

Link

July 2026



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Wootton St Lawrence Community Magazine

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communities

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LIVE-life-BETTER

Link Magazine exists to be of service to the communities of Oakley, Deane, Newfound, Malshanger and Wootton St Lawrence. The sentiments expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editorial team. The editors take no responsibility for the accuracy of the contents of submissions.

With the exception of trade ads all other items for publication may be made free of charge. Please submit articles by the date given below for publication the month following. The *Link* editors reserve the right to decline or edit any contributions.

Link web-site oakleylink.org.uk

Please e-mail copy to: editor@oakleylink.org.uk

or post to 8 Caithness Close, Oakley, RG23 7NG

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Editorial

How lovely to see ducklings and baby moorhens on Oakley pond! Colin has shared many pictures, taken on 14 June, with readers of Calling Oakley Facebook group and with Link.

It's sad to hear that Jo has sold her Jolly Olly's business (see page 25) but we are pleased for her that she can, at last, retire. The coming of a café made a big contribution to community feeling in the village, so very good that the café will be taken over by someone local, Debbie Timms.

We've seen a notice on the gate of the vineyard behind the church that they are producing wine—see penguinpink.co.uk for information. They say that, for every case sold, they donate £20 to The Basil Fisher Foundation, helping fund direct street support through the charity Under One Sky.

Chris Wassell

Many thanks to Colin Edwards for sharing his wonderful photos of the ducks, ducklings, moorhens and baby moorhens on Oakley pond, See front and page 16.

Oakley Community Care

Supporting your needs for transport to medical appointments

We offer transport by car to anyone in need, mainly for visits to doctors, hospital appointments, dental appointments and the like. Wheelchair users must be able to transfer to the car unaided. Oakley Community Care is made up of friendly volunteers who are unpaid. However a donation by the passenger to cover fuel and other costs is appreciated.

We also have a limited number of wheelchairs available for loan. New volunteer drivers are always welcome

Please give us a call. We may be able to make life easier for you.

07376 574412

Oakley Community Care is a registered charity (no. 1242133)

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Village



OAKLEY VILLAGE SHOW
30th Anniversary

**SATURDAY
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1:30PM
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**Saturday, 11th July
12 PM - 4 PM**

Barley Mow, Oakley

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Second and fourth
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10:30 am - 12 noon

£1.50

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Follow us on social to see more of what we've got planned this season. @barleymow

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Report from the Parish Council

The Parish Council will be holding its annual strategy meeting on 11 July. This is an opportunity for councillors to review progress, agree priorities for the year ahead and ensure our projects remain achievable and deliver good value for residents. The new cricket nets at Newfound are looking fantastic – we think this is a great new facility for the parish.

The Parish Council is responsible for only 12 bus stops across the village. Following a recent audit, we have identified a programme of improvements, including pressure washing, repairs and the installation of seating where needed. Work will take place over the coming months, so watch this space for updates.

Our next Councillors' Chat will take place at The Barley Mow from 7 – 8 pm on Tuesday 28 July.

Our Coffee and Chat mornings continue to be thoroughly enjoyed by residents. If you haven't attended before, please feel free to join us at Newfound Pavilion on Thursday mornings from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm for tea, biscuits, and



conversation.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 9 July at 7 pm in the Newfound pavilion. All residents are warmly welcome to attend.

*Kelly Green – Assistant Clerk,
assistantclerk@oakleydeane-pc.gov.uk*

Oakley Manor Gardens

The gardens at Oakley Manor will be open to the public on Sunday 12 July from 2 to 5 pm. The cost is £5 per adult. Accompanied children (up to age 16) are free. Tickets are available on the day - cash only please. The entry price includes tea/coffee and cake.

We will update you via posters and Facebook and the weekly OCA newsletter if there are any additions to the afternoon's programme, but we wanted you to know about the event date and time as soon as possible - and as those who have been before will know, the gardens are definitely well worth a visit.

There is parking for blue badge holders only.

