



Find us on our new website - just search  
'OVRA Guildford' for [e-voice.org.uk/ovra-guildford/](http://e-voice.org.uk/ovra-guildford/)

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



ISSUE No 67

Winter  
2021/22

# THE VILLAGE VOICE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ONSLOW VILLAGE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

## OVRA's OTHER RECENT ACTIVITIES

We concluded our programme last year with our Jolly Autumn Quiz on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October at All Saints' and then on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November, with mulled wine and mince pies listened as Margaret Watson presented 'Life on a Harp String'. We rounded off the year with our village wide Advent Windows and with the ready co-operation of the Hall management we put up the Christmas Tree outside the Village Hall. Thank you to all who lit up for OVRA and the Village over the festive period.



A few of the  
Advent windows  
and our  
Christmas Tree

Here's hoping that this year will be better than the last couple and that we will start to come out of the Covid crisis to some degree. From OVRA's perspective we are doing our best to put together a programme of events and activities for this year that we hope will bring things a little bit back to normal.

We have a board games cafe planned for half term which I hope will enable us to have some fun together early in the year. We plan to do an Easter Egg Hunt on the Easter weekend. We are organising a street party for the 5<sup>th</sup> June to commemorate the Queens Platinum Jubilee. We are trying to reenergise our programme of talks and to mix that up with some events that have more of a performance element, and we are still looking at what to do for a social event in October.

So we need your help and ideas. If you can suggest bands or groups that might want to fit in with our performance nights we'd be keen to hear from or about them. If you can help with the Easter Egg Hunt get in touch. And for our street party if you are willing to help set up, break down and generally help in between, or are a wiz in the kitchen and would be prepared to assist in the street party food and drink side we would be keen to hear from you.

All this depends on Covid restrictions and we are committed to doing things safely. But we want to plan for success so please let us know if you are willing to help.

## Forthcoming AGM

While because of Covid our last AGM was only held a few months ago we will resume normal practise and hold our 2022 on the 8<sup>th</sup> March this year. Every year I bemoan the fact that we need new blood on the committee. This year it is even more acute with our committee now two down from its normal complement of twelve, and likely to shrink even further over the coming year or two as our long serving members quite reasonably decide that they will actually step down rather than allowing themselves to be continually persuaded to stay and help. So if you are interested in the welfare of your local community and have a little time to give, please consider joining us. You would be very warmly welcomed.

---

## OVRA's CALENDAR OF EVENTS

---

### The Tuesday evening Presentations / Talks / Events and our AGM

These are held in the Village Main Hall - from 7:15 p.m with complimentary Tea / Coffee served prior to the start of the Talk at 7:45 p.m.

#### Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January - Postponed

Sadly OVRA have to postpone this presentation. Too few of the Committee are available to safely host this event as many are shielding in the present circumstances. This planned presentation has been rescheduled and will now follow the AGM on the 8th March.

#### Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March AGM and Talk

##### Ada, Countess of Lovelace

Roger Price will host this presentation about Ada, the only legitimate daughter of the poet Lord Byron. She was kept in total ignorance of her famous father until she came of age to be introduced to London Society. There she met Charles Babbage, designer of the first computer and that set her on the path as a computer programmer. Certainly ahead of her time.

The Hall is booked for future Tuesday evenings on.....

**12<sup>th</sup> April, 10<sup>th</sup> May, 12<sup>th</sup> July, 13<sup>th</sup> September and 8<sup>th</sup> November** (our mince pies and mulled wine evening)

### Our Other Events

#### Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February Board Game Café.

You are invited to an afternoon of games, fun and cake! Come and share your favourite game or play someone else's, all ages welcome. There will be traditional and new games to play,...

