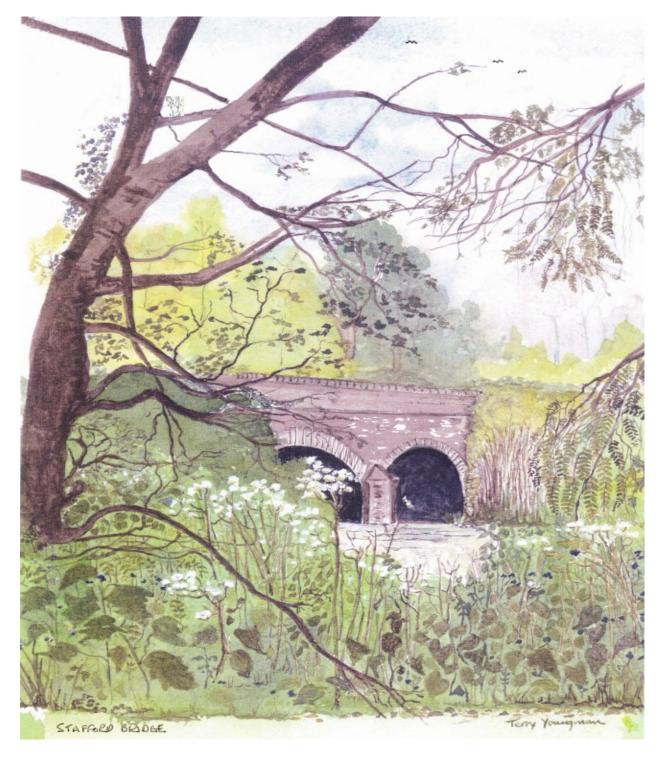


# Oakley Newsletter



Summer 2015 Number 63



#### **Front Cover**

Stafford Bridge 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 Autumn issue is 16th August 2015. The publishing date is 1st September.

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#### Parish Council News

Summer 2015 By PAUL PHILLIPS (Chair)

As I'm writing my input for the Summer edition of the Oakley Newsletter the sun is pouring through my study window telling me that summer is either here or very much on its way.

It is a time when our village is most attractive and either individually or as families we are able to appreciate its true beauty either by the river, in Browns Wood, Judges Spinney, the Green, the Sports Field to name just a few or as we stroll to Church, Pub, Club, Shops or Coffee Shop. We are extremely lucky with what we have in our midst and we should always do our best to look after what we have and if anything improve on it. Having said all of that there are always things that we are not totally happy with and I know I am always raising such issues in the Newsletter.

Those issues that I raise that don't relate to you I ask that you bear with me and understand my reasons for raising them, but if they do relate to you please take note and do whatever is necessary to remedy the situation. The Newsletter has to be all embracing and is one of our few means of 'talking to everyone.'

# Election of Parish Councillors for Oakley - 7 May 2015

The total number of persons who stood validly nominated did not exceed the number of Parish Councillors to be elected and therefore the following were duly elected without contest as Parish Councillors for Oakley;

Paul Phillips Chair, Jane Walker Vice Chair Parish and Borough Councillor, Pat Olney Parish and Borough Councillor, Sara Fardon, Michael Frampton, Phyllis Jones, Gerry Sansom, Robert Saunders, Michael Taylor, Paul White. Contact details can be found in the Newsletter.

Two members of the previous Parish Council resigned at the end of the last term namely John Saunders who had

Continued on page 3

#### **OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

#### **PARISH CLERK**

#### **Ann Paice**

31 Radwell Road Milton Ernest Bedford, MK44 1SH. 824852 maea@paice31.fsnet.co.uk

#### **CHAIR**

#### **Paul Phillips**

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#### **VICE CHAIR**

#### Jane Walker

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#### **Pat Olney**

(Parish and Borough councillor) 33 Station Road. 824384 pat.olney@btopenworld.com

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#### **Phyllis Jones**

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#### **Gerry Sansom**

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#### **Robert Saunders**

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#### Michael Taylor

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#### **Paul White**

20 Reynes Drive. 825472 paulwhite20rd@btinternet.com

#### Michael Frampton

The Little House, The Drive 822181 michael\_frampton@btinternet.com served on the Parish Council for 50 years, having joined prior to the development of Ruffs Furze, and Richard Baily who had served for 6 years. I am sure I speak for the whole community of Oakley in thanking them for their contribution to the Parish Council in particular and Oakley in general. Thank you John and Richard.

#### **Annual Parish Meeting 7 April 2015**

Despite being well advertised only seven members of the public attended the Annual Parish Meeting which took place on 7 April 2015.

Those present had the benefit of listening to a presentation by Castele Consultancy Ltd on a proposed 3G artificial grass , full sized, floodlit soccer pitch being established in conjunction with the Football Foundation on the New Field belonging to Lincroft School in Station Road. Bedford Borough Council Playing Pitch Strategy consultation had highlighted a lack of training pitches in the Borough and Bedfordshire FA had approached Lincroft School as a potential site. Technical Consultants were being used to design the detailed project and a planning application is expected to be submitted in due course.

The pitch, which could be used for rugby and hockey training, rounders and fitness training, as well as football, would cost £550K to £600K and the Football Foundation would provide 50% of the funds with the other 50% being provided by Lincroft School, sponsorship etc. It is planned that this pitch would be positioned behind the Tennis/Netball Courts and would be approximately double the size of those courts.

At the meeting residents and Councillors were concerned about the lighting, parking [given that 40 to 200 players could be using the pitch each day outside school hours] supervision, impact on existing facilities at the ORA and its availability for residents. I think it is very important that all residents give very serious thought to this proposed development and consider the pros and cons of it. It is the intention of the Parish Council to Consult Residents, probably by way of a special meeting, if and when a planning application is submitted. Communication with residents may be through the Newsletter, provided the timing coincides with publication dates, but will definitely be advertised both on the Parish Council Notice Board and Village website. Please make sure you are part of this consultation.

#### **Average Speed Cameras**

Many of you will probably have noticed that the average speed cameras have started to be installed around the village starting on 11 May 2015. Calibration, testing etc could take

between two to four weeks and once the equipment and the paperwork has been validated they will go live. To be on the safe side can I suggest compliance from now not only around Oakley, but everywhere. It is unfortunate that there have been considerable delays with the project, but the Parish Council felt it important to deal with one or two comments/concerns prior to the completion of the work.

#### **Dog Fouling**

I regret to have to report that Dog Fouling around the village is on the increase again. This is so sad because I thought that those in charge of dogs were acting responsibly, but sadly a minority are not.



I, personally, have noticed an increase in Station Road and in the High Street, but the area that I think is probably worst of all is the green area between Dewlands and Ruffs Furze. This appears to be a regular spot for one dog and its companion. This isn't an infrequent happening and the person with the dog must know what is happening. To that person - please be a responsible dog owner and resident and stop this unacceptable behaviour.



## Parking Outside Oakley Lower School and Lincroft School

The zig zag lines outside the schools are there for a reason and that is to increase the safety of our children. It seems to me that an ever increasing number of parents feel that the prohibition of parking near to the school does not apply to them. An accident can happen in a split second so please don't stop on the lines - even just to drop off. The Parish Council have informed the Police and have asked for frequent visits by Bedford Borough Camera enforcement teams.

Paul Phillips, Chairman.