We are looking forward to seeing you on 12 July, and our fingers are already crossed for the weather.

Barbara Bedford

Notice Of Annual General Meeting

Date: Thursday 23 July
Time: 18:30 hours



Members are invited to attend our annual meeting, so if you would like to attend in person, please let us know via the contact page on our website.

We would really appreciate if all members could take the time to read the AGM paperwork now on our website www.ocaokley.org.uk and then complete and submit the proxy voting form. We need members to vote in order to comply with our constitution.

If you are interested in becoming an OCA volunteer or if you are a member and would like to know more about being on the committee, please use the contact us page or speak with the secretary on 01256 781456.

Eve Askew

Oakley Village Show

8 August, 1:30 pm Oakley Infant School

Your show needs YOU!

With not much more than a month to go, we are delighted that our plans seem to be falling into place.

Our MP, Luke Murphy has agreed to open proceedings this year. Certificates are printed and



PARISH COUNCILLOR Chat Sessions
WITH OAKLEY AND DEANE PARISH COUNCIL

Come along for an informal chat with your Parish Councillor. We agenda, just great conversation about our community.

MONTH	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
May	26th	7-8:00 PM	Barley Mow
Jun	30th	1-2:00 PM	July 01st
July	28th	7-8:00 PM	Barley Mow
August	25th	1-2:00 PM	July 01st
September	29th	7-8:00 PM	Barley Mow
October	27th	1-2:00 PM	July 01st
December	-	-	-
January	26th	1-2:00 PM	July 01st
February	22nd	7-8:00 PM	Barley Mow
March	30th	1-2:00 PM	July 01st
April	27th	7-8:00 PM	Barley Mow
May	25th	1-2:00 PM	July 01st

We look forward to seeing you!

Share your chat | Share your chat | Help support our parish

Village



judges and stewards are raring to go, looking forward to some bumper entries in all the classes. The arena promises a wide variety of entertainment from the Basingstoke Silver Band through Nik Naks children's entertainer to kick boxing. And the field and playground are preparing for an enticing range of stalls and food outlets.

All we need is YOU to volunteer a small amount of time! So, how can you help? It can be summed up in the 4 "E"s: Entries, Exhibits, Entrance and Energy!

9:30 - 11 am We need help to receive entries and organise the exhibits, which are in the main hall as well as a classroom and the library.

1:30 - 3 pm We need help on the entrance gate. We will have both card and cash desks. (A little note here to everyone to say we can take cards on the gate, but some stallholders might still need or prefer cash.)

4:45 - 5:45 pm We need volunteers with energy (and muscle) to take everything down and pack away.

If you can help with any of that, please email Ann on anndavis48@hotmail.com or Eve on evaskew@btinternet.com

But if you can't help, you can still support the show by coming along on the day. It really is a family, community event. And remember, your entry programme is also your raffle ticket that enters you to the draw with a £100 cash prize, or a bumper hamper, (donated by the Parish Council), so hang on to it!

Ann Davis on behalf of the show committee



Oakley Village Hall

Oakley Village Hall, a registered charity, is seeking additional committee members to be part of the team encouraging the continued growth in the wide range of social and welfare activities on behalf of the Oakley community. This is a fun and light-hearted activity where all members' contributions are welcomed. The time commitment is limited, with 4 to 5 short meetings per year.

If interested, please contact Paul Davis (chairman) on 07714 276 561

Letters



Swift Action Needed!

Dear Editor

I'm writing this in the hope that an Oakley homeowner will be interested in helping our threatened swift population by allowing a swift box to be installed. We would love to have one on ours but unfortunately our home is a bungalow and therefore not suitable. Swifts like to leave their nests by dropping into the air from the entrance which is why the swift box needs to be installed along the roof eaves on a building wall that has a five metre [15 foot] drop with a clear flyway in front.

Two charities are involved in an initiative to bring more swifts back to the Basingstoke area: Hampshire Swifts [hampshire.swifts.co.uk] and Natural Basingstoke [naturalbasingstoke.org.uk] and they will do the installation for a modest fee. We are very happy to fund this.

