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

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

THE VILLAGE VOICE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ONSLOW VILLAGE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION



In your editor's garden

**Welcome one and all to our
Summer Village Wide Edition**

Wakey, wakey,
Our great reawakening
is gathering pace

We believe that Onslow Village is a great place to live!

The Chairpersons Message

As we come up to our much delayed AGM on Tuesday 14th September it falls to me to make our usual call for new blood on the committee. We have had a couple of new members join over the two years of my Chairmanship, and very welcome and helpful they are. However in order to be fully effective I feel we still need more volunteers covering a wider diversity of ages and interests if we are to properly represent the residents of Onslow Village and respond appropriately to their needs. Onslow Village remains a community with many useful and fun activities taking place. People are swapping things, organising events, canvassing opinion, offering covid support and many other activities on the wide range of social media that now exist. OVRA was started over a 60 years ago and still has a place within the community It offers a talks programme that still remains popular. It has organised the annual Christmas Tree and the Advent windows that gave a lot of pleasure to many.. It has organised popular street parties to mark special events in the life of the village. More importantly it helped to coordinate the efforts to support the vulnerable during the worst periods of the Covid crisis. However there have been huge changes in the social fabric of Onslow village in recent years. People are better connected through social media, and tend to organise group events directly with other like minded individuals through social media. As such the role of OVRA in providing a social hub for Onslow Village has declined. These changes are very apparent when viewing our membership numbers which have been declining. Moreover the average age of our membership appears to be increasing. More recently this may be due to the hiatus of the Covid pandemic, but it also may signal a more fundamental change. ***So the question is, is it time to recognise that OVRA, in its present form, is no longer in step with the modern world.***

If so we need to recognise this and decide how we might change to best support the requirements of Onslow Village going forward.. To do this we must ask some serious questions regarding the purpose of OVRA: ***Is there*** still interest in organised social activities such as Quiz nights, musical evenings, film nights and disco/dance evenings? Or are these best left to interested parties to organise for themselves through social media. ***Is there*** still interest in our talks? We have run these for many years now and they appear popular, however possibly serving members of our community who may not be able easily to access social media. Is there an interest in widening this out? Should we continue to run some or all of these via zoom? ***Do we*** need to be more active in the political arena? Onslow Village faces many pressures over the next few years. A3 widening, more housing, an expanding university, and increasing traffic burdens are just a few of the things in our future which may impact us, so does a residents association have a useful role here, or is this best left to groups interested in specific issues, and our local Councillors? ***How do*** we better involve all sectors of our community? We are very actively supported by seniors, but is there a role for OVRA with younger residents and families?

We would be grateful for your opinions on this, whether or not you are currently a member. You can write to me with your thoughts (ray_gwgc@hotmail.co.uk) or come to our AGM at the Village Hall of the 14th September at 6:30 pm (Covid restrictions permitting)

To join OVRA please contact Membership Officer Judith Sands, judesands@gmail.com . (See Back Page)

We recognised that some members do not have access to the facilities necessary to participate in our Zoom presentations, but we hope that those who could 'attend' enjoyed 'meeting' up. However, now hopefully we 'can we get back to'.....

OVRA's Planned Village Hall Events

Contingent of course on the UK Gov Roadmap out of Lockdown

Tuesday 14th September OVRA AGM - All are welcome 6:30 pm for a 7.00 pm start

As you all know, this was delayed from its usual March date because of Covid considerations. Subject to the Lockdown easing on it's new schedule we plan to hold our AGM at Onslow Village Hall with a complimentary glass of wine or tea or coffee. The AGM is to be followed by our September presentation.

We are once again asking for people to volunteer to join the committee. We had two new volunteers last year, which has helped us greatly but we really need more. Its not an overly onerous thing to be involved in and new blood will enable us to widen our range of activities. So please give some serious thought to joining us - we hardly ever bite!

If interested or if you have any 'Proposals' to table please call me on 07789 662887. Ray Briggs OVRA Chair

Saturday 16 October Jolly Autumn Quiz

We wanted to re-establish our social events. As a first toe in the water, we intend to hold our Quiz in the Village Hall. 7pm entry for a 7.30 pm start. We will have a bar and there will be half time nibbles as usual. We will be selling tables for the event. OVRA members can book a 6 seat table for £60 or an 8 place table for £80, and are free to bring non member guests. Non members may book a table of 6 for £75 and of 8 for £100. To book please drop a note through my door at 9 Orchard Road letting me know your name and address, your team name (if known) , the table size you require and a cheque made payable to Onslow Village Residents Association for the required amount. If you want to attend as individuals we do our best to allocate you to a team so please get in touch. Please book early as these quizzes are popular and we will be allocating tables on a first come first served basis. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Ray Briggs OVRA Chair 07789 662887, ray_gwgc@hotmail.co.uk

AND

OVRA's Autumn Presentations in the Village Hall

Hopefully our return to social norms will allow us to provide our customary complimentary tea and coffee, served from 7.15 pm (6:30pm in September). Entry is free to members. £5.00 to non members and please remember to bring your membership cards

Tuesday 14 September 7pm AGM followed by **Climate Change: What Can We Do?**
NOTE EARLY START being presented by Graham Brown and Chris Shaw

Tuesday 9 November Life on a Harp String
with Margaret Watson, one of the busiest professional harpists in the South East.

—2022—

Tuesday 11 January Ada, Countess of Lovelace A presentation by Roger Price on the life of the world's first computer programmer.



AND ELSEWHERE

Saturday 18th September All Saints' Church 'Autumn Fayre' Hopefully, another return to normality.

What's in a Name ?

