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'OVRA Guildford' for e-voice.org.uk/ovra-guildford/

ISSUE No 62

You can join the Onslow Village community Facebook page
here <https://www.facebook.com/groups/455804498174020/>

Autumn 2020

THE VILLAGE VOICE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ONSLOW VILLAGE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Welcome to this Autumn edition of the Village Voice



Our Forthcoming Robust Lock-down Events

Following our long period of enforced inactivity on everything
except for the Village Voice and Website updates OVRA is very
pleased to announce that it is planning a number of activities



OVRA's on-line Zoom meetings

OVRA intend to provide a series of on-line Zoom meetings given by guest speakers. The first presentations are.....

8th December 2020 at 7.45pm 'The Climate Crisis' presented by Graham Brown.

5th January 2021 at 7.45pm 'A Conspiracy History of the World' presented by Andy Thomas.

For your invitation please provide your contact details to Ray Briggs (07789 662887, ray_gwgc@hotmail.co.uk)

Our Advent Windows

Following the success of last year's windows, Onslow Village Residents Association are once again going to organise a 'living Advent Calendar' in the Village in the run up to Christmas.

The idea is that decorated windows are lit up group by group in turn daily from the 1st December (from 4-8 p.m.) until Christmas Eve, and then all remain lit between these hours until the New Year. Windows should be decorated to represent some aspect of Christmas (and may be secular or traditional) and should be visible from the footpath. By Christmas Eve the hope is that some multiple of 24 decorated windows will be lit up. Photographs will also be posted on the OVRA web page and on the Village facebook page.

In late November a list identifying each window will be posted on the OVRA website and Village notice boards. It is anticipated that this project will provide some brightness to evening walks as the nights draw in, as well as fun for children who are strongly encouraged to help with decorating! If you would like to be part of this initiative please contact Judith Sands (01483 566244, email judesands@gmail.com) to find out how you could contribute.

Inspiration and ideas for window designs may be accessed on-line, search 'living advent windows' or view last year's windows on the OVRA web page."



The Village Christmas Tree



Once again but on a somewhat larger scale than last year, OVRA and the Village Hall Management will be installing and illuminating a Christmas Tree in the front garden of the Village Halls.

We would request that nothing is hung on the tree itself but it has been suggested that Villagers may wish to participate by adding suitable festive decorations (small ornamental Christmas trees or wreaths etc) on the ground surrounding the tree.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY ONSLOW VILLAGE 1920 - 2020

On Tuesday 2nd March 1920 the Management Committee of Onslow Village Ltd. held its first meeting.

Ongoing Covid 19 Support

Another Village Voice and we are still in the midst of the Covid Crisis, As things seem to be getting worse we will be checking in with those support volunteers in the area over the next few weeks to make sure that cover is uninterrupted. Many of them will have been providing support since March and may be in need of more volunteers. If so we will also be checking in with those who have offered to help to see if they are still able to assist. If you have a few hours a week, and are able to help out with activities such as shopping, picking up prescriptions, or just being at the end of the phone to provide a friendly ear to those who are isolating please get in touch with me.

Similarly if you are in need of help, and don't have friends or family who can assist, please let me know and I will try to put you in touch with a volunteer near to you.

While things are not as bad as they were back in March we are most certainly not out of the woods yet and they may well get worse. So please keep an eye out for your neighbours and if you are aware of someone in trouble and cannot help them yourself please let me know. It would be nice to think that we could make sure that no one was without the support they need at this very difficult time.

Ray Briggs (07789 662887, ray_gwgc@hotmail.co.uk)

Proposed Road Change for 'The Drive'

A proposal to make The Drive one way from the Clockhouse entrance up to the Farnham Road will be presented to the Guildford Joint Committee on Wednesday 18th November. This follows a petition that gained the required support. If successful this proposal will make The Drive No Entry off the Farnham Road. The proposal leaves the The Drive and Crossways two way up to the post box but aims to prevent fast traffic off the Farnham Road entering the Crossways and in addition prevents vehicles travelling down the Farnham Road attempting the difficult hairpin turn into The Drive.

Local help for job seekers.

The Lighthouse is based in Woking, but it will soon have a base in Guildford too. It runs a free employability programme called LaunchPad for anyone locally that's been hit hard by Covid-19 and is struggling to get employment. It's a rolling 4 week course which includes 3 professional online 1-2-1's and 6 'in person' workshops to help you gain confidence, recognise your skills, stand out with your CV and broaden your work horizons. Suitable for all ages and all abilities - you need to be work ready and attend all the sessions. Everyone at some point in their life should do it! If you want more info, email Launchpad@lighthouseguildford.org



ONSLOW VILLAGE COMMUNITY AED Do you know what to do ?



Our Village AED box is positioned alongside the Main Doors to the Village Hall with its external sensor light and level / ramp access to the car park and road.

We would like our local residents and Hall users to be familiar with the Automated External Defibrillator (AED). Safe use is aided by reassuring and easy to follow programmed audible instructions. Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) is part of this procedure and a valuable potentially life-saving skill.

Let's make Onslow Village heart health aware.

REMEMBER - CALL 999 BEFORE USING THE AED

To report use of the AED, request training or if you have any queries to be answered

.....Please email: onslowvillageaed@virginmedia.com or call: 01483 829707

Please Note : It is not possible to schedule training sessions during the COVID-19 restrictions.

Time to Reflect on our Community

It is a well established fact that we take things for granted and only value them when they're not available. But we knew this and didn't need this demonstration resulting from the Covid lock-downs. Most of our clubs and associations are denied to us at this time and those that have found ways to operate have had to adopt new practises. Most rely upon facilities provided by our Village and Church Halls. Over the years our Village Halls have been a centre for so many of our local activities.

