

I know that there has been some concern at the number of trees that have been felled recently, particularly on the Green. Unfortunately, the parish council were instructed to take these trees down by our insurance company and we will be replacing them later in the year with more suitable sized trees. Other trees have been removed for similar reasons and are usually taken down by Borough Council contractors. This includes any trees in the verges and some of the grassed areas in the middle of the village.

The ownership of land in the centre of the village is very complicated. The Green and some other larger grassed areas are owned and managed by the Parish Council so we are responsible for maintaining them. Most other grassed areas are owned by the Borough Council, with the parish council only cutting the grass on their behalf. However neither the parish council nor the Borough Council will take down trees unless they are causing a hazard to residents or their homes.

### **Grange Close Green**

We have recently installed bollards around this green area to protect it from vehicles driving onto it. These were funded from our budget for replacing the bollards on the Reynes Drive Green. We will continue with that refurbishment, but it will happen on a rolling programme over the next few years.

### **Dog bins/ waste bins**

Also being renewed on a rolling programme are our waste and dog bins. The new bins will be dual purpose and the signs on them will show this. However the current bins around the village can already be used to dispose of dog waste. We are

aware that the dog poo bins do fill up very quickly, so if you come to one that is full, please walk on to the next bin and dispose of your poo bag there. Please do not leave it in a pile around the bin or overfill the bin to make it difficult to close the lid. We have also had reports of people leaving poo bags hanging in trees and bushes, particularly along the river walk by Linch Furlong. This is very damaging to the environment as well as being unpleasant for other walkers. Please do not do it. We provide a large number of bins around the area for you to dispose of your dog waste but if you feel we need additional ones, please let us know.

### **Parked cars**

It is illegal and dangerous to park your car next to the junction of a road. However it is happening at various places around the village, in particular at the junction of Reynes Drive with Far Sands and also at the junction of Pavenham Road with The Furlong. We have asked the police to keep an eye on these areas and if they see anyone dangerously parked they will ticket the cars responsible. We have to stop this dangerous practice before there is a serious accident.

There has also been a spate of cars and vans parked half up on the pavement around the village. This has led to footpaths being blocked for pedestrians which makes it very dangerous, particularly for people with buggies or wheel chairs. Please consider footpath users when you are parking your car and ask any contractors you are employing to do the same.

### **Borough Council capital works**

Each year the Borough Council asks the parish council for our suggestions for capital works that we would like to see. We have requested that the Borough completes the cycle path from the village right through to Wixams and we have also asked for the footpath along Pavenham Road to Browns Wood, be completed, although this latter item will be part of our request to the developers of any new housing site at Clapham.

### **Rural Skips**

The dates for the Rural Skips are :-



Saturday 4th April 08.30 to 14.30 and Sunday 5th April 08.30 to 12.30.

Details will be on the Oakley website and notice boards nearer the time.

Jane Walker (Chair)

## BEDFORD BOROUGH NEWS

### Bedford Borough's Local Plan 2030

#### Approved

A meeting of Bedford Borough's Full Council on 20th January approved the Bedford Borough Local Plan 2030.

The Local Plan 2030 sets out proposals for growth and development in Bedford Borough over the next decade. As well as allocations for the building of new homes, it also includes provision for jobs and the development of facilities such as schools, transport and shops to support new communities.

Objectives of the Plan include providing the right amount and type of housing for communities across the Borough; supporting a strong economy; improving transport infrastructure; developing a green infrastructure network; and high quality, inclusive, and safe built communities which value the local landscape and the historic environment.

This means that The Borough Planning Committee can once again decide applications, without the tilted balance in favour of development being taken into account.

#### Council Budget Passed for 2020/21

At a Full Council meeting on the 5th February the Budget for the next financial year was approved with cross party support.

The balanced budget maintains the record of Bedford Borough Council of protecting front line services in the face of huge financial challenges which elsewhere across the country have seen widespread cuts and closures taking place.

The Council faces a growing need for services and has suffered huge government funding cuts over recent years. In spite of this, this budget continues to protect the front line and key facilities such as libraries and children's centres.

It also includes major investment for the future, with over £50m for new or enhanced schools and school buildings and the funding required to deliver the new Wixams railway station, which will be recovered through fares.

The core council tax rise is kept down for 2020/21 at 1.85%, while the Government's Adult Social Care precept to Council Tax is applied at 2%.

#### Bedford Visitor Information Centre is Moving to the Library

Bedford Visitor Information Centre (VIC) will be moving to a new home in Bedford Central Library from March this year.

The VIC is a volunteer-run organisation working to promote Bedford to both visitors and residents, providing accurate, up to date and relevant information about visitor attractions, events and the local area. Since its launch in St Paul's Church in October 2018, the VIC has welcomed nearly 2,000 people to the VIC.

From March, this service will be moving to the ground floor foyer of Bedford Central Library. The

move to the library will allow the VIC to develop and expand its services to the general public, with a larger area and increased space for displays and information.

The VIC will be open in the Library from early March on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 11am to 4pm.

#### Five former councillors recognised for their service

Five former Bedford Borough councillors have been recognised for their years of dedication to public service.

In a ceremony on Sunday 19 January 2020, former councillor Pat Olney was bestowed the title of honorary Alderwoman alongside former councillors Randolph Charles, Will Hunt, John Mingay and Mark Smith who were conferred the title honorary Alderman.

Pat Olney was elected to the Borough Council on 8 May 1986 and served for 33 years as a Councillor for Oakley until the election in May 2019. She was Civic Mayor for 2001/02. She was also the Independent Group Leader 2009-19.

*[See Editor's further article on Page 21]*

Councillor Jon Abbott

Telephone: 07784 549180

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## Oakley Allotments



I may have said it before: we might seriously have to consider growing rice on our allotment, if this weather continues. I was contemplating making a small wildlife pond on my plot - maybe Alexa was listening, and somehow Amazon have delivered!

Storms Ciara and Dennis have just passed within the last week, leaving devastation in many parts of the country. Locally, damage has been less severe but a lot of ground is waterlogged, making any planning quite uncertain at the moment. Some sheds have been readjusted to a horizontal position but there has not been a lot of structural upset. My own shed has remained steadfast, as I anchored it to the ground when I installed it - it seemed like a good idea at the time.

We are just over half-way through February and I have not had an opportunity to do much gardening. There is still a bit of tidying-up to do ready for planting, when that becomes possible. Seeds have been acquired ready for spring, if it ever truly arrives, but existing, over-wintering plants are looking quite sorry for themselves and have not

### Snippet No. 42

I am writing this Snippet in a new way. (Yes, there are other solutions, but these are my toys).