#### 2015 Chairman's Report

It seems no time since our year began with our Annual General Meeting in May 2014 and the intervening 11 months have proved to be very busy indeed. I would like to express at the outset my appreciation for the support and commitment of each and every member of the Parish Council, Councillors and Clerk. I would also like, on the residents' and Council's behalf, to thank Jane Walker for her commitment over a period of 12 years as Chair of the Council and to John Saunders for his commitment and selfless sacrifice to the Council for a period of 50 years. This will be John's last meeting as a Parish Councillor because he has decided to hang up his minutes .

Hartop Railway Bridge was one of the first subjects to be discussed following various meetings. The work started on 21 July 2014 and finished quite recently.

Following a very productive discussion with residents at the Parish Meeting on 1 April last year the Council resolved on 6 May 2014 that at least two pairs of Average Speed Cameras be installed in Oakley at appropriate locations which would be data led. Oakley Parish Council contributed the cost of one pair, totalling £60,000, with a matching amount paid by Bedford Bor-Enhanced lighting and installation of cameras commenced on 23 February and it will be noted that there will be more than two pairs. We hope they will be operational quite soon. Traffic flows through the village continue to create frustration. Maybe the end is in sight now that the link road from Biddenham to Sainsbury's roundabout has been started. Ultimately will this relieve Oakley of the through traffic? Who knows!

We decided that we should encourage residents to clear grass from footways outside their houses where possible. This was done by many and in addition the Parish Council has financed grass to be trimmed around our focal point, the Village Green.

The allotments still look good and although the Parish Council continued to put some finance into them, the allotment holders do help themselves in the main. A contribution was made towards the improvement of the Willow Vale track, which will help allotment and Linch Furlong users.

The new bus shelter that was installed in Station Road was moved to Church Lane following comments from users. The replacement was turned the other way round providing protection from those bitter easterly winds.

The Council is proud of the Children's Playground and its equipment on the Green and we are committed to ensuring it remains safe and suitable.

The Oakley Village Plan has stood the test of time and a Neighbourhood Development Plan sub group has been set up, comprising Parish Councillors, our Borough Councillor and residents with both interest and expertise. There was a very successful launch on 3 and 4 October last year when residents were invited to attend and make their comments. Much work has been done so far, with more to follow. This work is invaluable and will shape and secure our villages future.

Financial support continues to be given to worthy groups in the village who make application whilst they are seen to be making a contribution to their needs as well.

The Oakley Village Directory continues to be an invaluable document for most houses. Not only is it valued by many but, thanks to sponsorship and advertisements, it provides a very useful source of income for the village. Over the last 7 years it has raised over £10,000 and we are indebted to Sara Fardon and her team for this success.

The quarterly Newsletter continues to be an excellent way of communicating with residents. We thank all who contribute and the editor Bill Chalker for his efforts in presenting such a readable publication. The village website is also regularly viewed and its usage is increasing .

There was a very successful Litter Pick last year when some litter was found, though not vast amounts, which is testament to the work of the regular litter picker Mr Hobbs. This year's Litter Pick took place on 7 March and was reasonably well supported. A dozen or so bags of litter were collected and exchanged for chocolate Easter Eggs.

In June we saw some minor problems at the Youth Club, but I am glad to report that they were short lived and the club is now flourishing with a new local leader.

Sadly we lost our Drop in Clinic despite work to try to retain or replace it.

Safety is high on our priority list and firstly we purchased and distributed No Cold Calling Stickers. Secondly, following complaints and concerns about safety caused by indiscriminate parking close to the junction of High Street/ Reynes Drive, it was agreed that the only way to deal with the problem was to have double yellow lines. These will be around and opposite the junction, but no further, thereby making it abundantly clear that parking on that junction is forbidden. The existence of No Waiting lines enables enforcement by the Borough Parking Hopefully these lines will appear some time soon. It is indeed sad that we have to go to these lengths but trust me we do. Some of the parking at this junction has to be seen to be believed!

At the appropriate time look out for poppies in the Riverside Meadow. Oakley WI asked if they could plant seeds and they should be flowering this summer.

Oakley Motor Cycle Club, which is part of Oakley Sports and Social Club, organised a Motor Cycle Festival which they intend to hold biennially. The event was very well attended but a few complaints were made to the Parish Council, mainly associated with band noise during the afternoon and evening rather than motor cycle noise.

Whilst the complaints were discussed at the following Parish Council meeting all complainants received written explanations from the Motor Cycle Club itself. The Club have now drawn up guidelines for members to adhere to concerning consideration for residents.

Nine bus stops around the village have been upgraded with raised boarding points to assist passengers. The dropped kerb at one of the stops in the High Street near Reynes Drive has been lost during these works and it is hoped that it can be re-established at some point.

Drone Cameras raised their ugly heads in midsummer and complaints were made about their use. Two residents were spoken to quite speedily by Councillors and to date there have been no further problems.

The trees that were planted in the green area in Parsonage Close by the developer came to the end of their useful life. They have been replaced by the Parish Council with three rowans.

Earlier in the year Councillors held discussions with the Church Council at St Mary's and as a result an electrical connection was installed and a permanent Christmas Tree was planted in the churchyard. The tree lights at the Church were officially switched on on Saturday 6 December. It was a cold, crisp, dry evening, when many residents attended in good voice. A couple of carols were sung around the tree and then we processed into Church for many more carols, mulled wine and lots of other refreshments. Our thanks to Reverend Linda and Reverend Gill and their generous band of helpers.

With the co-operation of the Village Hall Management Committee the Parish Council decided to have a defibrillator installed outside the Village Hall. It is now ready for use should it ever be needed although we hope it never will.

We are in the process of establishing a Village Photograph/Document Archive at the Old School. It makes sense to have all of this material in one place and be accessible to all.

Crime over the year has been on a par with previous years but we must never be complacent. Everyone should be encouraged to report unlawful/criminal matters to the Police and we should never adopt the view that someone else has reported it or 'I won't report it because 'THEY" won't be interested.'

The bottle bank over the years has been an excellent resource and has helped boost much needed income. I implore residents to use it, but please don't abuse it. If it is full, then take your bottles away and don't leave them around the bottle bank for someone else to clear. (Clapham have recently lost theirs through misuse)

The Chair thanked residents for their patience and attention and there were no questions.

Paul Phillips Chairman



# Oakley Museum at the Old School, Oakley

Oakley Parish Council, working with the Friends of the Old School, have started the Oakley Museum at the Old School in Lovell Road.

The idea is to have a resource of documents and artefacts about Oakley in one place that people can visit for research.

The room is secure and Ruth Knight has volunteered to be the Archivist.

Two people have already agreed to donate photos, maps and documents, which Ruth will be collating and storing, so that they will accessible for people in the village.

A piece of a history that will now be available for everyone to see has been donated by Mrs Deirdre Knight. This is a splendid water colour of the interior St Marys Church painted by Joan Gray.

The accompanying historical note that Mrs. Dorothy Hendry has provided reads;

"The watercolour was painted by Mrs. Joan Gray, whose husband kindly donated the money from which St Mary's kitchen and upstairs room was provided. It was then, as was intended, presented to Mr. J.W. Larman, in 1974, in appreciation of his 50 years as organist of St Mary's Church, Oakley. On the reverse of the painting is a record of members of St. Mary's Church at that time. On the death of Mr. Larman, the painting was returned to Mr. Bill Knight, who, it was believed, commissioned it. On Bills death, the picture came into the ownership of Mrs. Deirdre Knight. It is Mrs. Knight's wish that the picture be donated to the projected Oakley Museum, as a lasting record of part of St. Mary's Church, Oakley.'