There's Watt's Gallery and Watt's Chapel of course? But nearer to home consider your own address. Does this have some largely forgotten significance? Some of our local street names seem obvious like Orchard Road, Farm Walk and the Farnham Road. Even these can have more specific relevance like Farm Walk that led to Wilderness Farm, and hence as most of you know we have Wilderness Road. The Dominican Friary inspired Friars Gate.

It is hard to visualise that in the 12th century this area was thickly forested, teeming with wildlife, particularly deer, and witnessed the sights and sounds of the Royal Hunt. It was probably an extension of the forests of Windsor. Is this the origin of Windsor Close. These hunting grounds were known as Guildford Park and our Cathedral now stands on top of Stag Hill. Ludlow, Gynyn, and Bray Roads are named after King's Keepers of the Park. Henry Plantagenet's court was based in Guildford Castle. Hunting lodges are said to have been sited above the present rail station and in Walnut Tree Close. When the Castle needed repair, the court was moved to a Manor at Blackwell Farm, where the foundations can still be seen. Hence, we have Manor Way and Old Palace Road. Eleanor of the Acquitaine was Henry's lady so we have Queen Eleanors Road in the village and QE School. Litchfield Way is named after Mr Frederick Litchfield who was due to be the first Chairman of the Onslow Village Management Committee which moves us from the the 1100's into the 1920's.

There maybe more to your address than you are aware of!



Refurbishing Jubilee Gardens

Our delayed initiative to mark the Onslow Village centenary.

These volunteers established the rear boundary wall using the supply of free logs donated and delivered by Daniel Lowe. Weed control fabric is being used and following a delivery of top soil, within a week or so this ground work will be completed.

How could you contribute?

To avoid watering we're holding off planting out until September so we invite you to be creative and add a couple of temporary art installations on the site.

We also need plants suitable for this east facing, shady, dry area. We have a planting scheme and already have had offers and recommendations so there is a list available on application

for those with green fingers and able to provide cuttings etc. We will welcome anything you can donate but for ease would prefer donations towards the cost of new plants and bulbs.

Please get in touch with me, Rebecca Brown, with your suggestions, donations and offers of help either at: rebecca.brown@tmmt.co.uk or through the OVRA website.

Anyone who can offer special or specific assistance would be welcome to join us, and should contact Ray Briggs (ray_gwgc@hotmail.co.uk or text 07789 662887).

Surrey County Council Survey on Traffic Flow in and out of The Drive

As you will have noticed the Village Voice has come with a questionnaire document with a Freepost return address. This has been prepared by Cllr Angela Goodwin in consultation with SCC engineers giving what they feel are possible options for traffic flow in The Drive. This has been initiated by a recent petition on this issue. Cllr Goodwin approached OVRA to see if we would distribute a link to an online survey. We agreed to do this but being aware that some of our residents are not comfortable on-line we asked that a paper version be prepared. Cllr Goodwin agreed with this. However SCC had no budget for this and Cllr Goodwin had to look for other solutions. The local Liberal Democrats have agreed to fund the printing. This means that the paper will have a liberal Democrat logo attached to it but we are assured that the content is identical to the SCC online version with the exception of the process for returning the hard copy. OVRA has agreed to distribute this under the following conditions.

1. That this is a survey by SCC to determine the best solution for The Drive - closing date 30th July 2021.
2. That an online version of the survey is available at the following link -
<https://www.surreysays.co.uk/deputy-ceo/makingthedrivesafer/>
3. That the options have been chosen by SCC in consultation with their engineers
4. That the survey is the same as that prepared on behalf of SCC except were strictly necessary to facilitate return of the hard copy surveys

That the survey is currently informal but formal proposals for change will be subject to formal consultation. OVRA has agreed to distribute the survey to ensure as far as we are able that the whole of Onslow Village sees this survey and therefore has the opportunity to comment. If people have comments that go beyond the options given they should be send directly to Cllr Goodwin at angela.goodwin@surreycc.gov.uk. Mobile: 07913 909121

OVRA takes no view on the benefits of any option and does not endorse any of the options given. We merely want to make sure that Onslow Village is properly consulted. We trust that you will agree that any changes to The Drive will affect Onslow Village as a whole and that the opportunity for all residents to comment was important.



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.

Back Page Notes to Note

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



“Bad news, it’s curiosity”

20's Plenty through the Village



Why do ‘slow down’
and ‘slow up’
mean the same thing?

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.

Village Heritage Postcards



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.

HOW TO JOIN - OVRA Membership Renewal for 2021

OVRA Membership renewal is due from 1st April each year. Joining OVRA or renewing your membership is easy.

Many fees are usually collected at the annual AGM, normally held in March, or at subsequent events. This has necessarily been different this year as events have had to be cancelled or have taken place in a different format. Consequently many memberships are lapsed. OVRA took the decision to continue to include lapsed membership on the mailing list for Village Voice for 2020 and now 2021.

The issuing of 2021 membership cards (although intended) is still difficult to arrange at present so membership will be confirmed by email - please make sure we have the correct email contact for your household. If you would like to renew your membership for 2021 and continue to support OVRA, this may be done by either completing the form accessed from the website and send it with a cheque or cash to The Membership Secretary, c/o 9 Orchard Road or (the Lockdown 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 Thank you. For any questions regarding individual membership please contact judesands@gmail.com

You can join even if you
live outside the Village.

Free entry to our
Tuesday talks
(Zoom or Hall)

Visit the website at..

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

or email ovrasec@gmail.com

or phone 01483 562106 or 01483 566353.

Printed newsletters are 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 Summer edition is 2nd October 2021.