Following Storm Ciara, our telephone line became noisier, with loud crackling obliterating incoming calls and eventually no dial-tone available when attempting to make outgoing calls. Broadband, which had hung-on so far due to its magic technology, failed to reconnect after I tested the system, leaving it unable to find any service to hang on to.

My Broadband provider's Web site has a diagnostic page so I was duly able to test the line and establish that a fault had been found near to the exchange. Fault logged automatically, we awaited its repair, promised for some days hence.

Voice calls are now possible again but we still await the return of Broadband. So, I have rescued a small Bluetooth keyboard, thought to be redundant, and proceed to write this newsletter's contributions on my smartphone, which is preferable to applying my spade-like fingers to a tiny virtual keyboard.

The wonders of modern technology: create a problem and then present a solution to it.

yielded much. If we had to subsist on this lot then we would be on a severe, rather than healthy, diet. Fortunately (and apparently) we do it all just for the sheer fun.

I do not know if our resident vole population is enjoying the adventure but last time we looked, it/they had enjoyed most of what was left of the strawberry plants in the raised bed. I suspect they are water-voles. In any case, with the sea-level rises seeming to happen from the inside of the country, outwards, there really cannot be much water left up there, surely? And, we could still get some snow down here... it's being so cheerful that keeps me motivated.

On a brighter note, I am working on ideas to improve the few areas of poor ground: an extended orchard/community garden on the far end of the field by the orchard would be an asset to the village. All ideas are welcome, if anyone would like to see a particular facility made available there. If funding and help allow, we hope to make some progress with the project to mark our 10th year.

We are in the happy situation of having a full complement of tenants once again and the waiting-list is now at zero. If I have inadvertently missed someone or you would like to join a new list then please contact me.

Happy gardening... eventually.

Steve Nicholas

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## Oakley Neighbourhood Plan - Cllr Pat Olney

Everyone in Oakley has received the final copy of the Oakley Neighbourhood Plan. I have had many people say how much hard work has gone into the plan and I hope that **everyone** will have voted in the referendum.

Unfortunately, the referendum will be over by the time the newsletter is published and therefore I cannot say whether the Plan will become the statutory planning document for Oakley or not.

However, I do wish to thank all the people who contributed to the plan. You, the residents who gave your views, the Oakley Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Planning Group.

They were all volunteers, who gave many hours to meetings, wrote the document and made sure that all the policies reflected your views as well as conforming to Government National Planning Documents and the Bedford Local Plan. They are Cllr Olney Chair, Mr Atkinson, Mr Carr, Cllr Frampton, Mr. Leinster, Mr. Musgrave, Mrs. Randell, Cllr Sansom, Mr. Saunders, Cllr Walker, and the Clerk Mrs. Paice. I also wish to thank Mr. Edwards who wrote the Road Study 2016 ably assisted by Mrs. Edwards.

My thanks also go to Dave Chetwin of Urban Vision our consultant, Bedford Borough Council for reading the drafts and making helpful suggestions and our Examiner who checked that the document was compliant.

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## Promoting Young Artists in Oakley

The front page of the Newsletter has included work volunteered from local artists over the years focusing on "Oakley and the Surrounding Countryside". Another local Artist, Laura Saunders has picked up the baton passed on by Terry Youngman and has agreed to provide our front covers for the Spring, Summer and Autumn Editions for which we are very grateful.

Talking to Anne Youngman, after Terry's passing, her wish is that we start an initiative to get young local artists more involved by producing art work for a competition that will form part of the Oakley Show in September. Anne has spoken to Oakley Primary Academy to gain the school's involvement and to discuss the most suitable age ranges.

The selected examples of art work will feature in the show's exhibition and one or more will be included on the front cover of the Winter edition of the Newsletter, with the rest of the prize winners featured inside.

There will continue to be the opportunity for older artists to enter into the Oakley Show under existing submission categories and a trophy in memory of Terry Youngman will be presented to the overall art winner.

I received a lot of response to the article in the Winter 2019 Edition and Anne asked we include the following in this article:

"Art was such a large part of Terry's life and he always encouraged children and adults alike to realise their artistic talents. I am keen to continue promotion of art in Oakley, particularly among the young, and add to the legacy of work already produced here by Terry and others before him, to document the changes and social history of our community.

Anne also said

"(On a personal note), I should like to express my most sincere thanks for all the cards and messages received during Terry's final illness and after his death; to the many who attended his funeral and those who made donations to the Sue Ryder Palliative Care Hub and Cancer Research UK. I'll be forever grateful for the love and support shown by the people of Oakley, a very special place to live".

Bill Chalker, Editor



### Oakley Educational Foundation

This Foundation exists to assist young people between the ages of 16 and 25, who live in the Parish, with grants towards the cost of books and tools, etc. in furtherance of their education.

Applications are accepted in the months of May and November and must be accompanied by receipts of purchase. Application forms can be obtained from the Clerk, Louise Tunley.

For further information, or for an application form, please contact Louise Tunley on 07917 462213, by post at 19 Goldington Road, Bedford, MK40 3JY or by email at [louise\\_tunley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:louise_tunley@yahoo.co.uk).

# Brownies

OAKLEY

The Brownies are settling in well to our new meeting place – The Scout Hut. We are very grateful to the Scouts for not only

allowing us to meet there, but also for providing us with some storage space.

This term we spent a couple of meetings working on the Chinese New Year badge. The girls made fans, decorated hair combs, did a chopsticks challenge, drew chalk pictures, played 'Pin the Tail on the Rat' and, perhaps most enthusiastically, tried Chinese food.

Another highlight of the term was a visit from a four-legged friend, Flora, kindly brought in by Brownie mum, Heidi. Heidi, with the help of many of the girls, explained how to look after a dog and how to approach a dog. Lots of the Brownies enjoyed giving Flora a cuddle afterwards.

We are now working on the Make Change badge, where Brownies think about how they can improve the world around them. Some of the actions taken by individuals have included collecting litter, walking to Brownies (rather than driving) and planting a tree. Later in the term Brownies will do some junk modelling as another part of this badge.



## Snippet No. 43

Language - now, there is a subject to keep you amused for hours!

I may not always get it right, but punctuation is quite important, unless you really want to eat Grandma.

My concern, right now, is that our language is evolving rapidly before our very eyes, and it is becoming more important that accuracy of communication is maintained, as it is vital for conveying ideas quickly and precisely, particularly in our complex societies.