This watercolour will be on display in the room with the historical note.

Once the items have been collated you will be able to book a time for research and there will also be drop in sessions, probably once a month.

If you would like to donate material or artefacts please either get in touch initially with

Pat Olney Telephone 824384 or

email <u>pat.olney@btopenworld</u> or

Ann Paice, Clerk to the Parish Council, email - maea@paice31.fsnet.co.uk

# Borough Council News by Cllr Pat Olney

Following the recent elections I am very pleased to have the opportunity again to represent you on the Borough Council for the next four years. I will do my very best for you as individuals, as groups and for the village as a whole.

#### **Speed Cameras in Oakley**

Many people have already noticed the Speed Cameras in Pavenham Road and Station Road. These are not "live" yet as they need to be calibrated. They will probably be "live" in early to mid June. Many people have already slowed down. Keep practising so that you do not get caught speeding on these roads.

You will soon see the cameras up in the High Street, Church Lane and Lovell Road. Once erected the Borough will calibrate them and then they will also be "live".

It will be good to see slower traffic on our roads. Thanks are due to the joint working of the Bedford Borough Council and the Oakley Parish Council who saw the project through to fruition.



## **Network Rail Electrification Improvement Works**

Some of you will have already been disturbed by the noise from the railway. This is part of the electrification of the line between Bedford and Kettering.

# The work is to take place from 23.00 to 7.00 hours at weekends and midweek nights between 26 May and 18 June.

At certain locations they will be undertaking piling activities, which have the potential to cause some vibration. This might become perceptible if your house is very close to the railway. Network Rail wish to reassure us that any vibration will be controlled as far as possible.

They will be using Engineering Trains, Road Rail vehicles, Mobile Piling Rigs, Mobile Tower Lights and various Plant and Tools.

For safety reasons much of the work can only be undertaken when the trains are not running and there will be some noise disturbance. Again Railtrack have assured us that they will make every effort to keep the controllable noise to a minimum

If you have any concerns please go to www.networkrail.co.uk or telephone the 24 hour helpline on 03457 11414.

#### Dog Poos along the footpath to Clapham.

Now Hartops Bridge is open it is good to see many people and Dog walkers using the footpath again.



There are children using the path and also playing in this area and if they pick up a certain worm from the poo it can cause blindness. So I urge all dog walkers to please pick up the poo and put it in the dog bins provided, the poo, not the dog.

Cllr Pat Olney

Tel. 01234 824384

email <a href="mailto:pat.olney@btopenworld.com">pat.olney@btopenworld.com</a>, website <a href="mailto:www.patolney.wordpress.com">www.patolney.wordpress.com</a>



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#### **Oakley Allotments**

It is the fifth spring at Oakley's allotments - where does the time go! The paths and features are becoming well established and the new season reveals which wild invaders (or may be they have always been residents) will be most prevalent this year.

It is interesting to note that a lot of our native wild plants have been used for various purposes over the years and a lot of the traditional uses have almost been lost due to our relatively privileged modern lives.

However, when it is obvious that plants like dandelions can proliferate without effort (unlike the careful nurturing required by cultivated plants, which are often subject to attack by pests and diseases) it makes sense to look at ways of possibly utilising them again. After all, our ancestors must have learned a thing or two, right?

Since dandelions seem to grow anywhere and everywhere (and mostly on my allotment) they are a candidate for experimentation in the revival of some forgotten culinary delights. Except that, with their inherently bitter-tasting nature, "delights" is not quite apposite.

Still, undeterred, and having read that there is no part of the dandelion that cannot be eaten, I decided to continue with my research.

Dandelion leaves - good in salads if picked young, otherwise they are bitter and then become an acquired taste.

Dandelion root - meagre roots, very often, but cooked and used like carrots in the past. Fastidious cleaning required prior to cooking and good eyesight a benefit to finding them on your plate afterwards.

Dandelion flowers - not an intuitive choice perhaps but the buds and flowers are the gems of the plant and not just because of the colour! Open flowers can be eaten freshly picked (ideally not by roadsides or where dog-walkers go!) or dipped in a light, sweet batter and flashfried. They actually taste quite good.

Flower buds - picked when tightly closed, steeped for a day in brine, then washed and pickled are similar to capers. I have tried this method recently and just tasted the first batch (and maybe the last batch...) in order that I could speak with some authority for this article; they aren't too bad a product.



So, as far as my unwanted allotment weeds are concerned, if you can't beat 'em, eat 'em!

Happy gardening.

Steve Nicholas



Orphan & Community Care

Many Thanks to those villagers who kindly donated to the Flood Appeal. The money raised has been put to excellent use and thanks to the Malawian team and their amazing organisation there were no cases of cholera in the areas Joshua works in. People have been given materials and tools to help rebuild and replanting is under way.

Children are returning to school and the feeding centres have maintained their programme. There is still much to be done but the people of Malawi are amazingly cheerful.



All this is possible because of the continued generosity of people here in the UK. Thank you again.

Jacky Mould

#### Farming Country – Summer 2015 By John Saunders

Now having moved from the farm on the 15th February, as it was due to be a very wet day on the Monday, it is surprising all the things that go missing in a move but they have all turned up now.

Having played cricket for Oakley for longer than I care to remember I still get the Bedford and District Cricket League fixtures sent to me. It is sad to see so few villages have a cricket team now as compared to the days when I played. It is good to see Oakley cricket club still going strong with a good youth set up.

The cricket club is 116 years old this year and I thought I would write a few extracts from an article written by Edward Newell in the Beds Times on August 1942. Edward Newell was the Bedfordshire Times correspondent for the village for 51 years. The cricket club was formed by Mr Prothero, who was agent for the Duke of Bedford. The first summer Mr Prothero came to Oakley Arthur Hartop, Edward Newell and a few others used to play cricket. Mr Prothero was a first class cricketer and suggested a village cricket club should be formed. The following winter he had a pitch laid out which I think was about where Bevery Close is now. This was done by Dick Rogers who was a well known Modern School cricket coach and grounds man.

The curate at the time was Revered L.O. Frewer. He was another excellent cricketer along with Reg Horrell who was a fast bowler and big hitter.

Arthur Hartop, W Perkins, I Swaine, J Ruffhead, J Hulratt, A Tarman, Fred Panter, A Pepper, S Quenby and J Horne made a useful team. They played friendly matches and Mr Prothero was president and also captain of the team.

When a visiting team came to Oakley they were entertained to tea on the field by Mr Prothero. After tea he handed out cigars to the players and also to the visitors who came to watch the game. Whit Monday's fixture was always with Kempston and the return match was played on Doctor Bowers ground in September.

So the club carried on until 1914 but the First World War finished off the cricket after so many members joined the army. The club had their supper at the close of the season with roast beef and Yorkshire pudding at which his lordship always gave a bat for the best batting and one for the best bowler.

After the war the cricket club played in several fields in the village the first one being by the river just over the hump back bridge on the left hand side. It then moved on to another field near Clapham where the bypass is now, after that to a field behind what used to be Queens College Farm and finally in the field where they are now.