If you're interested and think your house might be suitable, please do contact us. We'd love to talk with you.

Kenneth and Barbara Robson, Charles Butler 400 Foundation, 07725 832964 / 07722 957057



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HCC Cllr Juliet Henderson Candovers Oakley and Overton Division

Personal Update

I was delighted to be appointed as the Executive Member for Education. I was previously chair of the Select Committee for Children and Young People, which scrutinises policies for our children and young people across Hampshire. My father was a headteacher in a very deprived area and I used to teach maths. It is vital that Hampshire children continue to benefit from a great education and I will work hard to ensure that it continues to happen.



Support for Hampshire care leavers praised in latest Ofsted Report

I'm really pleased to share some positive news about Hampshire's support for young people leaving care. Following a recent inspection, Ofsted has praised Hampshire County Council for providing "high-quality, responsive support" to care leavers, recognising the strong and trusted relationships built between young people and their personal advisers, and the tailored help available as they move into adulthood.

Leaving care can be one of the most challenging periods in a young person's life. Support with housing, education, employment, wellbeing and independence can make an enormous difference, and it is encouraging to see inspectors recognise the dedication of the staff working alongside some of Hampshire's most vulnerable young people. Ofsted particularly highlighted the way young people's voices and aspirations help shape the support they receive.

A huge thank you to everyone across Hampshire Children's Services and our partners who work so hard to support care leavers to build stable, independent and fulfilling lives. This is important work, often carried out quietly and away from the spotlight, but it changes lives. You can read the full Ofsted report here: reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/44/80472

The Hampshire and the Solent Combined County Authority has now been formally established

This is an important milestone for our region and, if we get it right, devolution can bring real benefits for residents across Hampshire, Southampton, Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight. For too long, too many decisions about transport, skills, housing, investment, public safety, health and economic growth have been taken too far away from the communities they affect.

Devolution should mean more decisions being made locally, by people who understand the needs,

challenges and opportunities of our area.

The new Combined County Authority gives us the opportunity to work together across council boundaries, attract investment, improve infrastructure, support better skills and employment opportunities and strengthen long-term economic growth. But it must also be about fairness.

Growth matters, but it must be growth that reaches people and places that have too often been left behind. That means using the new powers and funding to improve opportunity, support regeneration, tackle inequality, strengthen local transport, and help people access the skills and jobs they need to build better futures.

Hampshire has enormous strengths — strong businesses, world-class universities, major ports, rural communities, market towns, cities, coastline and countryside. Devolution gives us the chance to bring those strengths together more effectively.

Now the formal structure is in place, the real work begins: making sure this new Authority delivers practical, visible and lasting benefits for residents, businesses and communities across the whole region.

Highways Information

Hampshire County Council unveils plan for 17,000 community electric vehicle charging points

Hampshire County Council has announced plans for a major expansion of electric vehicle charging across the county. Around 17,000 new community EV charging sockets are planned, focused particularly on areas where residents do not have access to off-street parking, such as a driveway or garage. That matters because, for many people, the biggest barrier to switching to an electric vehicle is not the vehicle itself — it is having somewhere practical and reliable to charge it.

The scheme is being supported by £6.662 million of Government funding, which has helped unlock up to £90 million of private investment from charge point operator Believ. Importantly, this means the programme can be delivered at no cost to Hampshire County Council. Installations are expected to begin later this year, with around 500 charge points planned in the first year.

Residents are also being asked to suggest locations where charge points would be useful, so the rollout can be targeted where demand and need are greatest. This is a practical step towards making EV charging more accessible across Hampshire, particularly for those who cannot charge at home.