Wandering (and possibly wondering, too) around Keswick some years ago, I noticed an outdoor-adventure shop called, "The Sick and The Wrong". Fairly new to the game of word-hijacking, in its most blatant form, it took me some application to determine that the "sick" at

## Oakley Pre-school News



This term we are taking part in the Early Words Together research project, which is being run by the National Literacy Trust. We are very excited to be a part of this and for some of the sessions we will take small groups of children to the mobile library that visits Oakley on Thursdays.

The final fundraising figure for the Santander Pool tournament was £3,135! This was a fantastic amount for pre-school funds. Thank you again to all involved.

Our next fundraiser will be on 6th March, when we have the fab drag artist 'Candy Couture' putting on a show for us at the village hall! The evening will consist of a show, quiz, raffle and auction, if you receive your newsletter before the 6th and would like to join us; tickets are available from pre-school on the number below.

We will run our annual Easter Egg Hunt over the Easter holidays in April. Look out for posters on the village noticeboards for details of how to take part.

### Admissions

If you would like to register your child for a place at pre-school, please contact us on 01234 826452 or by email: [info@oakleypreschool.com](mailto:info@oakleypreschool.com) Our website is: [www.oakleypreschool.com](http://www.oakleypreschool.com)

Follow us on Facebook to keep up with our latest news and events.

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

Sally Martiello

least, meant the exact opposite.

I think the shop is no longer trading under its original name, if it exists at all. One reason for this is - I would like to think - the diligent attention their first accounts received when they were presented to the Inland Revenue/Customs and Excise (now HMRC) at the time they were due. I rest my case.

Momentarily dazed, I turned away from the offending shop and noticed a pub - now that, I understood immediately...and I thought it was starting to rain...



## MERRI Flowers

What a year we have had already! Storm Ciara and Dennis have made it near impossible to work at our flower farm. However, this bad weather has (just about) allowed us to recover from what was our best year yet selling Christmas Trees, so we should not complain. Some of the Christmas trees still need to have their height tags removed, but they can wait. Just over 20 local charities took part in our Christmas Tree Fundraiser this year, including Oakley Pre-School, Oakley Primary, Lincroft, Oakley Methodist & St Marys Church, so if you were one of many local families who supported both us and a local charity, "THANK YOU" so much.

As already mentioned the stormy, wet weather is holding us back at the moment. This time last year, the weather was mild and we were ploughing up a new flower growing plot. This year, it is so muddy that we are digging trenches to cope with the surface water which is setting heavy on our over-wintered seedlings. The wearing of waterproofs is an essential everyday act to avoid being caked in mud whilst Julian prunes Christmas trees and I prune rose bushes. But let us not dwell on the weather, it is what is it, and nature tends to make amends later in the season.

With Brexit finally/nearly done, we are definitely seeing an increase in florists wanting to be enlisted onto our wedding and events wholesale mailing list for their 2020 wedding requests. To cover these requests, our conservatory has once again become a temporary greenhouse to house masses of seedling trays. Quite ironic really, because we have just invested in a greenhouse for our garden at home, but the day it arrived Storm Ciara arrived, so it remains partially built until the weather forecast predicts brighter weather.

Because we know busier times are ahead we are also making the most of the quiet time by planning for this year's events. We will continue to offer Pick Your Own Flower experiences and stock flowers at Oakley Post Office. We also plan to offer a Picked For You Subscription, which was an idea I copied (with permission) from another Flowers From The Farm member in Cheltenham and tested out last Autumn. Co-hosted workshops with local florists and artists are already planned, so if you fancy trying out Flower Arranging, Scrapbooking, Calligraphy or Painting please head to our website, Facebook or Instagram pages for their dates or watch out for our posters on the Oakley Post Office Notice-board.

Here's hoping sunnier days are ahead for us all.

Rachelle Merrill

## Bell ringing jargon from St Mary's bell tower

Ring down the scale, which is the familiar sound of bells we all know from weddings, is called 'rounds'.

Change ringing involves different bells changing places with each other. The sequence in which they change is called the 'method'. Methods have names such as Plain Hunt, Plain Bob Doubles, Grand-sire and Reverse Canterbury.

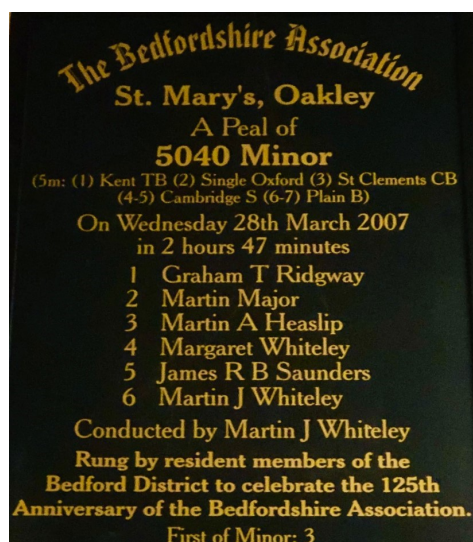
If you hear church bells ringing for a long period, the ringing band may be ringing a 'peal'. Peals can last for 3 hours and are rung from memory! They are rung to celebrate special occasions and are often commemorated on boards in the bell tower. We have a few of these boards hanging on the walls in the bell tower at St Mary's.



A shorter version of a 'peal' is the 'quarter peal', which lasts around 45 minutes.

If you are interested in finding out more about bell ringing at St Mary's please contact our Tower Captain, Bill Sellars, on 07980 745292 / [thesellars@btinternet.com](mailto:thesellars@btinternet.com) to find out when the next practise night is taking place. We practise on a Friday evening.

Shelley Abbott



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## NEWSLETTER February 2020

Welcome to our latest Newsletter. If anyone has access to the internet please visit our website, [www.oakleyrural.org.uk](http://www.oakleyrural.org.uk) The site is updated regularly with the latest news from the centre. We have also a Facebook page for anyone who has a Facebook account. This will be updated with the latest news and photographs of events at the centre. The Facebook page can be found at [www.facebook.com/oakleyruraldaycentre](https://www.facebook.com/oakleyruraldaycentre) We are also producing articles in various publications throughout Bedford and surrounding areas to raise the profile of the centre.

### PLACES AVAILABLE

Our Day Centre provides our older people with a place where they can make friends in a warm and comfortable atmosphere. A range of activities including crafts, entertainment, quizzes and good old conversation are at the heart of our day.

We serve freshly prepared home cooked lunches together with tea, coffee and toast at the start of the day with beverages throughout. The Centre is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. For details of costs and advice please contact Lynne on 01234 824935 or 07733 227374. **Enquiries welcome from Bedford and surrounding villages in North Bedfordshire.**

### ACTIVITIES

Leading up to Christmas clients made carnations from tissue paper as table decorations. Various Christmas decorations were made for the tree plus party hats.