In the photograph Mr Prothero sits in the chair in the middle row and Edward Newell three from the right in the middle row (if anyone can name anyone else please let me know)

I will mention more about Mr Prothero in the next village news letter.

John Saunders



**Oakley Cricket Club 1942** 

#### **AMIGO**

The long awaited coach trip to London will shortly take place on Wednesday 24th June. The coach is full with 39 people in the party. A report will follow in the Autumn issue of the Oakley Newsletter.

By the time this newsletter is published, the garden party at the home of Pat Olney will have taken place on Tuesday 26th May. Let us hope that the sun shines or at the very least that it is dry for what promises to be a very enjoyable evening



The last event for the current session of Amigo activities will be a ramble on Tuesday 28th July. I have in mind a ramble around Roxton leaving the Car Park of St. Mary's Church, Oakley at 6.30 p.m. and beginning the walk in Roxton High Street near the Village Hall at 7.00 p.m. Total distance about three and a half miles taking about an hour and a half to two hours.

News of our recent events :-

Brian and Pauline Leeson gave a truly splendid account of the history, geography, flora, fauna and much more of New Zealand with some remarkable photographs at Oakley Methodist Church on the 24th February.

An enjoyable evening was spent at Oakley Methodist Church on the 24th March when a variety of quizzes ranging from "Call My Bluff" to guessing the flavours of crisps and cheeses were held. The evening's entertainment finished with a "Beetle Drive". Prizes of chocolate cream eggs were awarded to the lucky winners.

A truly entertaining evening was in store for those who came to Oakley Methodist Church on Tuesday 28th April and heard local poet, Paul Scrivener recite some of his poetry. A very wide range of poetry was on offer from the comic to the serious.

There will be no Amigo activity in August and the 2015/16 session will begin in September.

John Dixon





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#### **Oakley Neighbourhood Plan**

Thank you to everyone who filled in the questionnaire in the last magazine. I am pleased to say that it confirmed our vision of "to protect the village community and the landscape in which it sits"

#### Help

We are researching and collating information under each of these headings: Environment and Green Spaces; Landscape; Community Facilities and Village Amenities; Children and Youth; Infrastructure; Housing; Business and Employment.

If you feel you could help in any of these areas please contact one of the committee members listed at the end of this report. One resident has already measured the roads in the village and made an assessment of their suitability for any further traffic loads. Another resident is looking at the housing developments in the village and their historical character. Yet another one is looking at one particular site and carrying out a plant and animal survey. We would like people to survey other open spaces such as Linch Furlong.

Please do not be shy and help us to get all the information we can.

#### Photo Competition "Images of Oakley"

At our last meeting we decided to have a Photo Competition with prizes. Categories are: your favourite part of Oakley, heritage buildings, your favourite view including plants and animals, businesses, community facilities and community activity. There are three sections 1; – children; 2; -18 to 25 3;-25 - 60 and 4; over 60. If you have people or children in the photo please get their permission as we will have an exhibition of the photos. Steve Nicholas has agreed to sort out a judging panel. Forms will be available at the Oakley Carnival on the 11 July and the Oakley Stores from that date. So please get photographing.

Committee members are Mr. Kellett, Mr. Musgrave, Mrs. Randell, Cllr Sansom, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Carr, Mrs Habes, Mr Saunders, Cllr Walker, Cllr Olney and the clerk Ann Paice.

The website is www.ndp.oakleyvillage.co.uk





#### Steve's Snippet No.14

In my last Snippet I mentioned "the drop of a hat" and promised to return to that saying. As anyone who knows me will tell you I always keep my promises - unless, of course, I forget; something which is more likely to happen these days and possibly to the relief of the promisee(s).

Anyway, I digress. As those who know me may tell you, I also do quite a bit of that too - now, where was I?

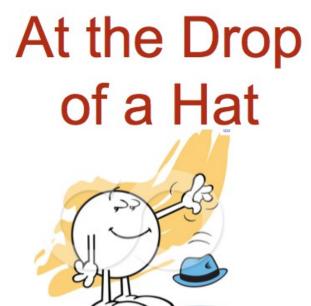
We use a lot of sayings in everyday conversation, just accepting their meanings and rarely questioning their origins. This is not unique to our language and seems to be a human trait providing reassuring links to the past, giving the sharers a sense of common identity, whilst confusing a potential enemy.

We have William Shakespeare to thank for a good number of our popular sayings. In fact, googling (a newly entrenched term, entering our language very recently) the subject in order to appear more learned in your company, I am amazed at just how many idiomatic sayings come from works attributed to The Bard.

Some that we regard as quite modern have their origins in various works dating back a few centuries. Examples include, "The worm has turned", "Gilding the lily", "Wear your heart on your sleeve". Although Shakespeare is not given credit for all such sayings they certainly appear in his works in recognisable forms. This suggests that they even predate those times.

The logical interpretation of some sayings bears testament to our shared perception of poetry, irony and humour in language. It provides us with more than just a communication of ideas and is deeper and richer than the mere words - this is why the best way to learn a new language is to live amongst its speakers.

"At the drop of a hat" is possibly one of the least mysterious sayings to trace back to its origin as it has been portrayed in many a film or enactment - the simple act of discarding headwear was seen as an immediate signal of willingness to participate in some activity.



The hat was a readily removable item of clothing and so could be used at a distance as an easily visible signal to start a race or some action, although not literally dropped as much as rapidly lowered by the outstretched arm of the signaller. Generally, the phrase now means "immediately and without forethought".

Finally, did you know that "like the Dickens" was also coined by Shakespeare in the "Merry Wives of Windsor"? It had nothing to do with Charles Dickens (obviously) so I'll leave you with that mystery - never leave your audience wanting less...

Steve Nicholas

#### **MESSY CHURCH**

Come along and join in the fun at Messy Church. Messy Church takes place every Thursday at St Mary's during term time 10am to 12oclock for children up to 5 years old with their parents /carers.

A light lunch is served of fresh fruit with a drink and biscuits, with coffee or tea and biscuits for the adults.

PLENTY OF TOYS.

CRAFTS [SOME MESSY].

PAINTING.

PLAYDOH

STORIES AND SONGS





PRICE £2.00 PER CHILD PLUS AN EXTRA 50P ADDITIONAL CHILD.





#### Oakley Lower School seek Community Governor

We are proud of our school. We have over 200 pupils at Oakley Lower School every year for whom we want to provide the best possible foundation for their future. Supporting and developing a strong strategic direction makes governance a challenging, but ultimately very rewarding, role of which we are all proud to be a part. Your involvement and contribution could help us to continue making a difference.

As a school governor your insight, experience and ideas could broaden our perspective and help us develop a stronger strategic vision for the future. We are keen to involve people of all ages and cultural backgrounds. To have a diverse and committed governing body is vital.

There is no need for any previous experience within education. An essential requirement is commitment - to attending meetings and training, to reading paperwork, to taking on specialist areas of responsibility, to ask questions and value the contribution of others and to put the interests of the children at the heart of everything you do.

Desirable would be some experience in some of the following areas: health and safety, financial management, premises or personnel management and links with local business and community.

We are actively seeking new members. For further information or to complete an application form please contact the clerk to the governors Mrs K Wille by email office@oakley.bedssch.co.uk or phone 01234 822104. The school is fully committed to safer recruitment procedures. Candidates will be subject to DBS clearance.



