



THE VILLAGE VOICE



THE NEWSLETTER OF ONSLOW VILLAGE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION - ISSUE THIRTY SEVEN JULY 2014

OVRA IS 94 THIS YEAR AND SENDS CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEIGHBOURS.....

THE GUILDFORD COUNTY SCHOOL IN ITS 100th YEAR AND SAFEGUARD COACHES CELEBRATING 90 YEARS.

The Fetes and the Picnic

This year we were pleased to be able to support and contribute to a number of events around the Village and to improve our community ties with a significant number of groups and organisations in the neighbourhood. Pictured are the OVRA stand at the All Saints Church Fete, the Queen Eleanor's School Fete, the County School Centennial Fete and our Recreation Grounds on our picnic day.

We organised a Village Picnic preceded by a week long display in Williams Shop window. The weather did not co-operate on the day but those attending enjoyed our OVRA stands, the Tennis Club's open day, the scout H.Q., the new village W.I. with their book swap and the GEDFAS (Guildford Evening Decorative and Fine Arts Society) display. A number joined GBC's Phil Truluck on an Arboretum tour and Richard Musgrove (our Community Warden) organised events for the younger visitors. Our thanks to them and all those involved.

Unlike all the other village organisations, OVRA does not have a 'specific interest'. However, it is one of the keys to what sets Onslow Village apart as a place to live; it's an ingredient in the mortar that holds the community together. Therefore it is important that we continually re-enforce our ties with as many of the other groups in the area as we can and where possible act as a link between them. If you can spare a bit of time and energy to help, please let us know or assist in the work of some of the other groups in the Village who may need your support.

There is an earnest desire within OVRA and many other groups to see younger members of the Village getting involved in Village life. After all 'community involvement' looks good on a CV.

Our Questionnaire is enclosed with this Village Voice
Please let us know your views on OVRA.
The questionnaire is also on the OVRA Website.

OVRA has been OUT and ABOUT at Fetes, Williams Window and the Picnic



School Holiday - Summer Fun

Josephine Rabbit needs your help with a 'Hide and Seek' game on the OVRA website. There is also a little riddle to solve involving the names of her 4 sisters. See her message on the Home page of the website.



What can a Village Hall tell us?

If you haven't been into the Halls for a while some of the changes will be surprising. If you've never been into the Halls then come to an event there.

In 1984 the Onslow Village Community saved their Hall from demolition by staging a major campaign. The Hall is now a centre of Village life hosting so many events, clubs and activities it's often difficult to find gaps in the programme for maintenance and improvement work. However, in the past 6 months time was found to level the area at the back of the Main Hall providing a 'garden' area for users. It's thanks to the generation 30 years ago that we have this facility. I like to think that the Village is still capable of such concerted effort if it were needed today.



The 1984 campaign

Our Arboretum and Formula One racing

OVRA has cleaned up the Arboretum notice board and added a sign for visitors to help them find the memorial tree for Mike Hawthorn. He was the UK's first Formula One World Champion driver when he won in 1958. The tree is close to the A3 where, in 1959 Mike Hawthorn died in a car crash. The tree is a 'Quickthorn' and was planted by friends and fans in 1999. Mike Hawthorn was known as the Farnham Flyer.

Hawthorn driving his Ferrari at the 1958 Argentine Grand Prix



Picture taken in May 2014 with the memorial tree in the right foreground

Are you concerned about local issues like traffic & access to services?

THEN GET INVOLVED

YOUR LOCAL PLAN IS A NATIONAL COMMITMENT
The Draft GBC Local Plan is open to consultation with YOU.

Key points are :

**652 per year
(EVERY YEAR)**

The GBC target for new dwellings to 2031

(Compared to Elmbridge target of 225, Woking 292, and Epsom & Tandridge 181 - all agreed before March 2012)

2031

The year the planned period ends

22nd September 2014

Consultation period with YOU ends

For more information see the OVRA website, GBC, the Onslow Ward Councillors Adrian Chandler (Conservative), Steve Freeman and Tony Phillips (Liberal Democrat) and M.P. Anne Milton (Conservative)

Let GBC know your views by commenting on the plan and completing an online questionnaire at <https://getinvolved.guildford.gov.uk> making comments about the plan by email to localplan@guildford.gov.uk completing a paper questionnaire or writing to the Planning Policy Team, Guildford Borough Council, Millmead House, Millmead, Guildford, Surrey GU2 4BB

OVRA is affiliated to the Guildford Residents Association (GRA)

There will be a **REFERENDUM to change GBC** from an Executive system back to a Committee system if just 5243 registered voters sign the petition. Read about it, print out a copy of the petition and get voters to sign it if you agree. Print it from the OVRA Website Referendum page.