Added to this we also took part in various word games, quizzes, colouring, crosswords, Triominos and Dominoes. Volunteer Ann also takes a chair based exercise class every Wednesday morning. **We have recently added a chair based yoga exercise class taken by Victoria on Thursday mornings.**



### CHRISTMAS PARTY

On our final week before the break we held our Christmas parties. We played guess who I am in the morning and sang Christmas carols. One of our clients Thelma brought in a homemade Christmas cake, iced and decorated for everyone to enjoy. Two day centre supporters came in on Tuesday and gave a breathing and relaxation exercise demonstration which went down extremely well. Most clients also enjoyed a small glass of sherry. We played a word game on the board naming has many words from the word Partridge as we could and managed 138! Day Centre friend Tony came in on Wednesday and recited some lovely Christmas themed stories for everyone to enjoy.

Angela cooked a wonderful traditional Christmas Dinner with Christmas pudding or profiteroles with cream for dessert!

In the afternoon we played pass the parcel, held a Christmas raffle and Father Christmas also attended to hand out gifts to all our clients. We then finished the days off with bingo. The children from Oakley Primary Academy entertained our clients before the holidays singing some wonderful Christmas tunes for us. We had a wonderful afternoon with them and the clients were thrilled with the entertainment.

### OTHER NEWS

On returning in January clients made various bird feeders from either honey nut loops or pine cones smothered in peanut butter and bird seed. We also celebrated Chinese New Year with oriental themed quizzes and games.

David Swallow



# College Farm

Let us not say too much about the weather over the last few months other than it has been wet!

Due to this, the agricultural contracting side of our business has been relatively quiet, other than carting muck out to fields and trying, where possible, to spread slurry for farmers whose storage was overflowing due to the excessive winter rain.

This means there is a massive backlog of work to catch up on in the spring and after not doing much for so long I am certainly looking forward to the challenge. Getting out into the fields and seeing the dust flying behind the seed drill will be a great sight for me.

So, what have we been doing all winter?

Laura and I decided over Christmas we would buy six calves and rear them ourselves, the start of a new herd at College Farm. We have been trying to do this with our 2-year-old daughter who has absolutely loved it. We brought four British Blue heifers and two Hereford heifers, they are now three months old and we are slowly weaning them off milk onto hay and nuts. We hope that by mid-April they will be able to go into the field in front of the house where they will spend the summer grazing. Once they get to 18 months old we plan to pick a suitable sire and fingers crossed nine months later six cows will become 12.

The other cows at the farm have been steadily calving away, luckily so far without too many complications and again hopefully it is not too long before they can go back out and graze the river meadows.

We also have had some sheep grazing the excess winter grass, sheep are great for tidying up the

grass the cows do not want and you always seem to get lovely soft hay from the fields they have grazed over winter. One thing that was nice to see was the amount of people standing at the top of the drive with their children and grandchildren admiring them. We get to see and interact with the animals daily and often forget how lucky we are to do this, so it is great to see others showing an interest.

Hopefully the warm spring days are not too far away now, we seem to have had a grey damp winter that has dragged on for too long. Next time I write I hope to be reporting on the fact we have had the most fantastic spring weather for many years!

## Front cover artist...

In addition to helping Henry with the cows on the farm, I have also been painting. I felt very privileged to be asked to paint pictures for the Oakley newsletter front cover. Oakley Church, the view from our garden, features on the front cover of this issue. I have used acrylic paint onto A4 canvas using a variety of palette knives to create a textured finish. The original is available to buy for £80, of which 25% will be donated to the Church fund. Limited edition prints are also available to buy which start at A4 size for £35. If you are interested in buying the front cover image, either the original or limited edition print, then please email me at [ljcreativestudios@gmail.com](mailto:ljcreativestudios@gmail.com) or call 07815 045272. If you would like to see other paintings in my collection, my portfolio is available on my website [www.ljcreativestudios.com](http://www.ljcreativestudios.com)

I look forward to working on the front cover of the next issue very soon...

Henry and Laura Saunders





Youth Club is kicking at the moment, we have a good mix of ages which means we are pretty full! Therefore we need another member of staff, if you know of anyone that would be interested in a position at youth club every Friday night (term time only) then please get in touch. They must be over 18 years old and can work 3 hours every Friday night.

I also want to say thanks again for the continued support of parents and members, our little youth club is thriving and we have a brilliant mix of members. Since we have been back we have baked, cooked, done some pebble painting for 'BE KIND' week, had an evening of festival glitter and shiny tattoos (sorry parents), made valentines cards, had a race night and had a quiz. Most weeks the members just like to chill, listen to music and chat to their friends, it is great as there is something for everyone.

Thank you to the Carnival Committee for our donation. We are really chuffed and the members will be very pleased when I tell them after half term. I will ask them what we should buy, then after I have said "NO" a zillion times to WIFI, I am sure they will be happy with a new archery set, some balls, a new console, some new games and maybe some musical bits...who knows we are just very thankful.



The Parish have been so kind to us for giving us somewhere for young people to hang out with their friends, so again thank you to the Parish and to the Carnival Committee. It just proves that getting involved with your community is good for everyone.

A big shout out to Rachel, our previous youth club mentor. She is now a Student Ambassador at the University she attends and is off to Camp America for the summer! I just love this and it makes me happy to know we helped send her on her way! Well done Rach x

On April the 3rd we are having a family quiz night to raise funds for some new TV's for our gaming stations. If you would like to come then please get in touch as we will be selling tickets. You can contact me at oakleyyouthclub.co.uk or on 07796 264542. We are also looking for raffle prizes so if you are able to donate something, please get in touch.



Dawn Pither



Cookie  
monsters!

Quiz  
winners!



Race  
night!

Chilling!



Quiz night





## *A Cry for Peace Around the World*

### *Oyez Oyez Oyez*

Citizens, one and all,

Please join this cry for peace, that you now hear from me.

Remember men & women, old & young, who died to make us free.

The women left at home did not just sit and wait.

They toiled in harsh conditions before dawn to very late.

Factories, farms, other essential jobs, the women were quick at learning.

They worked, some died, to keep the home fires burning.

As we remember this special day, do not forget that every day someone needs your aid,

Do not put away your poppies, letting your memories fade.

Celebrate with the knowledge that VE Day is also a time to remember,

Beyond the solemn wreaths of the 11th of November.