# Come and join us at the Scout Hut on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June for the Great Oakley Bake Off!



For our summer fund raiser the girls and boys (and Leaders!) of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are testing their baking skills in our very own Bake Off competition. The cakes they enter will then be on sale as afternoon tea from 3.00pm, and everyone is welcome to come along and buy a cuppa and try some of the delicious bakes. We hope to raise lots of money for our much needed Scout Hut repairs so please come along. Bring the whole family, especially if you have a child who is thinking of joining the Group. It is a great opportunity to meet the members and Leaders.

The Executive Committee is currently focussing on replacing the Scout Hut floor and increasing the amount of fundraising that the Group carries out. We are always looking for people who can help in any way. You do not have to be a uniformed Leader or be on Executive Committee. You may have specialist skills and experience such as DIY or fundraising that the Group could use. If you think you may be able to help 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 continue to provide a wide range of fun and challenging activities for boys and girls between the ages of 6 to 14. 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 - 10.5 year olds
 Thursdays 18:30-20:00
 phone Martin 07917 137179

 Scouts
 10.5 - 14 year olds
 Tuesdays 19:00-20:30
 phone Dean 07854 312255



# SHARNBROOK MILL THEATRE



Reg. Charity 244216

www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk > www.facebook.com.groups.233885789967345/ @smttheatre

#### Summer and Autumn Season 2015 : We look forward to welcoming you!

^8th - 13th June at 7.30 pm#



Merrily We Roll Along

 to the fine music and lyrics of Stephen Sondheim to George Furth's book.
 A thrilling and compelling Broadway musical fable about friendship, compromise ... and the high price of success.

Based on the original play by George S. Kaufman & Moss Hart.
An amateur production in association with
JOSEPH WEINBERGER LTD on behalf of
MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL of New York

\* Mon. 8th June in aid of British Red Cross, Charity No 220949

Tickets: Heather Wells 01933 622930

A 'Warm Up' Appeal event; raising funds for a green energy-based heating & natural ventilation system at The Mill Theatre

Presents... Sunday 23rd June. 2.30 for 3 pm
Dames at Tea



Joanna David and Phyllida Law, mothers to Emilia Pox, Freddie Fox, Enama Thompson and Sophic Thompson talk with David Saint about their families and their careers.



FIZZ & AFTERNOON TEA

Tickets £20 from:

Douglas Pope Tel: 01933 356974 email: mail@douglaspope.com
Brian Woodrow Tel: 01234 349455 email: bwoodrow@btinternet.com
David Saint Tel: 01933 675995 email: words@davidsaint.co.uk
Tickets in person available from Sharnbrook Post Office

3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm

Bm Elton's 1990 hilarious and critically acclaimed satirical comedy

GASPING

Sharnbrook Mill Theatre
Open Day

26th of July from 11 conwards

Tours back stage, Live performances, Demonstrations & Refreshments.

Free admission and parking

www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk

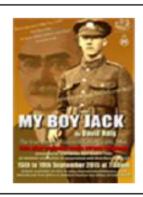
15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> September #

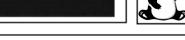
MY BOY JACK

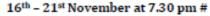
by David Haig

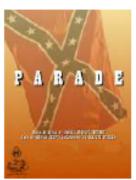
<>

A powerful and moving account of Rudyard Kipling's anguish and guilt at the loss of his son, John, in the First World War.









## PARADE

Music & Lyrics by Jason Robert Brown: Book by Albert Uhry Co-concieved by Harold Prince

The tragic, true story of the trial of a man wrongly accused of murder. An emotional drama, with an award-winning score by one of Broadway's most promising composers.

#### # These shows are now booking - on-line

> at: www.sharubrookmilltheatre.co.uk

All shows then at Box Offices from 5 weeks before First Night:

BEDFORD CENTRAL BOX OFFICE\*

'No 13 The Com Exchange', St Paul's Sq. <u>718004</u>
NB new address & phone number (\*booking fee payable)

SHARNBROOK POST OFFICE® (IN PERSON) (Whilst closure has been confirmed, once the date is announced when Post Office® services will transfer to NISA / Sharnbrook News, then Twinkie, Twinkie Boutique, 67 High St., Sharnbrook will succeed Sharnbrook PO as Box Office for "The Mill" (in person).

PARTIES: (10+ 10% disc) exc. Charity /Gala performances. Please phone Alison Bean: 781 372,



Saturday 11th July 2015



# Superheroes and Princesses

The Carnival kicks off with a procession through the village from 12.00pm arriving at the ORA field (off Church Lane). Come along and enjoy a fun packed

afternoon

Craft Stalls

Licensed Bar

Cream Teas

Arena show

**Animal Encounters** 

Live Music

**Bouncy Castles** 

Best dressed

Games stalls

Funfair

Princess/Superhero

Tug of War

BBQ

Dog Show (with Canine Partners)

Bird of Prey

All proceeds raised are given back to groups within the local community.



To take part in your village carnival as an individual, organisation or business, to volunteer or to book a stall, email us at <a href="mailto:oakleycarnival@gmail.com">oakleycarnival@gmail.com</a>. We look forward to hearing from you.



Come when you like, leave when you like!

Family activities

Fun

Craft

Drama

# Carnival Café Church

Music & 10am - noon Sunday 12th July

Oakley Methodist Church, High Street

singing

Friendship

Space to be yourself

FREE think

Continental breakfast available throughout FREE

Bacon Butties <u>served</u> 10.50–11.20am







Working Together ... Serving Others ... Growing in Love

#### Summary of Accounts - Financial Year ending 31 March 2015 Opening Bank Balances **Payments** Natwest current account £13,053.95 £ NatWest reserve account £3,021.90 £31,106.10 Administration (includes training & legal fees for transfer of The Furlona) NatWest bonus account £71.117.19 Insurance £1.612.39 NatWest Treasurer's Account £140,000.00 Grass Cutting £5,779.96 Total £255,277,24 Grounds Maintenance (includes tree works) £2,420.00 Wages, Tax, National Insurance, Clerk's Expenses £14,221.22 £7,000.00 Receipts S. 137 Payments (grants to local organisations) £ Capital Spending (bus shelter, boules, No Cold Calling stickers) £4,383.00 Precept £50,100.00 Cricket Field & Riverside (rent) £1,484.00 £1.171.33 Allotments £1,107.24 Agency Services (Grasscutting - Bedford BC) £890.71 Bottlebank £944.00 Allotments (rent.) Glass cullet sale from Bottlebank £1.644.31 Community Orchard £0.00 Christmas tree & lights £3,613.99 Grants (Neighbourhood Plan) £6,300.00 Interest £816.37 Linch Furlong £1,195.00 £3,022.50 Newsletter & Directory advertisements and sponsorship Maintenance (bedding plants & Willow Vale track) £561.16 S. 106 receipts £1,598.11 £0.00 Neighbourhood Plan VAT recovered from 2013/14 £3,349.97 Play area (inspections & repairs) £996.95 £4,499.00 £54.75 Publicity (Newsletter, Directory, Website) Wayleave S. 106 payments £6,945.60 VAT refund due on above payments £3,932.65 Sub total £67,349.94 Sub total £65,316.17 Closing Bank Balances NatWest Bank current balance at 31/03/15 £8,198,82 NatWest Bank reserve balance at 31/03/15 £34,519.55 NatWest Bank bonus account 31/03/15 £215,075.64 less uncleared payments £483.00 Total cash in hand £257,311.01 Total £322,627.18 £322,627.18 £113,500 plus £16,000 interest of the total cash in hand figure is ring fenced for maintenance of The Furlong open space and £3,259.90 for maintenance of the High Street bus shelter.

OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

RATED PEOPLE APPROVED The Oakley Handyman

RATED PEOPLE REVIEWED

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> Call: 07460013707 Email: tonysterne@yahoo.co.uk Facebook: The Oakley Handyman

#### A letter from Revd Linda

The well known prayer of St. Ignatius .. Teach us good Lord to serve Thee as Thou deserves ... ends with 'labour and not ask for any reward save that of knowing that we do Thy will'.

I had that prayer very much in mind when the results of the elections were announced in May. Many who had served our country long and faithfully were swept out of office by the electorate and three politicians resigned. One has since been invited back by his party.

We may regret that national party politics influences the way we vote locally, but it doesn't seem to be realistic to expect to keep politics out of local government. Priorities are influenced by political stance. Candidates need collective sponsorship which only Parties can supply.

So we congratulate those who have been elected and we look forward to their service of needs and interests, assuring them of our prayerful support. We also commiserate with those who have laboured and found in the end no other reward than knowing that they have done their best which, if it doesn't sound too pretentious, is tantamount for them to have done God's will as they saw it. At least that will be true for those whose Christian faith motivated and strengthened their public service.

It is easy to be cynical about those who take on public office. In the end there is nothing vainglorious to be gained by it. It is the regular grind of meetings, the endless reading of documents, the criticism and the burden of decision making and responsibility!

The same goes for much of the work in the church. We might take stock of how much we are prepared to do without seeking recognition, thanks or reward. It is only human to want to be appreciated and to know that we are valued for what we do. Our faith tells us that we should do it, and go on doing it ... appreciated or recognized or not. That is why it is important to say thank you! After all the central symbol and icon of our faith is the rejected body hanging on a cross of a man who gave everything he had to give for the love and the good of others. Content in the knowledge that he had done his Father's will he could cry triumphantly, 'it is accomplished'. It is a high standard to set ourselves. Thank God that we wish to uphold the standard of worship in our churches. Worship that is meaningful and conducted with dignity, to bring others to know and live God's love; that they may be brought into a relationship with the living God and with others as we seek to do His will.



Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that we do your will. Amen.

Saint Ignatius of Loyola

# How about a unique holiday in Spain?

Just go to - <u>www.holiday-costabrava-</u> <u>spain.co.uk</u>

Or 01234 826119 or <a href="mailto:gjfollett@yahoo.co.uk">gjfollett@yahoo.co.uk</a>

Our house, Tresviso, is available all year and sleeps 4. It's fully serviced including meet and greet, towels, bed linen, and there's a large swimming pool too.

The area is truly beautiful – and consists of a host of little coves – each with its own character, and all ideal for a quick dip or a spot of snorkelling in crystal clear water, or just lazing.

The nearest cove, Sa Tuna, is just 800m away.

The coastal and inland paths, woods and farmland are ideal for nature lovers and walkers, and the superb Aiguamols Bird Reserve is within easy reach, as are several golf courses.

Barcelona is only 1½ hours away by train and historic Gerona is 40 mins away.

You can get cheap flights from Luton direct to Gerona airport.

#### Oakley Pre-school news



Summer term is now in full swing and we have been enjoying the milder weather. The children have enjoyed enhancing their outdoor environment by planting a sensory garden to include brightly coloured and scented flowers, herbs with different textured leaves and delicious fragrances.

We started the term looking at recycling and being 'Earth Smart.' The children made some fantastically useful objects out of recycled materials. To tie in with the recycling theme we collected unwanted clothes and recycled them, raising £30 towards our extension appeal. We also held a 'Toy Amnesty,' where the children brought in unwanted toys to sell at a later date. Our message has been: REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE!

Our chickens are thriving and laying eggs regularly. We have been discussing growing and learning about the different life cycles of various animals. We are looking after caterpillars and the children are observing them excitedly to watch them turn into butterflies! As part of the children's learning, and also to raise funds, we held a dog show in the field behind pre-school at the weekend. It was sponsored by Acorn House Veterinary Surgery and organised by one of our Mums. The show was very well attended and we had a stall selling the toys that we had collected during our recycling week. There was also a cake stall, a raffle, jewellery and craft stalls, a bouncy castle and an ice cream van. We raised a total of £617! Thank you very much to all who came to support us and to Patrick Knight for the use of the field.

Our next events are:

Sponsored Toddle & Barbecue at pre-school on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June, 11am-1pm;

Bacon Butty morning at pre-school Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September, 10am-12pm;

Bingo Night at the Village Hall Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September, time TBC.

Look out for more details of these events on the village notice boards and do come and support us, if you can.

Twenty nine children will be leaving us in July to go to school. We work closely with the Lower School to ensure that this transition is a



positive experience for the children. Before they leave we will go on our annual park and river walks and hold a leaver's celebration concert in the Methodist Church.

#### **Admissions**

If you would like to register your child for a place at pre-school, please contact us on 01234 826452 or by email: (NB we have a new email address) <a href="mailto:grow@oakleypreschool.org.uk">grow@oakleypreschool.org.uk</a>

Our website is currently being redesigned, but our Facebook page is updated regularly. For information on funding you can contact the Family Information Service 0800 023 2057

Sally Martiello



## **BLACK AND WHITE REVIVAL**

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Darkroom printing: Hand Colouring

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Old Photographs of Bedfordshire c1910



Helen Dawkins LRPS 01234 782265

www.blackandwhiterevival.co.uk

# Oakley's Own Coffee Shop



Coffee, Tea, Chocolate, Cold Drinks
Hot Food, Cold Food
Breakfast, Lunch, Morning/Afternoon Tea

All Food made on the Premises!

Open 7 Days a Week

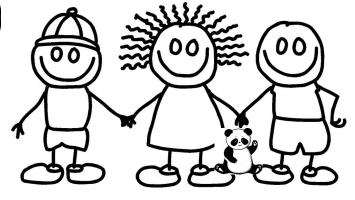
Oakley Park, Station Road, Oakley - Phone 01234 824113

# Oakley Neighbourhood Watch



# How to avoid becoming a victim of a telephone scam.

- Stop and think. If something sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
- Do not give personal or financial information or pin numbers to anyone, however plausible they might sound and even if they claim to represent a business or organisation you have heard of, or where an approach is personalised. Genuine businesses or organisations will never telephone you and ask you for personal or financial information.
- If you suspect a call is bogus, speak to family or friends or the Citizens Advice Service and seek advice.
- Register with the Telephone Preference Service. This is a free service where you can register your preference not to receive unsolicited sales and marketing calls, although it may not stop overseas calls. You can register on 0845 070 0707 or online.
- You can arrange with your telecoms provider to reject anonymous calls to your telephone or look to buy a call blocker. Ask your telephone provider to set up call screening on your telephone so that you know who is calling your number before you decide to answer it. If the number is withheld it will be displayed as 'number withheld'
- Be cautious and if in doubt, hang up.



