



WELCOME to our annual Village wide edition

OVRA held its 58th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

on Tuesday 10th March.

This meeting included a quick retrospective on last years activities followed by the re-election of all of the current committee members. The Treasurer, Secretary and the Event Secretary wish to relinquish their roles but stay on the committee. Joanne Jackson and Ian Locke who were co-opted committee members during last year were elected to the committee and Joanne was elected as the Secretary. We welcome them. Our thanks go to Sally Sparham for her four years diligent service in the post of OVRA Secretary. Anthony Jacques and Angela Joule agreed to 'hold the fort' until we find replacements for their key posts of Treasurer and Event Secretary.

A full list of your committee members is on the 2015-2016 annual Membership card and you can obtain one of these (if you haven't already) for a £5 membership fee.

Community work is rewarding and is a valuable addition to your CV.

Why not join the OVRA committee if you have fresh ideas - and especially if you represent the younger age group in the Village - and or have skills to help the Association. We are particularly in need of a Treasurer and an Event Secretary.

OVRA is its membership - it will not exist without you.

If you value your community then please ensure that it survives and remains more than a village of houses. OVRA is different - it is not a single interest club or exclusively a social group - it exists to serve Onslow Village.

2016 is the 60th year of OVRA and this event needs to be marked.
Please submit any related memories and suggestions for 2016.



Good Local Experiences - you can enjoy on the Rec.....

Football thrives on the Onslow Village Rec with two Clubs using it.....

The Onslow FC

If you take a walk over Onslow Rec on any Saturday morning between September and May you will see (and hear!) scores of children from **Onslow Football Club** as they train enthusiastically under the watchful eye of their coaches.

Formed in 1986, Onslow FC is a community football club which exists primarily for the development of youth football in Onslow Village. Running 12 teams this season from under 6's through to under 17's, Onslow FC currently have over 150 registered players, most of who live in the Village or attend our local schools.

The majority of Onslow FC teams play matches at Surrey Sports Park, home of the club's sponsor, or at Queen Eleanor's School, as the pitch and goal posts at the Rec can only accommodate 11 a side football, not the smaller sided formats of the game played by younger players.

Onslow FC's chairman Chris Woodhatch states "We are a family friendly club with a supportive ethos, which accommodates local children of all abilities. We are more focussed on getting children out into the fresh air, enjoying the game, working together as a team and having fun, than producing the next Frank Lampard or Wayne Rooney. As we approach our 30th birthday next year, the club is in good health, but we are always keen to welcome new players, particularly in our under 11's, 12's and under 13's age groups who will soon be moving up to 11-a side football. *

The Worplesdon Ranger FC - a key game match report...

On Sunday 15th February the 'Hurricanes' swept into Onslow Village largely unnoticed. Those residents close to the 'Rec' might of had a birds eye view of the spectacle and those further afield may of had their ears pricked. The recent commotion was nothing less than the under 16 team known as the 'Hurricanes'. This Surrey Primary League game was played at their regular home pitch (O.V. Rec) hosting Imber Court 'Juniors'; table topping fierce rivals of the Hurricanes.

The Hurricanes breezed through the first half trying to play a passing game on a pitch more akin to the 'aerial' approach. The Juniors were physical and organised but under pressure for large parts of the half. They found themselves 2 up after being gifted both goals from 2 yards out. The Hurricanes finished the half with a great passing move with a fine strike from their ever-present striker, D.Foster making it 1-2.

The second half saw the Hurricanes heading 'downhill' purely by virtue of the sloping pitch. The wind of change came after 60 minutes, an uncharacteristic attempt from outside the box saw S.Stone unleash a rasping drive from 25 yards low into the corner of the net and the match ended 2-2. Two contrasting styles from two good under 16 teams. *

.....and in the Arboretum.

OVRA have put up colourful posters* on the reverse side of the Arboretum Information Board. These display guidance and local history for visitors.

* If you can't get to the Rec or Arboretum details of the F.C.s and the Posters are available to view via links from the OVRA website...

<http://www.surreycommunity.info/ovra/activities-in-the-village/>



Doreen Bellerby

Doreen,

Thank you.

You will be missed.



A public memorial service will be held for the former Mayor of Guildford Doreen Bellerby on Thursday April 16 at Holy Trinity Church. The service will begin at 3.30pm and the family have asked for no flowers, but there will be a collection in aid of RNIB.



A Very Bad Local Experience - hopefully now resolved.....

The Hedgeway Drain Saga March 2012 to December 2014.

In March 2012, a major sewage leak flowed across our patio and down the steps into our garden creating a Pond of about 8 x 3 metres! It took about 3 days to subside. Eventually Thames Water arrived in the dark and had to return for the clean up over the next few days. We had to keep our cat in for three months, as the lawn had been disinfected.

A main drain inspection and works were completed and we all thought that the problem had been solved... No it had not!!

