



## Blackwell Farm - Denial of Use?

Notices have been posted around the footpaths of Blackwell Farm stating "The general public have the landowner's permission to use this land for lawful purposes. That permission is revocable at any time. The landowner does not intend to dedicate the land as a town or village green."

You may well ask "what does this mean?" Well it is a legal means for the planning applicants Blackwell Developments (Guildford) Ltd to try and safeguard their development land, and prevent it becoming a prescribed right of way, common land or village green.

They are in effect requesting that we provide evidence that WE use this area : for example if you have lived here for 10 years and used it for 5 then we just need to prove it has been in constant use by any number of people covering a period of 20 years. There will need to be statutory declarations made to the council within the 12-month period so that they are then duty bound to investigate the claims to these rights.

How can you help? Do you have any pictures of memorable days when you used the land, or do you use it daily, weekly, monthly to walk the dog, stroll on Christmas morning with the kids or grand-children. Do you have memories of using the land with your own now grown children who could also make a declaration that they did so in the last 20 years or more or are you a member of a ramblers group who have organised walks in the area?

The objective is to prove that we have used this land for 20 years or more and if successful we can have it registered as a village green and try to prevent the development and resulting denial of access. (See also 'The University archaeological study' - below). If you have memories of this please get in touch with the Residents Association so we can come together and continue to use this land. This is a very important step that we as residents need to take action on, as the developer made this declaration on 10th July 2015 we have 12 months to fight against this. Once the 10th July 2016 passes it will be too late to do anything.

Howard Moss of the Residents Association will be coordinating this so please contact him via email: [onslowresidents@gmail.com](mailto:onslowresidents@gmail.com)



**The Local Plan, The SHMA, Save the Hogsback, The University and Blackwell Farm and the A3**

The Local Plan - a reminder : a fundamental review of the Guildford Borough draft Local Plan was called for just prior to the elections (which are a distant memory now). The planning has now resumed. Blackwell Farm is the largest new settlement area (265 hectares of green belt) being proposed in the Plan and has been earmarked for 2,250 homes .....  
..... but the University, which owns the site, is pushing for more than 3,000.

### The SHMA

The amount and type of housing needed across Guildford, Waverley and Woking for the period 2013 to 2033 is included in the final West Surrey Strategic Housing Market Assessment published on Friday, 2 October 2015.

The 'Save the Hogsback' group have updated their website. They are saying ...

"it is time to start serious fundraising. A barrister will be needed (with in-depth knowledge of the planning system) to represent local residents at the (draft) Local Plan Inspector's Inquiry. The cost will be in the region of £5-6k so we are now asking for donations. These can be made via the recently updated 'Save Hogs Back' website at [http://savehogsback.co.uk/?page\\_id=263](http://savehogsback.co.uk/?page_id=263) - just click on the "Donate" button. The University has spent thousands on consultants for their proposed development, but the 'Save the Hogsback' group are relying on the generosity of supporters in order to save this important green belt landscape."

The University..... have started by commissioning an archaeological study by 'Archaeology South East' on land at Blackwell Farm. It is a normal procedure to complete such a study as it is required for development.

The A3. Highways England is considering extra lanes between the A320 and the A31 - not starting before 2020 (that's a date not a road !)

## Where & When?



Probably outside the Railway Arms Hotel on the Railway Esplanade and close by the Napoleon III Public House on Park Street?

Do you know when? 1950's? Let us know please.

"No 30 ONSLOW VILLAGE via North Street, Guildford Stn & Farnham Road"

## Our Picture Gallery



Philip and Tony on stage at the end of our fabulous "Hats off to Laurel and Hardy" October Social.

(See them at <http://www.youtube.com/user/luckydogtp>)



We cleaned the 'Boxes' but they will need to be done regularly if....

...we don't want to loose our 'iconic' Telephone Box due to neglect.

'Don't Litter'....is not enough...pick it up.. .....be active in keeping your Village tidy.

## New play area coming soon

### The Recreation Ground Update.



The play area viewed from the Rec with the arboretum hedgerow behind it.

Thanks to everyone who responded to the questionnaire on the new play facilities to be installed at the rec. The council have reported that out of 273 responses, the overwhelming majority 77% wanted the new area to be constructed of timber rather than painted metal.

The objective is to create a play area that is bespoke to Onslow, makes use of natural materials and provides a wide range of activities for all ages. Additionally they want it to be sustainable and offer easy maintenance.