## **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.

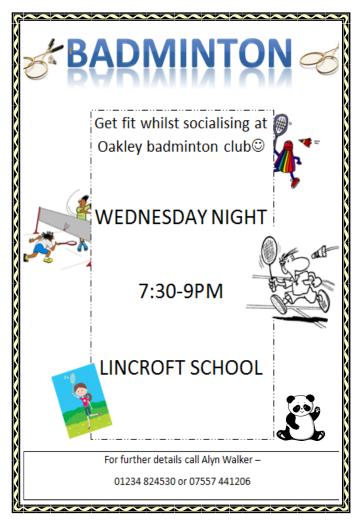
Anyone interested in volunteering to help run the group please contact us at <a href="mailto:oakleytoddlers@hotmail.co.uk">oakleytoddlers@hotmail.co.uk</a> or drop in to meet us and see what is involved!

# Nigel L. <u>Wille</u> Plumbing & Heating Engineer



Boiler replacements
Full central heating installation
Bathroom suites
Radiator replacement
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All domestic plumbing and
heating work undertaken

92 Lincroft, Oakley, Bedford, MK43 7SS Phone (01234) 822962 Mobile 07778 800595







# 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 <a href="mailto:scockings@btinternet.com">scockings@btinternet.com</a> or call 07730 979482 to volunteer your support.

Thanks. Sam Cockings, Youth Leader.

#### **Oakley Diamonds**



Oakley Diamonds Netball Team are coming to the end of their season. It has been a mixed season. After having a successful first part of the season and being 1<sup>st</sup> in the league since Christmas we have now unfortunately slipped to 4<sup>th</sup> place due to loosing a couple of great players and suffering some injuries.

We are lucky we have always had a big squad and, even though we have lost a few players this season due to injury and commitments, we have welcomed lots of new players. We are enjoying settling them in to Oakley Diamonds and strengthening our side.

Over the season we have won 11, drawn 2 and lost 6 matches with one match left to play until the end of our season.

We are continuing to train throughout the summer using the facilities at Oakley Sports & Social Club on Tuesday nights. The new season

will start again in September when we will be hoping to win the league next year and gain promotion to the next division.

We are looking forward to the Carnival this year as Oakley Diamonds will be on Tea Duty, doing our bit as they say and raising some money to help towards costs. Do remember to pop in for a cuppa and cake and say Hi. We are also, in conjunction with OSSC Committee, looking at funding/sponsorship to improve the Tennis Court to an all-weather pitch. That would mean we can also play netball outside in the winter months as well as it being available for other sports that may be of interest to the village. So if there are any businesses out there that would like to help then please get in contact with me. We need all the support and donations we can get to keep sport in this village at its best for all ages.

A big **Thank You** all our Diamond players for their contribution and commitment to our lovely team. Finally, I would also like to extend our thanks for the support of our families, hubbies, babysitters, etc and of course to our little mascots, especially on those cold nights, you are superstars.

Here's to next season, enjoy the summer and your rest.

Kind regards Dawn, Ali, Steph, Cheryl, Clare, Emma Oakley Diamonds Netball Committee

Contact - Dawn Pither 01234 823565



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Oakley Park, Station Rd., Oakley, Beds. Mk43 7RB 01234 824983 – info@tudorrosepatchwork.co.uk

Shop On Line at:

http://www.tudorrosepatchwork.co.uk



#### Locals with Interesting Lives — John Burnett, Professional Inventor

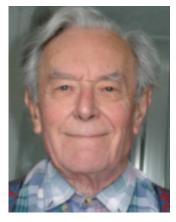
"Oh are you THE JOHN BURNETT" said a physiotherapist consulting with John through Remap "it is like meeting the Queen!" – this was an anecdote I received from John who had been surprised to find out that he was famous. I approached John to be our "Local with an Interesting Life" this time because he had listed himself in the Oakley Village Directory as a Professional Inventor.

Most of us with sheds and garages like to tinker but it turns out that an Inventor needs several workshops; one for carving/woodwork, another for mechanical engineering and another for fabric work. I was relieved to hear he did not always find items carefully stored for future use either.

John did not set out to be an inventor. He started off as a Gunnery Officer in the Royal Navy where his career saw him become an Executive Officer of the frigate HMS Meon, Squadron Gunnery Officer for the Persian Gulf and finally Training Officer at the Naval Gunnery School. After 25 years he decided he was in the wrong job and he left to find a new more rewarding, whilst still remunerative, challenge. A vocational aptitude test confirmed that he had established abilities in both the Arts and Mechanics, in other words he was an Inventor, but that he was to avoid the Law as he found rule books restrictive.

He joined the Dickinson Robinson Group where he undertook Work Study and Method Study analysis for members of the group. One such project was to set up a Training Facility for Sellotape which he thoroughly enjoyed. He left Sellotape and went to a Training Board to assist with Small Firm Development. Here he helped companies to discover for themselves how to be successful – telling them had proven to be less effective.

How did he become famous? One day he was approached by a physiotherapist at a handicapped School who said I hear you are an Inventor. He was relieved to hear that his potential was finally being realised. The physiotherapist confirmed they had a student who was going to Disneyland in America who was physically handicapped and needed to be able to sit securely in a variety of seats across his travels. John was able to come up with a support that remoulds itself from seat to seat using a bean bag combined with a vacuum motor. The students trip proved a success.





The product (pictured) is one of 32 that have earned him his "fame" – the Burnett Body Supports.

After solving this challenge problems started pouring in from around the world and John ended up creating a company which built and sold such devices keeping him occupied for the next 20 years.

John was also keen to point out that whilst he invents during the summer he prefers to be an author during the winter months. Since the age of ten John has investigated palmistry, the nature of consciousness, motivation, hypnosis and quantum metaphysics. His voyage of discovery has taken him through an involvement with many Religions from Baptist to Kabala, from the writings of many philosophers to the freedom provided by meditation. His musings and online debates with modern philosophers have led him to collect his thoughts into his own book which is currently with a publishing house to see whether they are willing to put him into print!

What is keeping John challenged at the moment? Well he has all the parts ready to try out a new approach to a hydroponic garden. He also showed me the parts of a prototype chair that would address the smaller living spaces that builders are creating in modern housing. That in turn will be joined by a new approach to a table which provides a coffee table in one mode but evolves into a dining table. At the same time he is pondering on storage units that can be decorated by all the family – and then changed – and changed again. John has the energy and enthusiasm of a twenty year old but assured me he was nearly ninety – which just goes to show you, you are only as old as you feel.

Bill Chalker, Editor

**Editors Note** - "Locals with Interesting Lives" if you have someone you would like to nominate please let me know at bill@chalker.uk.net



# What a wonderful season for AFC Oakley Mini Soccer!

The mini soccer age range is from U6s to U10s. In the Under 6s the team had outstanding support from coaches who are new to AFC Oakley. The U6s are a very lively group who have been learning basic skills of the game and, most importantly, having great fun!

The Under 7s have developed very well indeed. They have played several friendly matches and clearly displayed some of the outstanding skills which the players have learnt.

It has been the very first year entering a noncompetitive league for the U8s. This is the year that players put into practice the skills they have learnt as part of AFC Oakley. The team won the Cranfield Fair Play Cup at the end of last season and have carried on their outstanding performances throughout the season this year. The U9s have seen several families realising that AFC Oakley are a great football club and their numbers have grown dramatically. The teams have done very well in the league and there are some superstars of the future here!