You can read more and suggest a location here: hants.gov.uk/News/20260506EVChargingScheme

Cllr Juliet Henderson

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Church News



Oakley Methodist Church

All welcome at the Methodist Church coffee morning on Tuesday 14 July and Tuesday 28 July from 10:30 am to 12 noon. £1.50 for a bottomless cup of tea or coffee and biscuits. Please note there will be no coffee mornings in August. Come and meet old friends and new. The charity for the year is Dementia UK. We look forward to welcoming the woodland well-being walkers at the end of their walk.

Trish Kinchington

Oakley
Methodist Church
Services at 10:30 am

July 5	local arrangements
July 12	Mrs Judith Cole
July 19	Rev John Dawson
July 26	Mt Neil Oshane

COFFEE MORNING Tuesday 14 July, 10:30 am - 12 noon **£1.50**

Basingstoke & District Young Carers
Methodist Church

All welcome at the Chapel by the Pond
www.bddmcc.org.uk/branches/oakley.html

Pause For Thought



I don't know about you, but I love a cup of tea or, to be more accurate, a big old mug of tea! There is something so comforting about cradling the mug, enjoying its warmth, and feeling the hot tea make its way down to your stomach. I also like to dunk a ginger biscuit or eat a slice of cake with it too. But most of all I like tea with someone else. This is probably what I missed most in lockdown (is it really 6 years ago?) when I was on my own, just to chat with a friend over a cuppa.

I'm fortunate now to have been appointed by the Oakley with Wootton Parish to be the Pastoral Outreach Coordinator, and my remit is to seek out the more senior people in the parish. If you are on your own and feeling lonely or isolated, I'd love to meet you! There is no obligation to be a Christian to access

the things we can offer, we are here for our whole parish, and bless the whole community in our services each week.

My remit also includes heading up Holiday@Home, providing a three-day "break" from real life, where you can feel like you are on holiday, with your transport, meals, activities and entertainment all taken care of. This year we are "virtually" going on a European tour, without leaving the St Leonard's Centre, from 11 - 13 August. This costs £40 for three days or £15 for each day. To book please email the address below or call 01256 782724.

With blessings,

Penny Brown, penny@oww.church

Community



Young Carers Supported by Freemasons

Basingstoke & District Young Carers has received a welcome boost thanks to a £1,000 donation from the Elvetham Masonic Lodge. The charity supports more than 120 local children and young people who provide regular care or emotional support to family members living with illness, disability, mental health conditions, or addiction. Nationally, around 700,000 young people take on these responsibilities, often juggling household tasks, medication support, and childcare alongside schoolwork and the pressures of

growing up.

The cheque was presented by Michael Whittaker, Worshipful Master of the 106-year-old Elvetham Lodge, to Colette Bibby, Youth Team Leader for the charity. Young carers attend weekly sessions at The Warren, part of the Hatch Warren Community Centre, where three age-group clubs offer respite, friendship, and understanding—things many miss out on when their peers cannot relate to the challenges they face at home.

Colette Bibby expressed her appreciation for the



Community

support, saying the donation will help subsidise a packed programme of summer activities and fund transport for those who would otherwise struggle to attend. “It ensures they can be part of our close-knit community and enjoy time with others who understand their experiences,” she said.

This year’s summer programme includes parties, BBQs, and trips to the Hawk Conservancy, New Forest Wildlife Park, and the Railway Control Room, followed by a train journey to London. Young carers will also enjoy an overnight stay at the Gordon Brown Centre, two nights at Magdalen Farm in Somerset, a

canal trip, and visits to Paulton’s Park and Hayling Island. The autumn term will bring a family Halloween celebration and festive outings, including a pantomime trip and a large Christmas



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For more information, contact Basingstoke & District Young Carers at The Orchard, White Hart Lane, Basingstoke RG21 4AF, or visit www.basingstokeyoungcarers.org.uk.

Paul Flint

Conservation

Oakley Woodlands Group No More Dragons in the Woods

Coppice woodlands such as those in Oakley will have been worked for various items of wood products (bean poles, pea sticks, thatching spars, charcoal, etc) for hundreds of years. Coppicing ensures a regular income and regeneration of the woods: many coppiced woodlands will have individual trees that can be very old and the wood remains sustainable.

