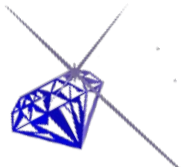




WELCOME to our annual Village wide edition
...and if you're not yet a member we
have provided a form for you to join
(only £5 per Household per Year)



Now we are 60

Your Association, O.V.R.A. was started in 1956. Down the years it has served the Village in its' unique way and supported the many clubs and activity based organisations in the area. We have continued to introduce new initiatives over the years and now support the school and church fetes and organise an annual summer Village EVENT DAY involving some of the local clubs and groups.

If you want O.V.R.A. to serve 'you and yours' and be there for your family we need your influence. Bring your skills to bear by serving on the O.V.R.A. committee, offering assistance to events or start a new village initiative. The Village is your home so its worth the effort.

For example our history includes the fight in 1984 to save of the Village Hall.



The 'Boxes' will need to be cleaned again this year once the weather improves....

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

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

The New Local Plan

You are probably aware that GBC have just made their new draft Local Plan available. This contains proposals for building 13,680 new homes.

We encourage you to take an interest in this as we are all going to be affected by those elements in it that materialise in our area. It is almost inevitable that infrastructure will suffer, especially in the shorter term, with transport, utilities and services coming under ever more stress. The Green Belt will almost certainly 'narrow' and become more constrained by our increasingly urban landscape.

This New Local Plan addresses the projected demands resulting from the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) which looks at predicted levels of growth in the population up to 2033. Please don't think that the 15% increase in the GBC area's population this SHMA predicts is down to 'You and Yours'. To pique your interest I quote..

"The level of net migration in Guildford is expected to decrease in the future and be somewhat below past trends. This is primarily due to a decrease in net internal migration which in the future is expected to fall well below levels seen in the past. Levels of net international migration do however look to be broadly consistent with that seen over the past 5 years or so, but above a longer term trend."

It's as reliable as the long term weather forecast really and I realise now why the 'MARKET' element is in this acronym!

There are links to this SHMA and the GBC 'Local Plan' page on the OVRA website. Good reading.

Planning proposals in our immediate vicinity include The Town Centre - the Station Area 'Solum' development, the Stag Hill housing application and the University of Surrey proposals for Blackwell Farm.

The Town Centre - the Station Area 'Solum' development.



The view from the bottom of Hedgeway. Proposed development shown in black. Now dubbed "THE GREAT WALL OF GUILDFORD"

This illustration provided by The Guildford Society

Onslow Recreation Ground Play Area Update

Consultation runs to 18th April and can be viewed on the GBC website

On Saturday 9th April the plans and artistic illustrations of the 'new' play area were unveiled in the Village Hall by GBC and the Designer / Contractor. This expanded facility will extend from the existing playground across the footpath to include the area of the banked dell. There will be a fenced 'small peoples zone'. Facilities to cater for the older age groups will be installed across this new area. The current basket ball 'court' is a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA). Don't say this isn't educational! The upgraded MUGA will be situated towards the (missing) gate into the Arboretum. If you didn't get to the Village Hall event the illustrations are on the OVRA Website.

Some of the work of OVRA



TALKS & PRESENTATIONS

24 Hour Trench

THE OVRA WEBSITE

SOCIALS & FILMS

REPRESENTATION & REPORTING

LOOKING OUT FOR OUR VILLAGE

LIAISON & SUPPORT

HERITAGE

THE VILLAGE VOICE

CINEMOVRA

The Story of ONSLOW VILLAGE

This issue contains your household OVRA planner overleaf that could be cut out but you can download a colour version at <http://www.surreycommunity.info/ovra/>
SEE THE 'OVRA STREET PARTY IN THE SQUARE' ON YOUR PLANNER

A Mystery Case

The daughter of an OVRA member contacted us to see if we could assist in returning a military chest found in Salisbury. This chest has the monogram "2nd Lt. K. J. Cave R.A." with a Foreign Service number 30738 painted on it together with an address in Onslow Village. Do you know of this 2nd Lt Cave or his family? It would be a wonderful gesture to return this piece of family history to the right person. Please get in touch if you can help.

Our **congratulations** to **Bernard Parke** who is presented with

'The Mayor's Award for Service in the Community'

in recognition of his work in the local community. Many in the Village will know Bernard who over many years has been active in the Village and the wider local area. Bernard is still very involved assisting his many friends and resolving problems. Keep up the good work Bernard.