Just before lockdown 2,109 halls took part in the National Village Halls Survey 2020 for ACRE Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE). This provides a detailed snapshot of the operations and management of community buildings across the country.

80% of respondents knew someone whose lives have changed for the better as a result of joining activities at their local hall. The survey found that village halls make a significant contribution to the economy. At least 10,000 individuals earn a living connected to the use of these community buildings, from Pilates and Yoga teachers to people running dog training classes. A further 4,500 people are employed as cleaners, caretakers and managers.

Nearly half of all halls serve as a venue for private parties, and a quarter host weddings; events which provide commercial opportunities for local businesses. One in ten are also home to community businesses; enterprises which are owned and run by residents for local community benefit, such as shops, cafes, and post offices.

Additionally, 70% of respondents had undertaken improvement work, extensions, or new halls in the last five years, contributing well over £46 million to the UK economy. Local builders were often used.

Village halls also offer extensive social and cultural benefits.

Our Village Halls are part of this tradition and over the years they have been a centre for so many of our local activities.

Thoughts for our present troubles

Time is its chariot, It is Omnipresent and perpetual as the seasons and years attest. It has many guises such as progress and disaster. It is inherent in our news and history and its real name is Change. It is ultimately unbeatable, though many try, but if we learn to accept it we will be more content.

Your editor



Historic Note : In the Spring of 1984 Onslow Village was in uproar. Red Crosses appeared in windows of many homes signifying opposition to the sale of assets like your Village Halls. All this was a consequence of the winding up of Onslow Village Limited. But the Halls were saved from the developers thanks to a concerted grass roots campaign.

On a lighter note....

Charlie : 'Pour me a stiff one - just had another fight with the little woman.'
'Oh yeah?' said the Publican, 'And how did this one end?'
Charlie : 'When it was over she came to me on her hands and knees.'
Publican : 'Really, that's a change! What did she say?'
Charlie : 'She said, come out from under the bed, you little chicken.'



The Cathedral will 'Light up a Life'



Every year Phyllis Tuckwell invites you to find comfort and support at their 'Light up a Life' celebrations. Due to the Coronavirus restrictions this year they have to forego their usual annual Tree Lighting Service at their Farnham Hospice. But, in conjunction with the Guildford Cathedral, they are replacing this with an online event to be streamed live on Monday 7th December. This will show the Cathedral illuminated with the image of a giant Christmas tree and with the names of those who have had a light dedicated to their memory. The impressive illumination will then be projected for two further nights (Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th December), remembering those who are loved, but no longer with us. You are welcome to visit the Cathedral on Tuesday and Wednesday between 6pm and 10.30pm to view the illumination, following all social distancing guidelines.



To make a dedication please visit www.pth.org.uk/lual
(closing date for dedications is Friday 27th November)



Time is a sort of river of passing events, and strong is its current; no sooner is a thing brought to sight than it is swept by and another takes its place, and this too will be swept away.
Marcus Aurelius



What a language! 'Wise men' and 'Wise Guy' are opposites but 'slow down' and 'slow up' mean the same and why is 'phonetic' not spelled the way it sounds? Ever heard a bus driver say "Come on, get off"?

This Edition - Distribution and Delivery

Due to the current circumstances the distribution of this edition will be via email to those members who have provided their email address to OVRA and by hand delivery of printed copies to the remaining members.

Back Page Notes to Note

Local Government is on the move in Surrey

Surrey County Council (SCC) voted to officially designate the former Canon building at Cockshot Hill, Reigate as its new "civic heart" from 1st January 2021. But this is not likely to be the only talking point going forward into the new year. Larger, Unitary Councils managing all services and dissolving the Borough and District Councils may become the new norm. For Surrey this would affect all 1.2 million of us - the residents. And we can add to this any affects from the current review being conducted by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

.....and just so you know...

Currently the responsibility to deliver local council services in Surrey are divided between Surrey County Council (SCC) and 11 Borough and District Councils. This is known as a two-tier model.

Borough and District councils organise your refuse collection, planning, meals at home, social housing, parks and open spaces, environmental health and licensing, whilst SCC provide adults and children's services, highway maintenance, education, libraries and the community recycling centre.

76% of your council tax payment goes to SCC, only 10% goes to local authorities with 14% funding Surrey Police.



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.

OUR REPRESENTATIVES

Angela Richardson, our M.P. for Guildford.

Your Onslow Ward Councillors are....

Councillor Jon Askew Liberal Democrats
Councillor David Goodwin Liberal Democrats
Councillor Will Salmon Liberal Democrats
find them on the OVRA website

New Neighbours?

If you know of anyone who has just moved into the Village, please let one of the committee know so we can give them a welcome letter and a copy of the VV.

Happiness is like a butterfly; the more you chase it, the more it will elude you, but if you turn your attention to other things, it will come and sit softly on your shoulder.

Henry David Thoreau

HOW TO JOIN - OVRA Membership Renewal for 2020

OVRA Membership renewal is due from 1st April each year. Joining OVRA or renewing your membership is easy. Either complete the form from the website and send it with a cheque or cash to The Membership Secretary, c/o 9 Orchard Road or (lock-down allowing) fill in a form and pay at Georgie's Cafe, or pay us directly when you attend one of our events. Membership is £10 per household. If you have an existing standing order please ensure that the payment amount is £10. New memberships last to 31st March each year.

You can join even if you live outside the Village.
Free entry to our Tuesday talks

Visit the website at..

e-voice.org.uk/ovra-guildford/

or email ovrasec@gmail.com

or phone 01483 562106 or 01483 566353.

This newsletter is valuable and represents a significant investment by OVRA in time, effort and funding to produce and deliver. If you have read it please pass it on and....

if this Newsletter has been passed on to you please make your home a member of OVRA.

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 Winter edition is 2nd January 2021.