OV Main Hall - 2 pm till 5 pm

Contact Ray Briggs ray\_gwgc@hotmail.co.uk 07789 662887

#### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June

##### The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Street Party



Contact us if you want to assist us in planning our Village celebration of this most significant national event

**marking the 70<sup>th</sup> year of the Queen's Reign.**

#### Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October Social

Details to be announced

---

## AND ELSEWHERE

---

.....of course your OVRA Committee are involved in and monitoring issues affecting the Village such as the S.C.C. proposed pilot following the survey on traffic flow in and out of The Drive, proposals to close public toilets, 20's Plenty traffic calming proposals and .....

### ....the Guildown and Woodbridge Hill GP Practices and the future of Wodeland Avenue Surgery

As many of you know the Surrey Heartland Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is considering what to do about the challenges that face these practices. The current arrangement does not allow for the expansion that these groups feel is necessary to deliver an up to date and well rounded GP service. However the direction of the discussions seems to be moving towards one or two larger practices on sites North of the A3, and it is quite possible that this streamlining may lead to the closure of the Wodeland Avenue Surgery. For most of us that is not a real issue as we are able to drive to any surgery in the area. But for a significant number in our community lack of ready access to a GP surgery presents serious challenges. OVRA is new to these discussions. Our aim is to monitor what is happening and as far as possible represent the feelings of Onslow Village residents to the CCG. Most people seem to be concerned at the possibility of the south of Guildford being relatively ill served by GP practices. We hope that by representing your views on this we can help deliver a better outcome.



Natural England is a non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

#### Areas like Blackwell Farm - the clock is ticking on AONB

Natural England has begun a public engagement exercise ahead of its **Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty boundary review** and they would like as many people as possible to participate.

From local perspective this could result in Blackwell Farm's inclusion in the revised boundary.

This evidence-gathering period runs until **31st January 2022**

Find them online. Their engagement form is at:

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/896091cc47194e3f99839c84a71cdde0>

## THE JUBILEE AND CENTENARY GARDEN

Most people will be aware of the history of the land on which Onslow Village now stands. However, here is a brief background. Guildford Park was a medieval deer park – quite literally a venison farm. It was created in 1154 by the Plantagenet king, Henry II, in the south east corner of the Great Royal Forest of Windsor. During his reign, Henry gradually extended the Forest of Windsor to include much of Surrey and over time, to form part of the estate of the Onslow family in 1709.

Following the Great War and the pressing need to house men returning from the conflict, the then Earl of Onslow sold a large area of his estate at a bargain price to the Guildford Corporation, for housing, a part of which now forms the present Onslow Village. Building began with the first house being occupied in 1920. These original properties were built in the popular Garden City style, which can be seen today within the present Conservation Area.

The present Onslow Village Residents' Association had plans in place to mark the centenary in 2020, but the COVID restrictions prevented that from taking place.

Now, as we head into 2022 I am looking back at the photographs of the Jubilee Garden Project which the Residents' Association committee agreed to refurbish as a belated marking of the centenary. The Jubilee Garden was born out of the remains of the original garden which was created in 1977 to celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee, but had sadly fallen into a state of neglect.

The idea of refurbishing the garden as a centenary project came to me in March last year and having put the idea to the committee it was quickly adopted as our centenary celebration. At the time it didn't seem to be too large an undertaking to organise. How wrong I was.

Over the following six months work began to clear what had become a jungle of undergrowth. The problem was where to stop as the original site had no clear boundaries. But with the help of contractors and volunteer residents, we were able to transform the area into a colourful and welcoming space to sit and relax.

I approached the necessary contractors that would be needed to do work which was beyond the scope of our volunteers. I was able to obtain either free services or labour and materials at reduced costs, it being considered as a community project, for which we all were very grateful.

As with such undertakings, we formed a small sub committee to oversee the project. This comprised Steve Mills, Rebecca Brown, and myself as project coordinator. A great deal of the physical work was carried out by local residents and a number of OVRA committee members. All of this was an enormous help, particularly in keeping down costs.

Over the course of the summer, the garden, gradually took shape. The area was left prepared for planting in September, as getting water to the site during the spell of hot weather was a real problem. But once the planting began the whole area began to look like a garden once again after more than a generation.