A trip around your OVRA Website

You would expect to find information about the Association on the website and the programme of our events - the 'What's ON'. Yes, that's all there. BUT in addition you will find help and advice in the form of links to local organisations, clubs and groups. And that's not all. We post the monthly 'Onslow Community Warden Update' link at the top of the Latest News page. Back issues of the Village Voice can also be accessed. Information about the Arboretum and links to the notices we have put up there are on the 'Activities in the Village' page. On this page you will also see a link to images of our Heritage Boards. All this available to you and to show your friends and family - anywhere in the world if you're on-line.

ON A LIGHTER NOTE

My tail hurts

What??



Chocolate Bunnies

Spring news from the underground

In this Easter season, living close to Alice's wonderland and the extensive warrens on The Mount it's hard to believe that quintessentially British creatures such as the rabbit, mouse and fallow deer are invasive species.

The oldest rabbit found in Britain was 2,000-year-old and is on the list of 'what the Romans ever did for us'. Bunny bones, found in a 'dig' in Norfolk with cooking pots and other dateable pottery had been butchered. Marcus Terrentius Varro (116 - 27 BC) wrote about the legions bringing rabbits from Spain, where they were reared in walled enclosures and then served up as a gourmet dish. Rabbits were kept in warrens for their meat and fur. They were not established in the wild until the mid to late 12th Century. It's Spring so, if you can, get out and walk in Lewis Carroll's footsteps; but don't get too close to the burrows."



YOUR OVRA HOME CALENDAR

and other OVRA Social Events

OVRA Tuesday Talks - to be held at the Village Hall

Tue 10th May with Roger Nicholas - **Guildford in 1913.**
What was Guildford like in the last year of peace before WWI?

Tue 14th June with John Owen Smith. **'A Parcel of Gold for Edith'**
tells the story of one of Australia's Pioneer Women, who spent most of her life in the gold fields of Bendigo. This story has literally 'unfolded' from the accidental discovery of seven letters written between 1853 and 1875.

Tue 12th July **Watts Gallery and its' Restoration.**
A brief background to G. F. Watts, the artist, and the story of Watts Gallery and the £11 million restoration project undertaken from 2008 to 2011.

Tue 13th September **Riding for the Disabled Association**
Liz Harrison describes the work of this charity.

Tue 8th November **The Ferguson Gang at Shalford Mill**
Polly Bagnall and Sally Beck describe the 1930s a mysterious group of young women to save Shalford Mill for the National Trust.

2017 Season

10th January **Dennis Brothers - Guildford's involvement in the motor industry**
by Roger Nicholas

14th March **AGM and 'Prince Charles, Bombs and Barry'** Barry Buttenshaw's
his army career in RAOC, the SAS and as personal bodyguard to Prince Charles.

The OVRA Village Street Party in the Square

Sunday 12th June between 2-4pm

To celebrate the **60th year of OVRA** we are planning a street party outside the shops, and also in the Village Hall. This is an opportunity to come over meet other residents. The Wilderness Cafe will be open for tea and other refreshments.

Do you have any ideas of what you would like to see at the party?

The Bellfields Community Choir and OV W.I. will be attending. Some suggestions are: best cake competition, dog show, and kids miniature garden in a bowl or on a plate. We are awaiting Guildford Borough Councils permission for the event but lets hope they agree as it is also **The Queens 90th celebration**, so perhaps something Royal is in order - best dressed Princess for girls ?

Put the date in your diary and keep an eye out for more updates in and around the village.

Saturday 8th October Autumn Social.

Details in the Summer Village Voice. Watch the website and the Notice Boards for details.

OUR FILM SEASON

On the **Thursday 28th April** we are showing the last in our Spring season of films at the Village Hall. Come along at 7:15 pm to see **'BROOKLYN'** winner of the best British film BAFTA award in 2016.

The large screen and excellent projector in the Village Hall have proved a great success with the Hall users and they make our film showings a practical and enjoyable venture. They have also improved the slide presentations used in our talks.

We are showing films on Saturday and weekday nights to give everyone the chance of attending. We would like to put on an Autumn film season and would welcome your suggestions for films to show. These could be old favourites or classics. Please let us know your 'views' - *pun intended*.