Let's thank all those who have gone before, with their colours proudly unfurled.

Join us as united we say, "Peace to the world".



*God Save The Queen*





*The Nation's Toast  
to the Heroes of World War 11*

*"To those who gave so much"  
"We thank You"*



*Bruno Peck*

Bruno Peck LVO OBE OPR  
Originator & Pageantmaster  
VE Day 75th Anniversary  
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8-10 May 2020





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## *Nature Walk*

*Linch Furlong Nature Area, Community Orchard and Riverside Meadows*

Friday 19 June @ 7.00pm

and

Sunday 21 June @ 3.00pm

Starting at Linch Furlong (Pavenham Road)

Led by: Patrick Knight

**Come along to see and hear what your Parish Council has been doing to improve biodiversity at these important public Green Spaces.**

Around 4 years ago as part of Oakley Parish Council's objective to improve the biodiversity of our Green Spaces, local resident Patrick Knight who has considerable experience in this area of environmental improvement, was contracted by the council to manage Linch Furlong and the Community Orchard. The results have been transformational and last year (2019) in addition to a general increase in wildflowers, 3 varieties of wild orchid were seen at Linch Furlong.

The Community Orchard was a mass of wildflowers during the early and mid-summer period.

This increase in wildflowers is also beneficial to local insect populations and birdlife.

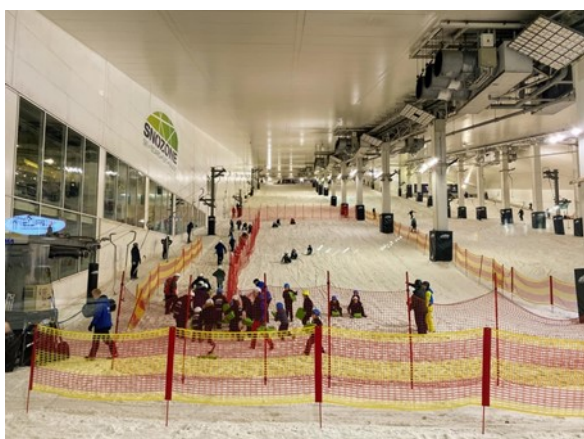
In light of this success, in early 2019 these same management techniques were introduced to the Riverside meadows to encourage over time, the environmental regeneration of this important Green Space.

**All welcome – all ages**





Christmas seems a distant memory and the evenings are getting lighter (hurray!). Oakley Scout Group finished 2019 with a tobogganing session at Snozone. This well attended event was enjoyed by all that took part, even though there were some aching muscles the following day! It was a good way to end the Scouting term and kick off the festive season.



At the beginning of February, we held our annual Quiz Night, which was a great success! Nearly 60 people joined us for a night of fun and food. There were questions for the adults and the children, with prizes for the winning teams and a 'Guess where the bonfire is' competition.

The Beaver Section has grown from 11 Beavers to 22 since September last year! They have been taking part in an activity called 'Secret Service', where each Beaver picks the name of another Beaver out of a hat and then has to do something nice for that Beaver. Sarah, the Beaver Leader, says that it is wonderful to see what lovely ideas the Beavers come up with.

The Cubs enjoyed an evening making their own shelters out of cardboard and anything they could find in the Scout Hut.

The Scouts have been building an oven and a fire pit out of an old washing machine and a tumble dryer that were donated to the Group. Their first task was to take the machines apart.

The Scouts have also been practising their pancake making skills! These are chocolate pancakes pictured.



We held a Scout Hut maintenance day in January. It was cold, frosty day and one of the essential jobs was to reseal some of the roof bolts. Our brave Chair and Treasurer got very cold completing this task. We are very appreciative of the parents that gave up their time to help us tidy the Hut and clear the outside area.

### How to get involved?

We still have some spaces in all Sections, so if you are between the ages of 6 and 18 and looking for fun and adventure, and to learn new skills, please ask your parent (s) to contact the relevant Section Leader:

**Beavers** (for 6 to 8-year olds) runs on Wednesdays 18:15-19:30 (contact Sarah, on 07935 796620);

**Cubs** (for 8 to 10.5-year olds) runs on Thursdays 18:30-20:00 (contact Chris on 07805 175521);

**Scouts** (for 10.5 to 14-year olds) runs on Tuesdays 19:00-21:00 (contact Brian on 07746 294138);

**Explorers** (for 14 to 18-year olds) runs on Wednesdays 19:45-21:15 (contact Nicky on 07708 042857).

**We could do with some more willing volunteers to become assistant leaders** to help us to create even more great memories for our members. If you would like to know more about becoming an assistant leader, please contact the Group Scout Leader, Sarah Davey, on 07935 796620.

## Alderwoman Pat Olney

In a ceremony on Sunday 19 January 2020, former councillor Pat Olney was bestowed the title of honorary Alderwoman

### Historical Background

Historically an Alderman was a member of the legislative body of a municipal corporation in England and the United States. In Anglo-Saxon England, ealdormen, or aldermen, were high-ranking officials of the crown who exercised judicial, administrative, or military functions. Earls, the governors of shires (counties), and other persons of distinction were among those who received the title of alderman. Later the title was used to designate the chief magistrate of a county or group of counties. Under legislation that reformed English local government in the 19th century, the term alderman was used to designate one type of membership in borough, municipal, and county councils. Of these councils' two types of members, councillors were elected by the voters, while aldermen were elected by the councillors. These aldermen had legislative, administrative, and some judicial functions

At the present day the aldermen are those burgesses who have served the office of mayor, but it seems possible that the title is of earlier date and preceded that of mayor as applied to the chief magistrate of the borough. Thus in 1246–7 the 'Villa de Bedford' came to the circuit court by Simon Barscot 'alderman,' two bailiffs and twelve jurors. Again in 1276 a question arose as to whether writs of the nature of mort d'ancestor ran in the town when the alderman of the town and all the bailiffs came. The aldermen of Bedford are members of the common council and of the court of aldermen.