Obviously, the Oakley Woodlands Group (OWG) is not making a living from the woods but the coppicing work does ensure a succession of open areas in the woods, allowing more sun to come in,



flora and fauna to flourish and therefore biodiversity to be boosted. This coppicing activity therefore gives rise to both useful products and benefits for wildlife – a clear win-win.

But making some of the products is very labour intensive and the group has the same recruitment challenges as many others - not enough people with the right skills and enough time to devote to the activities. It is therefore with some reluctance that we have decided to cease our charcoal-making activities. We realise that this will be disappointing for many of our loyal, long-standing customers but, having debated it long and hard, this is the conclusion that we have reluctantly reached. We would encourage you to continue to try and source locally produced, sustainable charcoal, but regret that it will not be as

Conservation



are quite common in much of England and Wales. The females have much shorter antennae with the larvae feeding on leaf litter on the ground.

We also had a pleasant sunny day for the Oakley Front Garden Stalls event. Our stall, selling books, plants, locally-made wooden items and bric-à-brac is our main fund raiser for the year (see photo).

*The Jubilooks Team, www.jubilooks.org.uk,
jubilooks@btinternet.com*



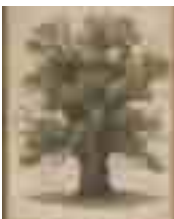
local as it used to be.

We will still plan to make other products such as bean poles and pea sticks - assuming that there is any demand (sales have been very slow this year).

The charcoal kiln is in need of some TLC after many years of loyal service but if anybody is interested in acquiring it, please get in touch.

Email: oakleywoodlands@gmail.com

Clare Lloyd Williams



Jubilooks

We have just had our annual walk through the multi-user path with BDBC rangers and their manager. Our discussions will now be used to inform our work plan for the coming year.

In January, the rangers will again help with coppicing the larger hazels and chipping the debris. They also pointed out a cloud of tiny moths 'dancing' in a sunbeam to attract females. These yellow-barred longhorn moths with a wingspan of 16 mm, have extremely long antennae (see photo) and



What's all the Buzz about?

Bumblebees it's all about the big buzzing furry Queen setting up her nest! With a distinctive droning buzz, she flies in a low zig-zag around wood tree roots and hedgerow banks searching. By May she should have found and built her nest... then will focus on raising her first brood colony, who thereafter become her workers so she can rest and get on with 100% egg laying.



Honeybees are busy busy busy!! The Queen laying the eggs and the workers raising young and gathering nectar for the honey harvest. May is also a key month of natural swarming. If you see a



cluster of bees, don't worry they are at the most calm and they are waiting for the scout bees to come back to tell them where to fly to their new nest. That said if you don't want them near you call up Basingstoke Beekeepers swarm number and they will come and collect [07580 528482].

Conservation



Whilst we see July as the middle of the summer, the honeybee is already anticipating winter and starting to put a brake on worker bee numbers. If they continued at the explosive rate, they would be eating down their honey stores rather than building them up. Both the honeybee and the bumblebee are starting to think about next year's generations and new nests.

And the **solitary bee**? The majority of solitary bee species have now shut up shop in terms of egg-laying and larvae provisioning. Their job is done by July except for a few late emerging species. Their eggs will have hatched into larvae and use the provisioned food stores to grow. Like caterpillars, once fully developed they will spin a cocoon and pupate. They then remain in a dormant state as pupae until they emerge from the nest in spring, their emerging time being uniquely genetically coded and spread to ensure there is enough nectar source. Mass emergence = starvation.

The bumblebee queens who have successfully emerged both from hibernation and establishing a nest (there is high queen loss on both counts!) will now have a well-developed nest with active workers tending her emerging eggs and raising her brood. Depending on the bumblebee type some nests can be as large as 500 workers, but the average number is around 250. And this is when you start noticing bumblebees in your garden... they love the allium flowers in June, and by July you will see lots of bumblebees around the lavender and thistles with the longer tongued carder and garden species enjoying the last of the foxgloves and snapdragons.