Recent OVRA activities

On the 8th March our AGM was followed by **The Ramblings**, Jeff Birch's talk about his time as 'A Railway Man engine cleaner and fireman at Guildford Motive Power Department from 1961 to 1967, when steam traction ended on Southern Region. On 12th April Sheila Willis gave a lighthearted look at crime fiction and their authors called **Who Done the Whodunits**.

We also put on our first two showings in our Spring Film Season. These were 'Suffragette' and 'The Lady in the Van' that were, by all reports, very enjoyable trips to our new local Film venue.

60



In this, their special year, we have...

.....a Special Report from Onslow Village Garden Club

In early 1946 a meeting was held by the Surrey County Produce Committee at the Onslow Village old Hall and from this meeting a group was appointed to form Onslow Garden Club, to carry on from the war years the interest locally of home food production and to start to introduce more garden informative lectures. The annual subscription was then one shilling.

Now known as Onslow Village Garden Club, we are this year celebrating our 70th Anniversary. We still hold our monthly meetings in the 1956 rebuilt Village Hall. We welcome visitors and possible new members to our meetings.

Our February 2016 speaker was a very knowledgeable and engaging young man called Stephen Austin who works for and spoke about "Behind the scenes at Hillier Nursery". We really enjoyed his talk and his passion for plants.

We had a last minute change of speaker for our March meeting and we were pleased to welcome Paul Patton and his talk "A Diet Plan for Plants". This meeting was also our Spring Show.

Our future speakers include for April, Claire Brown talking on "Colour in the Garden and the Vase" and will include a demonstration and talk about her seasonal, scented and sustainable English Cut Flowers.

On **Saturday 14th May 9.30am-12.30 pm** it is our **Club Table Top Sale** in the Village Hall. This has become a very popular event and on sale will be plants, bric a brac, books, jigsaws, a raffle, a delicious homemade cake stall and much more. So put this date in your diary now! If you want to hire a table please phone 01483 563421.

In May our speaker is Lesley Chamberlain who will be talking about "The Life and Gardens of Gertrude Jekyll.

Colin Jones makes a welcome return to the club in June and takes us "Around the World in 80 Gardens. The evening will also be our Summer Show .

We have many more events planned for our members and we warmly invite you to become a member of Onslow Village Garden Club. Please phone 01483 538996 for details

Congratulations to the O. V. GARDEN CLUB from OVRA

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/
or email onslowresidents@gmail.com
or phone 07887 721 969 or 01483 566353.

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

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.

Community Notice Board

The Watts' Studio which is part of 'Limnerslease' (Watts home) in Compton has been opened for the first time this year. See their website or phone 01483 810235 for details.

Surrey University have just held their second annual Residents' Survey. We hope you participated and had your chance to win the £100 prize.

Sing with Us Guildford Choir. Rehearsal: every Monday, 6.30 to 8 pm at All Saints' Church. Our choir is for anyone and everyone affected by cancer, and the best bit is there's no audition and no need to read music. Pop along for a cup of tea and a sing. Taster sessions run on the first Monday of the month.

Surrey CRIMESTOPPERS

0800 555 111
Call anonymously with information about crimes

Phone scams - be careful
DO NOT dial 0809, 0284 or 0876 numbers from the UK

For families on-line be 'Share Aware' see 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 - your free midlife MOT. Surrey County Council's Public Health Team offer FREE Health Checks to people aged between 40 and 74. For more information, go to www.healthysurrey.org.uk/your-health/health-checks/

Your Onslow Ward Councillors are....

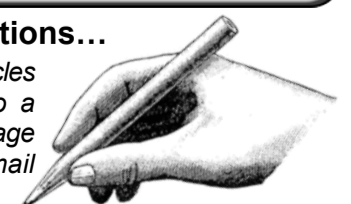
Councillor Adrian Chandler Conservative
Councillor David Goodwin Liberal Democrats
Councillor Tony Phillips Liberal Democrats

Home-Start Guildford are looking for volunteers with parenting experience to provide home visiting for families with children under 5 who are having difficulty coping. To join the Volunteer Preparation Course call Harriet on 01483 511181 or email office@hsguildford.org.uk

Neighbourhood Angels connects volunteer befrienders with lonely or isolated elderly people. To volunteer call Rachel on 07796 098077
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



The COPY DATE for the Summer edition is 2nd June 2016.