In April, May and June 2014, we had three more overflows of sewage in seven weeks! TW took CCTV of the drains and then the root cutter got stuck and had to be removed by a heavier piece of equipment! Malcolm the neighbour at the other end of the run of drains had also suffered sewage in his garden each time (this was novel way to meet neighbours). He and I were in continuous contact with TW. We could not sit out and enjoy our gardens.

Our local Councillor rang TW but nothing happened. Apparently local Councils now have no power over drainage problems. Another neighbour informed the school, as the "ponds" in our gardens were by the school playing field, only divided by hedges. In June I contacted our MP Anne Milton also mentioning the proximity of the playing field to the sewage. She and her office were a great help and they immediately contacted TW. In late July on ringing TW again I was told that no further work was needed! I contacted the MP office again and they swiftly replied that the problem had been escalated to the 'Highest Complaints Office'. Eventually TW lined 90 Metres of drain before Christmas.

O.V. houses were all built about the same time and hence, all their drains are of a similar age. If anyone else has a drainage problem, it may help them by knowing that the local MP will help.

Finally, this is not a plug for a particular Party, as I hope that any MP would help.

Thelma Cole

Election Plea - make yours before the 7th May

There are a number of 'lists' available to assist you and help you clarify what you think are the important national and local issues at this election. You can then test the candidates commitments on your issues before the election and hold them accountable when in office. For example....

The 'Surrey Advertiser' has published 6 'Election Demands' that you may consider important and that will influence your votes. These have been subject to a survey the Surrey Ad conducted. See www.getsurrey.co.uk.

The Guildford Residents Associations (GRA) are distributing their 'Election Plea' that reflects the collective aspirations of over 30 Residents' Associations and Parish Councils (including OVRA). This suggests a list of the 5 most important local issues. See www.guildfordresidents.co.uk or the link on the OVRA Website.

Whether you agree with what is published or form your own list - what is more important than these issues is that you...

have cast your votes when the polls close on the 7th May.

Recent Events at OVRA

For the OVRA Spring Social, **'Magic and Musicals'** on Saturday 7th March, the Village Hall was full and the refreshments served when Guildford's Performance Preparation Academy started their unique choreographed show of magic and songs wrapped around a story of sorcery. This 'Evening of Magic' blended ballads, chorus numbers, dance, acrobatics, magic tricks and drama into a powerful, complex and varied performance. Favourites and less well known numbers from the musicals were accompanied on the piano and with music tracks and these were delivered with energy, style and conviction by the cast from the PPA. Thanks go to the cast, their creative team and accompanist for putting on such a professional and enjoyable show. Thanks also go to the generosity of those attending as a significant contribution was made to the PPA Student Hardship Fund.

We are also grateful to Williams Newsagents and the Wilderness Cafe for their support in advertising and ticket sales and to all the many other helpers who make these events possible.

Following the OVRA AGM, Sarajane Bartlett a volunteer from **'Mane Chance Sanctuary'** gave a moving and informative presentation to the OVRA members and guests at Onslow Village Hall on 10th March. Titled 'Help us to Help Them' this talk covered the formation in September 2011 of this local charity and its facilities in Compton that provide long term care for abused, ill and abandoned horses. Illustrating the success of the care regime developed by the sanctuary, the case histories of a number of the horses were highlighted showing their return to health, wellbeing and trust of their human carers. Sparked by the demise of another sanctuary caring for 33 horses, a cow, two sheep a goat along with some other 'fur and feather' animals, Jenny Seagrove set up Mane Chance and since then some of the original animals have been re-homed and the facilities for the horses and the site have been rapidly improved. In conjunction with local children's charities such as Chase, Mane Chance has developed a safe therapeutic environment for the horses and children to interact with incredible benefits to both. This was illustrated with a series of very moving photographs. The sanctuary aims to extend this area of its work and eventually be able to look after more horses and provide further opportunities for other children and hopefully war veterans to gain from this rewarding interactive experience. They are always looking for volunteers to help with the general day to day care of the horses as well as in other areas. It is also possible to visit the sanctuary by prior arrangement to experience this unique place for yourselves. To conclude, those present at the talk were shown a heart-warming DVD of the horses and their interaction with both adults and the children.



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Garden Club Report.

At our January meeting we were able to use, for the first time, the hall's new screen and projecting equipment. So we could see to advantage the excellent pictures illustrating 'winter in the garden', a talk given by Mr Steve Bradley. In February we had a lively talk by Mrs Sue Johnson on the Grace and Flavour Community Gardens at West Horsley. Establishing these gardens was a great project organised and carried out by villagers. We have arranged to visit them on the morning of 6th May.

Also in May, on 9th, we will be holding our 10th annual Table Top Sale at the Village Hall. The Garden Club will be selling plants, cakes, books, jig-saws and bric-a-brac. Other stalls will be displaying a wide variety of wares. If you would like to run a stall or have any queries please phone Mrs Anne Bradbeer on 563421. Refreshments will be available, and the hall will be open from 9-30 am to 12-30.