At the end of last season the U10s won the Fair Play Trophy at a regional tournament whilst on tour. The club has a strong ethos of fair play and skill development and this is embodied by the U10s who give younger players something to aspire to.

AFC Oakley would like to put on record our sincere thanks to Oakley Parish Council who helped us by funding new goals posts and training kit. Also our thanks to M&DH insurance services for supplying kit for the teams. The children look great. We also extend our thanks to Mick, Barbara and the team at Oakley Sports and Social club for supporting the club in many ways.

Finally we would like to thank all of our players, families and of course our superb coaches and managers for everyone's commitment and continued support. We really appreciate it and love what we do.

All the best and have a Great Summer!

Colin Foster & the AFC Committee

PS: We will be starting our new season in September so if anyone is interested in joining the club please email afcoakleymdh@gmail.com or call 07766 206583.

# Uncomfortable with letting strange people into your home?

We are an all-female team of interior painters and decorators, working in the north beds village area. Fully experienced in hanging wallpaper, painting – including paint effects, restoring and repairing surfaces, wallpaper stripping and all general home decorating. We are all individually CRB checked, will provide references and individually CRB checked, will provide references and individually showing the standard of our workmanship testimonials showing the standard of our workmanship giving you peace of mind. We will come to your home to giving you peace of mind. We will come to your home to discuss your exact requirement, offer advice and produce a free written specification and quotation. We will then arrive on time, keeping disturbance to the minimum and deliver a quality job using only top quality materials.



- Trustworthy
- Experienced
- Guaranteed work
- Peace of mind
- High quality work at a reasonable price

Phone: 07989 778345 or: 01234 822499





#### **OAKLEY WI**

Our meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7.30pm at Oakley Village Hall.

Over the next few months we have these evenings planned.

#### **TUESDAY 9th JUNE 2015**

Sue Mitchell will be visiting with a selection of birds of prey. Here we will be able to learn a bit more about raptors and to see them at close quarters. This is to be a meeting open to everybody, with a £4.00 charge for non members, to include tea, coffee and biscuits.

#### TUESDAY 14th JULY 2015

We have a talk from Chris Bylett about his 35 years as a professional entertainer. Among his other talents Chris is a ventriloquist and magician. His talk is entitled "A man who is paid to talk to himself."

#### TUESDAY 8th SEPTEMBER 2015

Local businesswoman, Hazel Kaye will be describing her career so far, followed by a makeup demonstration and some top tips!

Coach trips to places of interest, theatre and cinema visits are also arranged throughout the year. For further information check the village notice boards or telephone 822577 or 823788. Visitors are very welcome.

Anne McNab



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# Browns Wood and Judges Spinney Friends Group

If you would like to more information on upcoming tasks, the Friends Group, or have any comments you wish to make, please contact us at:

prioryrangers@bedford.gov.uk 01234 211182 or ed.burnett@bedford.gov.uk 01234 228759

Jane Moore,

Country Park Ranger, Bedford Borough Council

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(Main hall is air conditioned) Separate meeting room with bar

Well equipped kitchen

For information and bookings please telephone 07788 796996



#### **Oakley Gardening Club**

We meet in the Methodist Church Hall on the third Monday in the month at 7.45 pm, to which visitors would be warmly welcomed

#### **Summer Programme:**

In June a days outing to Savill Gardens in Surrey

An evening visit to members' gardens in Oakley with refreshments

In July an evening visit to Flaxbourne Farm at Aspley Guise.



If you are interested in becoming a member of our Club or need further information please contact Audrey Mehew, tel: 01234 823380.

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As this year is the 10th anniversary of the founding of Oakley Motorcycle Club, we are planning an anniversary **Family Fun Day** at Oakley Sports & Social Club on **Sunday 9th August.** There will be a ride out, BBQ, bouncy castles and a band. A company called "Superbrands" will be selling end of line Airline stock, basically what you can buy duty free from Airline magazines. They sell most brands at usually less than half the manufacturers RRP. This includes beauty products, perfumes, watches, jewellery and aftershaves.

The day is still taking shape so watch this space. ALL ARE WELCOME.

Also planned for **Thursday 18th June** is a **drag bike, drag car and hot rod evening**, weather permitting. Some of these will be fired up. So why not bring the kids down and make an evening of it? Again ALL ARE WELCOME.

On the evening of **Thursday 23rd July**, Wollaston BMW will be in attendance with the latest BMW bikes available for test rides. They have promised to bring along one of their top BMW works riders!

Keep an eye on our website, website calendar, our Facebook group or the OSSC Facebook page for details.

As I always say, feel free to come along, bring the kids and have a look at the vast array of motorbikes in attendance on fine Thursday evenings.

Finally, if you are a fan of the BBC programme EAT WELL FOR LESS hosted by Greg Wallace, a new series starts in September and they asked if OMC would be part of one of their programmes. We had a camera crew at Oakley Club on Election day filming a blind taste testing session by OMC members! Yours truly even has a speaking part! Keep your eyes peeled.

Hope to see you at Oakley Sports & Social Club one Thursday

Baysie Roger Bays Chair - OMC





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## Hairdressing

We are a Wella premier salon with excellent, well trained stylists, technicians and hair-up specialists. NEW to the salon is the latest GHD collection. Beautiful voluminous hair sometimes seems to be unreachable, but not with Balmain hair extensions! Adding hair is the look of the future.

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## Oakley Sports & Social Club

#### Family & Sports Bar

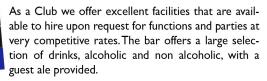
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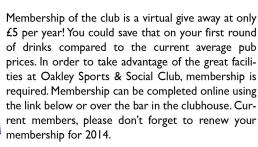


We offer a very friendly, relaxing environment for you and your family to enjoy with fantastic facilities and extremely competitive prices. We're proud to be a family-orientated club. We are equipped with an outdoor play area, baby changing facilities, high chair, confectionary and soft drinks suitable for all ages! Why not pop down and see for yourself?

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.













# **WAKLEY CARNIVAL**

#### Oakley Carnival - 11th July

As per previous years, Oakley Sports & Social Club will be hosting Oakley Carnival. Details about the day can be found on the Oakley Carnival website at http://www.oakleycarnival.moonfruit.com/



#### Celebrate ten years of OMC

This year, Oakley Motorcycle Club celebrates its tenth year. To mark this occassion, they will be hosting a fun day at Oakley Sports & Social Club on Sunday 9th August with a ride out, BBQ, bouncy castles, band and a company called "Superbrands" who will be selling end of line Airline stock. Basically what you can buy duty free from Airline magazines they sell most brands at usually less than half the manufacturers RRP, this includes beauty products, perfumes, watches, jewellery and aftershaves. The day is still taking shape so watch this space. ALL ARE WELCOME.

#### **New Facebook Page Launched**

Check it out - https://facebook.com/oakley.ssc

#### 2015 Membership Renewal

As of the 1st January 2015, all memberships are up for renewal.

Prices remain at £5/adult and £3/child (under 18)

Renew at the clubhouse or online

## **OSSC** Kitchen

Download the full menus from our website

#### Thursday's

6pm - 9pm Full Menu

#### Friday's

5pm - 8pm Pizza Night

#### Saturday's

4pm - 6pm Full Menu





info@oakleyssc.com

http://oakleyssc.com