Recent Events at OVRA

13th May - A Policeman's Lot We were given a treat when Neil Sadler came to talk about his 30 years in the Police Force. It was a life that was sometimes hazardous but always interesting. Neil was a humorous speaker and told us of the changes he had seen since he joined the police force in the 70s and how his daughter was facing similar situations now but with very different equipment and different problems. He had been part of the police force guarding the Grand Hotel in Brighton. Although he was not present at the actual bombing he was there very soon afterwards and showed the audience pictures of the aftermath, with serious damage to the building and he described the dramatic effect on people and the loss of life. His service number was 006 and he regaled us with thoughts about the change to his career if he had picked up the next number! To his utter amazement his daughter was also allocated 006 (a near miss for Jane Bond?).

10th June - Safeguard Coaches - The First 90 Years - Although he lives in the Village, Andrew Halliday the M.D. of Safeguard Coaches Ltd arrived in style in one of their new coaches. This was open for inspection all evening outside the Hall. Jim Taylor, also from the village and who runs The Little Beer Corporation provided bottles of 'Safeguard 90' beer for sale. Andrews presentation started with their 90th Year Open Day held in March which raised about £5500 for charity. He then explained the 1924 origins of this local family business and its history going from brickyard and coal depot to the Safeguard garage of today and from the first converted Daimler lorry to today's modern coach and bus fleet. Andrew described the development of the company, the generations of family owners, it's routes and the nature of competition, regulation and provision of this vital public service in Guildford down the years. With many illustrations, examples and the descriptions of amusing incidents the presentation was as lively as it was informative. Andrew declared the company to be in good shape and confidently heading for it's centenary celebrations with 'The First 90 Years' now in the garage!

8th July - Winkworth Arboretum - there is more to it than meets the eye. Members and friends who attended this meeting enjoyed an entertaining talk by Susan Fryer from the National Trust followed by questions and answers on a wide range of related subjects. She gave a summary of the history of Winkworth from its origins as part of the Thorncombe estate, owned by the Fisher-Rowe family, then by Beatrice Lillie and then Dr Wilfred Fox who had a day job as a consultant physician. He lived in the adjacent Winkworth Farm and acquired a parcel of land to preserve the landscape he had come to enjoy. His objective was to assemble a large scale collection of trees and shrubs in a semi natural setting. The arboretum and some adjacent land were acquired by the national Trust in 1952. She described the beautiful spring scenery of cherry blossom, bluebells, magnolias and the Azalea Steps leading to the boat house with their magnificent scents and colours. There is much to enjoy at all seasons with collections of sorbus, hollies and rhododendron, and much more enhance by the lake, wetlands and boat house. She described autumn as spectacular with the changing colours of the foliage. The audience thanked Susan for a most enjoyable evening.

Forthcoming Events

The OVRA Tuesday Talks at the Village Hall

9th September **Charterhouse School**
The 400 years of Charterhouse history, including the school's move to Godalming and its links with the local community will be explained by Catherine Smith, the school's archivist.

11th November **The Weald and Downland Museum**
John Walsh, a long standing volunteer, will talk about the work of the museum and it many historic buildings.

13th January 2015 **24 Hour Trench Warfare**
Andy Robertshaw is a military historian with a national reputation for bringing the past to life. In this, the 100th year since the start of the WWI, Andy will graphically describe the day to day life in the Trenches between major engagements and explain the Trench system.

10th March **AGM followed by 'Help Us Help Them'**
Fiona Clements will describe the work and ethos behind the charity Mane Chance setup by Jenny Seagrove to rescue abandoned, abused and neglected horses and rehabilitate them

14th April **The Restoration of an Historic Wall at Guildford Castle**
The intricate process of restoring a Grade II listed wall of the Royal Castle and Palace will be described by Chris Shaw who is a Chartered Civil and Structural Engineer. How do you restore a leaning bowed wall that can not be demolished?

The OVRA Saturday Socials at the Village Hall

11th October 2014 "Supper with the Jazz Ensemble 'Apollo'".

7th March 2015 To be announced - but pen in the date on your calendar.

OVRA Membership

The whole household joins for just £5 per annum.

Free entry to our Tuesday talks is one of the benefits of OVRA membership. Others include quarterly delivery to you of your Village Voice, support to the OVRA website, organised events and representation on local issues. If you haven't joined or renewed membership this year you can visit the website at www.surreycommunity.info/ovra/join-the-association/, email ovramembsec@btinternet.com, phone 01483 562657 or visit The Chelsea Flower Shop in The Square.