The Spring Show took place at the March meeting. There was a bright and fragrant display of Spring flowers in the Johns Hall. Several classes were for daffodils, but small bulbs and corms, primulas, hellebores, pot plants and floral art all had their place. Most gardens were flowering a week or two later than usual this year, but we still had over ninety entries, some from new members. While judging was in progress, Mr John Baker, noted mainly for his hosta collection, took us around Ireland 'In the steps of St Patrick'. Mr Brian Deaville gave us a few tips on showing, exhibits were viewed, refreshments taken and awards presented.

All our Club nights begin at 7-30 on the third Wednesday of the month. You are welcome to come as visitors (£2) or as a member for £12 p a.

The meeting on 15th April will be addressed by Mr Chris Stewart on the subject of earth worms.

We have an interesting and varied programme on subjects on many aspects of gardens, plants and landscapes at home and abroad. There is a sales table raffle and refreshments during the break.

We are a friendly group, and we hope you will feel like joining us. Enquiries 577035

OVRA Postcards



There are three different card designs.

40p each or 3 for £1.

They are on sale at our events or they can be provided if you contact us.

Note : We still intend to publish an updated "Our Village" booklet that has been out of print for a few years. We are also trying to obtain further copies of "The Story of Onslow Village" the booklet produced by Helen Chapman Davies.

Forthcoming Events

60
Look out for
1956-2016



The OVRA Tuesday Talks at the Village Hall

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 cannot be demolished?

12h May **The Mary Rose**, its' sinking, raising, conservation and artifacts presented by Trevor Sapey, who will be in period costume. Hear the story behind the exciting, new £27 million Mary Rose Museum which opened its doors to visitors in 2013 and demonstrates innovation and imagination in the presentation of the Ship's Hull and its associated objects.

9th June **The History of Town Crying** by Guildford's Town Crier and Beadle David Peters who is the 4th generation of his family to hold the post. He will be in period costume.

Further talks include : **Queen of the Sky - The history of Concorde and the Concorde at Brooklands**, An illustrated presentation by David Hughes, **The Cider Co-operative**. An illustrated presentation and demonstration by Nevin Stewart, **Winston Churchill's Toyshop**. A presentation by Gordon Rodgers. The untold story of the UK's premier WW2 weapons development and production station.

Keep your eye on the events calendar on 'our' OVRA website.

and other OVRA Social Events

Saturday 4th July **'OVRA Village Picnic on the Recreation Ground.**
We will order better weather for 2015!

Saturday 10th October **Autumn Evening Social** - watch out for details

Saturday 13th February **'Spring' Evening Social** - watch out for details

Community Notice Board

Welcome to **Gather Good Craft and Yarns** - the new shop in the The Square. Try their craft time for children at 10am every Saturday. Contact them on 07982 602156 or on the link from the OVRA website at Activities in the Village / Businesses.

Surrey Libraries want every resident to have access to their library, including those who have difficulty getting to a library due to ill health, disability, mobility problems or caring responsibilities, no matter what their age. Services include: **Library Direct Friends & Family** and **Library Direct Home Service**. Phone: 01483 543599 for details

Onslow Village Vets Open Day 29th May Noon to 3pm. Animal cuddling, face painting, cupcakes, teddy bandaging and pet care advice to name a few things! Photo competitions so bring your best pet snap.

The Repair Cafe 25 April 10:00 to 13:00 at The Furniture Link, Unit 4 Deaconsfield, Cathedral Hill, GU2 8YT, tel: 01483 506504. Various experts will be available to help you make all possible repairs free of charge.

Guildford Choral Society celebrates its 175th anniversary this year, culminating in a performance of Berlioz' "Te Deum" at the Royal Albert Hall on Wednesday, 3rd June 2015 at 7.30 p.m. Guildford Choral Society's Ticket Master on 01494 675571

Onslow Village Womens Institute ...meet on the first Wednesday evening of the month in the Village Hall. 2015 is the Centenary of the W.I. Federation. For more information contact the Local W.I. Federation Office on 01483 233230.

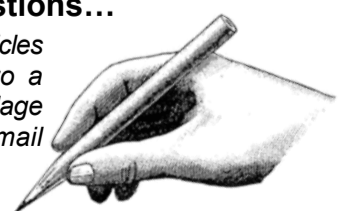
Guildford Evening Decorative and Fine Arts Society ...is a friendly, lively and welcoming group, who come together 10 times a year on the second Wednesday of the month primarily for illustrated lectures on the decorative and fine arts. Their link is on the OVRA website and they advertise their events on the notice boards.

Other important dates...

7th May 70th Commemoration of V.E. Day	20 th June Queen Eleanors School Fayre
16 th May Onslow Infant School Fete	27 th June Guildford host national Armed Forces Day
18 th June 200 years since the Battle of Waterloo	

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 7QF or email esamgem@btinternet.com



The COPY DATE for the Summer edition is 2nd July

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. The membership year started in April but you can join at any time. Visit the website at www.surreycommunity.info/ovra/join-the-association/, email ovramembsec@btinternet.com, phone 01483 562657 or 01483 571807.

or join at **The Wilderness Coffee Shop and Café in The Square.**