The respondents indicated preference on a number of features for the children including log climbing areas, grass mounds, boulders, a maze, sandpit and additional basketball and football areas.

Parents indicated that they would like more litter bins as there is only one at present which on a sunny day after school is quickly filled to overflowing, picnic tables, shaded areas and benches. Additional planting was a popular request as was a fenced-in area catering for the smaller children.

In terms of ideas for the character of the scheme, top of the list was nature and woodland followed by pirates, the wish list for equipment was topped by a zip wire, exercise equipment and trail, rope/giant tyre swing followed by things like tunnels, a sunken trampoline and the old favourite monkey bars.

At this stage nothing has been ruled out although some of the items requested you will be glad to hear are well beyond the budget and probably not in keeping with the space such as a helter skelter, skate board ramps, sit on death slide - whatever that maybe ! paddling pool, and new onsite café.

The next step is for a tender document to go out within the next month so that contractors can produce their design brief, which will include as much of the respondents ideas as possible within the budgetary constraints. This should be returned by Christmas when there will be a second stage consultation including a public display of the designs at a location in the Village followed by a two week online voting system.

This is a once in a generation opportunity for Onslow Village, the current facilities when compared with other locations really are very poor and dated. It is an exciting time for the children who are all very much interested in what is going to be at the new play area with most parents just wanting to know when it will start and be finished.



## Recent OVRA activities

Once again, welcome Beverly. On Beverly's arrival in the village we presented her with our customary new resident's welcome pack. We also presented the Church with a copy of Helen Chapman Davies' booklet "**The Story of Onslow Village**" to mark the occasion. It is inscribed.....

"Presented to All Saints' Church library by OVRA at the Collation of the Revd. Beverly Anne Watson."

On the 8th September Nevin Stewart demonstrated the novel juice and straining method developed by the Scillonian Road Cider Co-Operative. The jolly evening was lubricated by samples of apple juice and Onslow Dry cider

Our 10<sup>th</sup> October Show and Supper featured wonderful food in a sandwich of the two acts of "Hats off to Laurel and Hardy" superbly presented by Lucky Dog Theatre Productions. A great evening for all involved.

## OVRA Tuesday Talks - to be held at the Village Hall

Tue 10th November. **Winston Churchill's Toyshop**. A presentation by Gordon Rodgers. The story of the UK's premier WW2 weapons development and production station.



2016

Tue 12th January. **A Policeman's Lot - The Beat Goes On**. Neil Sadler's follow up talk including cops, robbers, porridge and budgies (stories from the Clink).

Tue 8th March **AGM** followed by **The Ramblings**. Jeff Birch will illustrate his talk on 'A Railway Man at Guildford's Motive Power Depot'.

Tue 12th April with Sheila Willis - **Who Done the Whodunits** - a lighthearted look at crime fiction and their authors.

The talks listed above have been arranged by Angela Joule. Jane Shipp is organising the talks to be held on.....

2016.... 10th May, 14th June, 12<sup>th</sup> July, 13<sup>th</sup> September, 15<sup>th</sup> November,  
2017.... 10<sup>th</sup> January, 14<sup>th</sup> March - AGM & talk

## Brenda Woodhatch

We were all saddened by the sudden loss of Brenda, our dear friend and neighbour. Brenda was born in Merrow in 1937 and for many years lived in 'The Clockhouse' on The Drive. She worked in and for Guildford all of her life and was an enthusiastic supporter of the Onslow Village community. As an active member of church, school and social organisations her many roles included school governor and councillor. She was still actively involved in the local council elections this year.

The many who knew Brenda have lost a bright and energetic friend. Her family will draw comfort and pride from her many achievements and our thoughts are with them at this sad time.

## Garden Club Report

The Annual Show was held in the Village Hall on 5th September. Exhibits were staged and judged in the morning; the Committee entertained the judges to lunch, and we opened to the public at 3pm. Twenty-two members submitted one hundred and sixty entries in vegetable, fruit, flower, cookery and handicraft classes. The colourful display attracted a good attendance of visitors in the afternoon. They viewed and discussed the exhibits, and the judges' comments, and enjoyed refreshments. Trophies were presented by Clive Stone of Oak Leaf Enterprises. Most of our trophies bear the names of past members who have made their contributions to the Club's development and success. Among those names, familiar to residents over the years are Edser, Clifford Ruddick, Gostelow, Norman Baldock, Fred Luck, Les Tubbs, Annette Kemp, Doug Baverstock and Joe Pais. Winnie Shepherd donated her Horticultural Hic-Cup for an unusually shaped plant, and has caused some amusement over the years.