Nita Morgan

15 February 1926 – 02 April 2014
A Personal Memory



In our last issue of the Village Voice I made a brief announcement of the very sad death of Nita Morgan. In this issue I wish to pay tribute to her life and work.

Nita's funeral service took place on Monday 14th April 2014 at All Saints Church in Onslow Village.

Nita and Andy had lived together in Onslow Village for more than 60 years. First in High View Road and then moving to Manor Way.

Over that period of years they made many friends, both through their careers and the many social activities in which they were both involved. Consequently, All Saints Church was overflowing with family, friends and acquaintances, wishing to pay their respects to Nita. All Saints Church has always played a large part in both their lives.

Nita and Andy's four grandchildren all paid moving tributes and eulogies, with Annie Cox giving a Bible reading.

Nita was born in the Wiltshire village of Donhead St. Andrew and after winning a scholarship to Salisbury High School went on to train as a teacher at the Diocesan College in Salisbury Cathedral. After graduating, she moved to London for her first teaching job.

It was whilst working in London that she and Andy met in 1947 and they were married in 1950, moving to Onslow Village, where they remained, happily married, for 64 years. We were both fortunate to be at both their Ruby and Diamond wedding celebrations.

Nita's teaching career involved working in Ludlow Road, St John's and Queen Eleanor's schools for 12 years and in 1973, when Onslow Infants' School opened, she transferred there and remained for 13 years until retiring.

Nita was an inspirational teacher, showing endless patience with all the children, especially those with learning difficulties. So many of the children who lived in the village would have been taught by her and be grateful for the patience, care and support and encouragement she gave.

So her teaching life was a full one and it continued after she retired when she gave private tuition. Nita was very much a hands on person and loved her career in teaching.

Nita and Andy's lives were blessed with two wonderful daughters who have always been a great joy to them along with their four grandchildren. Jane and Isobelle, together with their children have been a great support to both Andy and Nita in recent times. I know how proud Nita was of all of them. Nita's life was full in many respects, not only with work and family. I well remember their active involvement with The Curtain Raisers Amateur Dramatic Club, in a wide variety of productions.

Family holidays, socialising with friends, long time members of Puttenham Golf Club and latterly St Catherines and Shalford Flower Arranging Club as well as Guildford Ladies Luncheon Club as a member since 2000. These were just some of the activities from which Nita derived so much enjoyment. One only had to ask Nita if she would like to go to whatever function and the response was always a yes. She was living life to the full. Nita was, in every sense of the words, a people person. Warm, caring, loving and always asking about one's self and one's family first.

I, along with so many others, will miss her greatly.

Our thoughts and sincere sympathies continue to be with Andy and the family.

Angela Joule May 2014

Community Notice Board

THANK YOU

Marian de Kretser compiled and produced the Village Voice for many years. She is taking a well earned break but we thank her again for all the effort and time she devoted to the V.V. and OVRA.

Scouting for Scouts

The 5th Guildford Scout Group do not currently have a Scout Troop, however, they are looking at reopening one in the near future. If you have a child interested in Scouting, or would like to volunteer to support your Scout Troop then contact them at <http://5thguildford.ukscouts.org.uk/section/scouts/>



Dog owners - ANY BIN FOR POO!

GBC has been running a campaign supported by the Dogs Trust and Keep Britain Tidy. The campaign aims to raise awareness that dog owners should "bag that poo - any rubbish bin will do" as bagged dog mess can be put into litterbins as well as dog waste bins.



The Onslow Recyclers (Shredders) Group

This group was set up some years ago under the leadership of the OVRA secretary of the time - Lesley Goode. 4 heavy duty garden shredders were bought with a Council grant, and members (at a tenner a year) could borrow these in order to shred and compost their garden clippings etc.

From a membership of about 40, it has slipped somewhat following Lesley's move to Dorset, but there are still 3 working shredders at various addresses in the village and a healthy balance of funds.

Any OVRA members (or others) wishing to know more about this scheme should contact Anthony Jacques on 823765 or 07801 665318.

GBC Community Warden for Onslow and Merrow

Richard Musgrove holds this post. He is always keen to get feedback and find ways to offer support and advice. He produces a Newsletter that you can access at Wardens News from the OVRA website News page. His newsletters contain the latest advice on scams or problems in the area as well as local events such as those in aid of charities.

Contact Richard on 07876 578431 or email : Richard.Musgrove@guildford.gov.uk

If you have any comments, views or suggestions...

...including content for our website or ideas for future articles and talks, we'd love to hear from you. Please speak to a committee member at any of our events, write to The Village Voice, c/o 2 The Drive, Guildford GU2 70F or email esamgem@btinternet.com