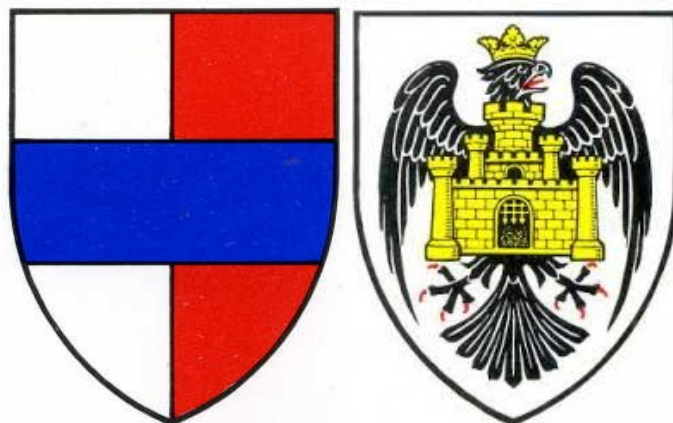
### Award of Title of Honorary Alderman to former Councillor Pat Olney

The title of Alderman or Alderwoman is an honorary title and is bestowed periodically by Bedford Council on former Councillors in recognition of their eminent service to the Council and community. Under section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council is able to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on "persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Council as past members".

Former Councillor Olney was elected to the Borough Council in May 1986 and served continuously as a Councillor until the recent Election in May 2019, Mayor 2001-2002, Independent Group Leader 2009 – 2019 and Executive (Culture and Leisure Portfolio Holder) 2002-2009. Pat has sat on twenty committees, twenty-four Sub Groups and on five Outside Bodies in those 33 years.



An Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman has the right :- to attend civic ceremonies and meetings of the Council but does not have the right to vote at any such meetings; Aldermen and Alderwomen do not receive any allowances or payments from the Council; to enjoy the courtesy title of Honorary Alderman and to be so addressed; to be listed on the Roll of Honorary Alderman and receive a badge of office of Honorary Alderman/ Alderwoman; to receive invitations to civic occasions to which Members of the Council are invited; to walk in civic processions immediately behind Members of the Council; to enjoy such other privileges as the Council may confer upon them from time to time.



Coats of Arms for Bedford Borough date from the 15th and 16th Centuries

Bill Chalker, Editor





## SPECIAL SERVICES & EVENTS COMING UP

<b>Saturday 21st March</b>	10.30am- 12 noon at Oakley Methodist- Coffee morning
<b>Mothering Sunday 22nd March</b>	10.30am at St Mary's- Churches Together Family Service to remember and thank God for those who 'mother' us
<b>Palm Sunday 5th April</b>	9.30am at St Mary's- Palm Sunday Communion Service with procession 10.30am at Oakley Methodist- Sunday Service
<b>Wednesday 8th April</b>	7.00pm at Oakley Methodist- Holy Week Service
<b>Maundy Thursday 9th April</b>	6.30pm at Oakley Methodist- Churches Together Maundy Thursday Meal
<b>Good Friday 10th April</b>	2.00pm at St Mary's- Good Friday Service
<b>Easter Saturday 11th April</b>	10.30am at Oakley Methodist- Easter Saturday Crafts & Coffee
<b>Easter Sunday 12th April</b>	10.30am at St Mary's- All Age Communion & Egg Hunt 10.30am at Oakley Methodist- Easter Sunday Communion
<b>Tuesday 5th May</b>	3.30pm at Oakley Methodist- Messy Church for All
<b>Saturday 6th June</b>	7.30pm at Oakley Methodist- Ouse Valley Singers Concert in aid of the Karibuni Trust

## TEAS IN CHURCH

Every summer St Mary's holds 'Teas in Church' on every Sunday afternoon from 3.30pm to 5pm. Please do come along and enjoy some refreshments in beautiful surroundings.

First date for 2020—24th May.



### Contact Details

Rev Catherine Wilson 825665

Rev Gill Balham 930025

### Church Wardens St Mary's

Hilarie Worley 262166 &

Graham Palmer 07710 462535

### Church Steward Oakley Methodist

Jeanette Letch 825204

## SERVICE OF REMEMBERING

On Sunday 17th May we will be holding a service at 3pm at St Mary's to remember loved ones who have died. Everyone is welcome. If you would like the name of a loved one read out please call Rev Catherine or one of the church wardens.





## AMIGO

A very entertaining evening was spent listening to Alan Goodger and his band of ukulele players at Oakley Methodist Church on Tuesday 26th November. A wide variety of tunes were played including George Formby's "Standing by a lamp post at the corner of the street". A total of £71.50 was raised as a donation for the Karibuni Trust.

### Coach trip to London on Thursday 25th June 2020

8.00 a.m. Leave Oakley Village Hall

10.00 a.m.- 10.15 a.m. Arrive at the Crypt of St. Martins in the Field, where we will be met by our Guide Charlie de Wet

Tea or coffee ranges from £2.15 for filter coffee or English Breakfast Tea to £2.80 for more specialised hot drinks.

Use of facilities.

10.15 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. Leave with Charlie for guided walk arriving at Temple Church by 12 noon

12.00 p.m. – 1.00 p.m. Guided tour of Temple Church Cost £5.00 or £3.00 for concessions

1.00 p.m. – 1.15 p.m. Leave Temple Church and arrive at the Punch Tavern

1.15 p.m. – 2.15 p.m. Lunch at the Punch Tavern Choice of food from "Lunch Wraps" – cost £8.00 **Breaded halloumi** (gem lettuce, tomato, red onions, hot sauce – vegetarian) **Fish Finger** (gem lettuce, tartare sauce) **Fried chicken goujons** (cheddar, gem lettuce, aioli) **Falafel** (tahini, gem lettuce, tomato – non gluten) Add chips or salad at £3.50.

2.15 p.m. – 2.30 p.m. Leave Punch Tavern and arrive at Dr. Johnson's House.

2.30 p.m. -3.30 p.m. Guided Tour of Dr. Johnson's House Cost £7.00 per person reduced to £3.50 upon production of a National Trust Card. The sum of £25.00 is being paid for a guided tour which will be included in the overall cost of the trip.

3.30 p.m. – 3.35 p.m. Leave Dr. Johnson's House and arrive at "Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese" public house

3.35 p.m. – 4.20 p.m Tea or coffee Cost to be confirmed

4.20 p.m. – 4.30 p.m. Leave Dr. Johnson's House and arrive in The Strand opposite St. Clement Danes Church to board the Coach for return trip to Oakley.

I am asking for payment of £40.00 per person to cover the cost of the Coach, Charlie's fees as Guide, the cost of tea or coffee at St. Martins in the Field, the cost of admission to Temple Church and the cost of the guided tour of Dr. Johnson's House

The payment does not include the cost of admission to Dr. Johnson's house. Please let me know whether or not you are members of the National Trust. I will then know if you need to pay £7.00 a head or £3.50 a head and will collect the money from you prior to the trip

You will need to pay for the lunch at the Punch Tavern and I shall be pleased to know what you want from the menu I have set out. I will need to collect payment nearer the date of the trip.

I have been told that there should be no problem with regard to tea and coffee being made available at Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese and will let you have further details of the cost nearer the date.