Alongside the original Silver Jubilee plaque, there is now a new plaque marking the Centenary of Onslow Village.

On 19<sup>th</sup> September 2021, the formal opening ceremony was performed by Lord Onslow and The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Dennis Booth.

I hope that all the hard work and organisation by so many people who were willing to give of their time to this small space in the village, will have been worthwhile and that it will be maintained and enjoyed once again by all who pass by as a legacy for the Village Centenary. Our thanks go to all who participated in the project, some of whom were Sean Berringer Landscape Designs for site clearing, Guildford Borough Council Parks and Leisure for rubbish removal, Brown Bros Window Cleaners for pressure washing, Daniel Lowe Landscape Gardening Contractor who supplied the tree trunks and top soil, Guildford Signs Ltd for the Plaque, Compton Nurseries for the tree bark ground cover, Squires Garden Centre, Milford who donated a voucher for plants and Mike Gadsby, Chair of Village Hall Committee for the use of the Village Hall.

Angela Joule

For ongoing Jubilee Garden queries or comments please contact [rebecca.brown@tmmt.co.uk](mailto:rebecca.brown@tmmt.co.uk)



Before Christmas Safeguard took over the 18 bus route. OV residents have praised their friendly service and seasonal decorations in the buses over the holiday period.

Route 18 departures now leave from Stand 10 at the Friary Bus Station. This is to avoid clashes with journeys on a different route using Stand 4. No 18 Bus Timetables are displayed at every bus stop and leaflets are available on board and from Georgies Kitchen.

Fares from Onslow Village to the Town Centre, as follows:

**Adult** : Single £2.30, Return £3.50, 7-day £12, 28-day £36

17-24 : Single £1.50, Return £2.50, 7-day £8, 28-day £24

**Child** : Single £1.00, Return £1.50, 7-day £7, 28-day £21

**Concessionary Bus Pass Holders** : After 0900 hours Monday to Friday, all day Sat: Free Travel  
Before 0900 hours Monday to Friday: Single £1.50

All Safeguard 7-day and 28-day tickets offer unlimited travel on Routes 3, 4, 5 and 18.



Different Single and Return fares apply for journeys from Onslow Village to George Abbot School, Burpham Sainsbury's and Merrow (call 01483 561103 for details) but 7- and 28- day tickets are valid throughout the route.

## Back Page Notes to Note

### 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.

### 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

Angela Goodwin      Surrey County Councillor for Guildford  
South West division.

Find them on the OVRA website

### Neighbourhood Problem

If you want to report a problem and follow it up until it is resolved you might start with...

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/do-it-online/report-it-online>  
or <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/report> and other such local authority reporting facilities.

Did you hear about the mathematician who's  
afraid of negative numbers?  
He'll stop at nothing to avoid them.



The Onslow Village community want to reduce the amount of 'stuff' we all have and O.V. is a place of adequate plenty. To reduce the impact of continued consumption 'The OV Toolshare Club' within the community is one answer. Become a member and power drills, spirit levels, electric hedge trimmers and strimmers to name but a few are available to share. See the Club website at....  
[sites.google.com/view/ov-toolshare-club/home](https://sites.google.com/view/ov-toolshare-club/home)

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 2021.

The issuing of 2021/2 membership cards (although intended) was too difficult to arrange at present so membership was confirmed by email - please make sure we have the correct email contact for your household. If you would like to renew your membership for 2022 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. Thank you. For any questions regarding individual membership please contact [judesands@gmail.com](mailto: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/](http://e-voice.org.uk/ovra-guildford/)

or email [judesands@gmail.com](mailto:judesands@gmail.com)

or phone 01483 566353.

Only £10 per year for the whole household  
Get your Village Voice

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 [esangem@btinternet.com](mailto:esangem@btinternet.com)



The COPY DATE for the Spring edition is 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2022.