The speaker at our October 21st meeting was Anthony Powell, whose subject was appropriately, Autumn Colours.

Our meetings always begin at 7-30 with refreshments at the break and a chance to look at the Sales Table and buy raffle tickets

November 18th is the date of our last meeting of 2015. It is the A G M followed by a social evening.

The Garden Club has had a good year, and looks forward to celebrating its 70th Birthday in 2016. The first meeting after Christmas will be on January 20th at 7-30 at Onslow Village Hall. Why not come along and join us?

Enquiries to Joyce Mathews. 577035

## and other OVRA Social Events

**OVRA will be 60 next year**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2016.** 'Spring' Evening Social' - Keep your eye on the events calendar on 'our' OVRA website and the Village noticeboards.

Next Years '**PICNIC ON THE REC**'.

It has been suggested that we hold this on the 12<sup>th</sup> June 2016 to coincide with the Mega Street Party on The Mall to celebrate H.M. the Queen's 90th birthday. What do you think? Will too many of our Villagers be in the Mall? Will it be nice weather? Tell a committee member your views or let us know via the Website.

## Village Heritage 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.

Lucky to be living close to two major world airports? Lucky to be living within easy reach of an iconic Mega City? Lucky to be living within an easy drive to the sea? Lucky to be living in a lively Market Town in a beautiful county in a wonderful country? Luckiest of all to be living in a Garden Village and Conservation Area with community facilities like no other. Please foster and support your village groups and help to maintain the many facilities we have. Walk in your Arboretum. Play on your huge Recreation Ground. You have Schools, Halls, Shops, a Church and even Tennis Courts and Pavilions with any number of activities taking place in your village. Enjoy and do what you can to take care for these gifts.

## 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.

You can join even if you live outside the Village.

Visit the website at [www.surreycommunity.info/ovra/join-the-association/](http://www.surreycommunity.info/ovra/join-the-association/) or email [ovramembsec@btinternet.com](mailto:ovramembsec@btinternet.com) or phone 01483 562657 or 01483 571807.

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

## Community Notice Board

**CHARITY FUNDRAISER** in aid of "Country Mice" - supporting local palliative care Onslow Village W.I. present 'Call my Bluff' Wine Tasting

**FRIDAY 20<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER** 7:30pm Onslow Village Hall call Sheila : 01483 579731 £18 (includes wine and Ploughman's supper)

Welcome to 'Little Voices' who have opened in Queen Eleanor's Road. Call : 07515 873894 Email : [westsurrey@littlevoices.org.uk](mailto:westsurrey@littlevoices.org.uk)

**Garden Club** November 18th is the date of their A G M followed by a social evening. See The Garden Club report above.

### Surrey CRIMESTOPPERS

0800 555 111  
Call anonymously with information about crimes

Phone scams - be careful  
DO NOT dial 0800, 0284 or 0876 numbers from the UK

For families on-line be 'Share Aware' see [www.nspcc.org.uk/](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/)

**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

**NHS HEALTH CHECKS.** Surrey County Council's Public Health Team is offering FREE Health Checks to people aged between 40 and 74. For more information, go to [www.healthysurrey.org.uk/your-health/health-checks/](http://www.healthysurrey.org.uk/your-health/health-checks/)

### Your Onslow Ward Councillors are....

Councillor Adrian Chandler Conservative  
Councillor David Goodwin Liberal Democrats  
Councillor Tony Phillips Liberal Democrats

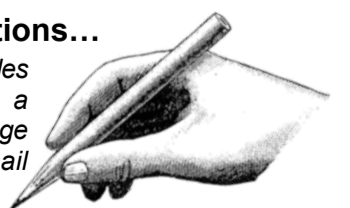
Thur 19<sup>th</sup> Nov. Christmas Lights High Street lights switch ON.

FestEve at The Boileroom in aid of Guildford Action. 22 December 2015 18:00 to 22:00 It's not a ticketed event but there will be a donation pot on the door

Neighbourhood Angels connects volunteer befrienders with lonely or isolated elderly people. To volunteer pop in to the training session on Tuesday 17 November at Diocesan House in Quarry Street. Call Rachel on 07796 098077 [rachel.guilford@cofeguildford.org.uk](mailto:rachel.guilford@cofeguildford.org.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 7QF or email [esamgem@btinternet.com](mailto:esamgem@btinternet.com)



The COPY DATE for the Winter edition is 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2016.