Please arrange for payment of £40.00 per person as soon as you can. Cheques should be made out to me, John Dixon. Any queries, please either telephone me on 01234 824959 or send me an e-mail to [jwdixon30@gmail.com](mailto:jwdixon30@gmail.com)

John Dixon



## Speedwatch Report

We invite contributions from different participants in the speedwatch team: this issue's contributor is a new recruit, Ray Gawn.

"As a new member, my experience of the speedwatch

team is limited, however here are my observations and how I became involved:-

At the end of last year a copy of the Oakley Newsletter dropped through the letter box, always a good read to keep up with village activities and issues. An article on the Oakley Speedwatch Team caught my eye and I read it with interest. Volunteers were sought to support the activity. I thought why not, and hence I am now a member of the speedwatch team.

My first experience was as an observer. I needed to receive training before becoming a qualified member. So on a dark, cold, misty December morning I ventured out at 7.30am to meet the team and find out more. Standing on Highfield Road by the railway bridge as traffic was building up, the morning commute began and the team were all in position to monitor the flow of traffic into the village.

I thought to myself that this was going to be interesting and I started to calculate in my mind how many drivers we would catch exceeding the speed limit over the next hour. Much to my surprise, after one hour we had not recorded a single vehicle exceeding the speed limit. On a second observation session the results were the same!

It was evident that the presence of the team in their high viz jackets and their warning sign, have



a significant impact on driver behaviour in conforming to the speed limit. We did have a number of friendly honkers to keep us on our toes!

On discussing the results I was told there are areas in the village where significant numbers of speeding vehicles are detected, so we should not be complacent about the need to undertake speedwatch activities and the need for village residents' support.

In conclusion, the continued activities of the team are an essential part in the education of drivers and controlling speed as they pass through our village. It only needs one driver not concentrating on their driving behaviour to cause an accident, possibly with fatal consequences.

I have since attended formal training at the Kempston Police HQ. It was interesting that other participants were from a wide area of Bedfordshire confirming the importance of speedwatch activities in our region."

We need more volunteers, so please contact us if you are interested in taking part in this valued activity.

Summary of Morelock Report 11 (over a period of 28 days)

The recording equipment was located in Station Road, facing the crossroads and 100 metres south, from the 6<sup>th</sup> of December to the 5<sup>th</sup> of January.

1. There were 42 vehicles with speed over 31mph, only 6 vehicles over 36mph, none faster than 44mph
2. The location was chosen due to concern that traffic from Pavenham Road would speed over the hill into Station Road, which did not happen.
3. Traffic volumes in Station Road were significantly lower than those in Pavenham Road.

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# Oakley Toddlers Group



Come and join us every Monday 9.30 - 11.00am term time only in the Village Hall.

We are a friendly local community run group that has been going since the 1970's. We aim to offer a place for mums, dads, babies, toddlers and carers to socialise together and help start some of the building blocks towards our little ones development.

**Your first visit is free** then only £2.00 for your first child and £1 for each child thereafter.

Children must be supervised at all times (we do not offer childcare)

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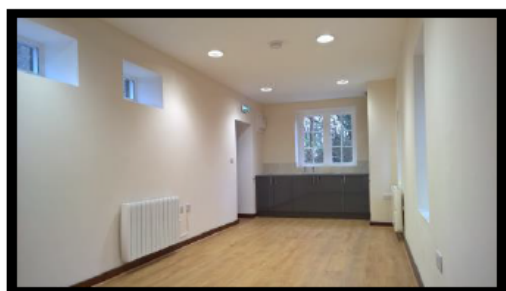
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## OAKLEY SHOW

This year our wonderful village show takes place on **Sunday 13th September**. Your marmalade should be stashed away in a cupboard, and I know of one lot that already is. Think about your choice of chutney and get it made soon, giving it time to mature and become more flavoursome.

Once again fruit, vegetables and flowers will be on display, and thanks to the weird weather we have experienced this winter, could be interesting.

All the other classes will be much the same as before. There will be classes to demonstrate various cookery skills and something for the children to show their abilities. The schedule and entry form will be in the next issue of this newsletter.

New this year is The Terry Youngman trophy to be awarded to the winner of the adult art/ drawing section. I know many of you are extremely clever, please share your talent for all to see.

Remember this is a village show and it is hoped that the younger inhabitants can be part of it , as well as we adults.



For those people who are new to Oakley; this is not a high-flying event, but still done to the best of one's abilities. All monies raised go towards the upkeep of our much-used village hall.

If you have any questions, or offers to help, please get in touch. [j.weston370@btinternet.com](mailto:j.weston370@btinternet.com)

Jean Weston



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Special matinee performance on 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2.30pm

## A YOUTH-LED COMEDY BY DENISE DEEGAN (PG 11+)

### TICKETS

Tues. 3<sup>rd</sup> March - Charity Night on behalf of St. Peter's Church, Sharnbrook. Check website for availability.

**Wed. 4<sup>th</sup> - Sat. 7<sup>th</sup> March**

£10/11 (£1 booking fee) [www.sharnbrookmilltheatre/tickets](http://www.sharnbrookmilltheatre/tickets)  
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It's jolly hockey sticks  
at the ready!

- as Daisy Meredith, a plucky girl from a poor background, is the first pupil allowed to attend the posh Grangewood School for Girls on a scholarship.

This parody of a typical English boarding school is a rip-roaring, whizzo of a treat that was a long-running success in London's West End.

With schoolgirl pranks  
a-plenty this youth-led  
comedy is lashings of fun!

## The World of Gilbert & Sullivan

presented by *The Wandering Minstrels*  
on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm



You will be treated to a superb, light-hearted evening of songs and scenes from Savoy favourites, combining the immortal wit of W.S. Gilbert with the enchanting music of Arthur Sullivan.

The Wandering Minstrels are a highly accomplished group of singers and their concert pianist. Their evening of G&S classics is presented in period costume in traditional style.

*In aid of the Theatre Cool-Down Appeal*

Tickets are £15, (plus £1 booking fee), in person from Pick-a-Lily, florists, Sharnbrook or [www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/tickets](http://www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/tickets)



Sharnbrook Mill Theatre Trust  
cordially invites you to a...



on  
**Friday, 17th April**

Bar opens 7.15pm for an 8pm start

Teams 4-6 people Entry £5 per person  
Cash prize for the winning team

Register your team and get tickets from Brenda Stafford  
[brenda.stafford@talk21.com](mailto:brenda.stafford@talk21.com) / 07484 843141

In aid of the Cool-Down Appeal  
[www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk](http://www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk)

The G&S Evening, Quiz Night, 'Papworth - A Moving Story' and The Race Night are all in aid of our 'Cool - Down Appeal'

Special Showing of Royal Papworth Hospital's  
Centenary Film:

### 'PAPWORTH - A MOVING STORY'

History, development and recent relocation to the  
Cambridge Biomedical Campus  
of the UK's leading cardiothoracic centre.

Introduced by Ian Burton, B.Sc; C.Biol; BGCE; MRSV

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April, 6.00 for 6.30pm**

**Ticket £12 including light supper**

Wine /soft drinks available - Raffle

From Theo. Gibbs (01234) 782377

[theo@theogibbs.plus.com](mailto:theo@theogibbs.plus.com)



## Little Shop of Horrors

A musical comedy

**1st-6th June**  
at 7.30pm

[www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk](http://www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk)

Book & Lyrics by Howard Ashman

Music by Alan Menken

**TICKETS ON SALE AFTER DAISY PULLS IT OFF**

This replaces 'Made in Dagenham', withdrawn for reasons beyond our control

**Ready to place your bets?**

**RACE NIGHT AT THE MILL**

**16th May at 7.30pm**

Details on our website soon.

[www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk](http://www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk)



## Oakley Village Hall

Church Lane,  
Oakley,  
Bedfordshire, MK43 7RJ

A well-appointed village hall  
Main hall with stage and PA system  
(Main hall is air conditioned)

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# BADMINTON






Get fit whilst socialising at  
Oakley badminton club 😊

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT**

**7:30-9PM**

**LINCROFT SCHOOL**

For further details call Alyn Walker –  
01234 824530 or 07557 441206

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# theWI

## OAKLEY WI

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

### 14 April

Martin Sorel Smith will give us an insight into life in Tudor Times.

### 12 May

Adam Smith will tell us all about the Ladies at Wrest Park.

### 9 June

Gurch Brandhawa will bring us up to date on Public Engagement Issues and organ donation

### 14 July

Veronica Hewin will give us an Indian cookery demonstration and tasting

We also have outings, coffee mornings and knit and natter.

New members and visitors are most welcome at our meetings. To find out more call 822087 or 825688.



## OAKLEY GARDENING CLUB

Oakley Gardening Club meets on the third Monday of every month, September to April, with visits to gardens and places of interest over the rest of the year.

Mon 16 March

Felicity Brimblecombe talks about **Gertrude Jekyll in Bedfordshire**

Mon 20 April

Susan Young talks about **Garden Design**

Meetings are held at Oakley Methodist Church on the third Monday of the month

New members and visitors are very welcome at our meetings.

For further information contact Denise Hookham on 01933 312119



## FIT for LIFE PILATES

Beginners/Improvers

**Oakley Village Hall**

**Mondays 11.30 – 12.30**

**With Nola**

**Certified Stott Pilates Instructor,  
P.E.A., R.S.A.**

**£4.50 per class**

**For more information on  
Classes / Private Tuition  
call Nola on 07793 056122**

**FIRST CLASS FREE!**

# oakley *Motorcycle* club

Well, what a year it was for OMC, 2019 closed with a record membership of 508!



Since the last edition of the Newsletter OMC held their annual Christmas quiz on 5th December with all proceeds going to the East Anglian Air Ambulance. For the first time, on 21st December, we did a Santa Dash. This involved twelve riders and a support team attending five locations including Cygnet Wing at Bedford Hospital and Leonard Cheshire Homes at Ampthill where we handed out selection boxes to patients and residents.



On Sunday 26th January, Dave and Lesley Brown organised the OMC 9th Curry Evening at Indiya Restaurant, The Broadway, Bedford. Over 70 members attended an evening of quality food, drinks, quizzes and games and in conjunction with the restaurant owners raised £750 for the EAAA! Many thanks to Dave, Lesley, Indiya Restaurant staff and all who attended, another fantastic achievement.



OMC is now into its 16th year. Many reading this may well remember when we first started in January 2005. Who would have thought we would have become this big and popular! Certainly not me as the founder!



On 13th February it was the 15th OMC AGM with 133 members attending and as a result the following Officers remain for 2020; myself as Chair, Derek Brown as Treasurer and Vice Chair and Bernie Russell as Secretary.

During the course of the evening Richard Galka was voted as Member of the Year for the third time. Lynne Ratnett from the EAAA attended and was presented with cheques totalling just shy of £2,000, which was money raised by OMC during 2019 including the 9th Curry Evening.

This takes our total raised for the EAAA since they became our chosen charity, to a massive £38,000

At the end of the evening an auction took place raising a further £245 to start our 2020 donation to the EAAA, who remain our principle charity for this year.

Looking forward to another very busy year

For further information on OMC go to [www.oakleymc.net](http://www.oakleymc.net)

Kind regards      Baysie - Roger Bays - Chair OMC



**Oakley Sports & Social Club** have seen another busy winter and look ahead to a busier spring and summer.

On the **8th May**, Oakley Sports & Social Club will host a street party to celebrate VE Day. The day includes a buffet on the field, brass band, a Bombardier Bus, Tom Betts band, bouncy castle and ice-cream van. Tickets are limited to 150 only, subsidised at £5pp and attendees must be members of Oakley Sports & Social Club (if you are not already a member, you can join up for just £5/person/year at our website – [www.oakleyssc.com](http://www.oakleyssc.com)). Tickets are available now and can be purchased from the club house.



## Oakley Sports & Social Club

**FAMILY & SPORTS BAR**

On the **2nd July**, the club will host Oakley Motorcycle Club's "American Theme Night", their premier event of the year. This will be followed by Oakley Sports & Social Club's "Extravaganza", the largest event ever organised by the committee to raise money for Alzheimer's Research. Many features are yet to be confirmed, but it already includes live bands performing on a stage, animal petting zoo, fun fair & bouncy castles, many stalls & street food and a BBQ – but we have much more planned, so make sure you check out our Facebook page and website where we'll post updates. If you are interested in having a stall for the event, then please contact us at [info@oakleyssc.com](mailto:info@oakleyssc.com) or via our Facebook page.



Both events in July are free and all are welcome.



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**01234 266 366**



*A date for your diary*

FRIDAY 8TH MAY 2020

OAKLEY SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

VE DAY 2020  
STREET PARTY

*Buffet  
Bombadier Bus  
Brass Band  
Tom Betts Band  
Bouncy Castle  
Icecream Van*

**£5**  
PER TICKET

LIMITED NUMBER OF  
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