For those of you with your own tomatoes, bumblebees are really important as they pollinate using a buzz technique, i.e. for the pollen to be released, the tomato flowers have to be rigorously shaken: the bumblebee does this with strong vibration of their wings with their legs around the

flower. Towards the end of July, the bumblebee queen will start producing the male drones and the next generation queens.

Honeybees continue to be extremely busy. July is the peak size of their colony, which can be 80,000+ strong. The beekeepers will have taken their main crop of the early season honey. One would think that July, being the height of summer,

would be good for the honeybee and beekeeper. But July is a challenging month for both as the plentiful hedgerow and tree food sources start to drop. The lime tree nectar makes wonderful honey but after that, the main food source for honeybees are your garden flowers and bramble hedgerows.

And, as we know, there are just not enough wildflower meadows! Climate change created new patterns of weather last year. The early summer drought threatened the nectar supply for nursery bees inside the hives. So many beekeepers resort to sugar syrup to keep the bee colony viable.

Bees need your help in July! Do provide a water source with plenty of landing stones so the bees don't drown and keep it regularly topped up. Also think about areas in your garden where you can sow wildflower seeds for July 2027 food sources.

Please contact us on 07725 832964 if you want to know more about bees, how to help them and our natural environment.

Kenneth and Barbara Robson on behalf of CB400 Foundation

<https://www.charlesbutler400foundation.org.uk/>



Mother duck and some of her ducklings on Oakley pond, taken by Colin Edwards, June 2026



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Hello from St Leonard's Pre-School

We are looking forward to celebrating the Leavers' Concert with the families of children who are starting school in September. The concert will be in St Leonard's church. The children will be acting out the story of *The Gingerbread Man*. They will be singing their favourite songs together and by themselves. Each child will be playing their favourite instrument.



The photos are from the visit to the preschool by paramedics Poppy and Nick. The children were able to climb into the ambulance and see what was inside. The stretcher was then brought into the preschool, and the children had the opportunity to lie on it and try on helmets and jackets. The paramedics bandaged any children who wanted to see what it was like.

We are open term time only on Monday 9 am - 12 pm, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9 am - 3 pm for children aged two to four years.

If you would like to know more about the preschool, please contact us on 07772378265 or email preschool@oww.church or look at our website stleonards-preschool.co.uk

We look forward to hearing from you.
Caroline Edwards, St Leonard's Pre-School Manager

Cuckoo Meadow Pre-School

We are very into our animals at the moment and have made some beautiful creations – sponge painted butterflies, bees with honeycomb and snails. We have also learned about the lifecycle of butterflies and have loved seeing different species outside. We are very excited to welcome ZooLab to pre-school so that we can meet some more animals.



Amongst the ever-changing weather, we have been developing our gross motor skills outside with ribbon play, obstacle courses and hopscotch. We are hoping that the nice weather sticks around so that we can practice for our much anticipated sports day.

We will then sadly be saying goodbye to our older children who will be moving on to big school after the Summer break. We have loved having each and every one of them with us over the past couple of years and wish them all the best for their next exciting stage.

We hope that everyone has a wonderful Summer and we look forward to welcoming our next group of children in September.

Georgia Hawken, Cuckoo Meadow Pre-School Secretary

About Cuckoo Meadow Pre-School: We are a small and friendly pre-school located in the Rathbone Pavilion of North Waltham. The children who attend come from many areas including Oakley, Dummer, Hatch Warren, Kempshott and Beggarwood. They all agree that the location and wonderful, caring staff mean it is more than worth the short journey. To find out more, please contact Jo or Fiona on 01256 398

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August Adventures returns this summer

August Adventures is back this summer, bringing free, family-friendly activities to parks across the borough. The events are organised by Love Basingstoke and Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council to keep the kids entertained all summer long.

Families can enjoy everything from hands-on crafts and music workshops to sports, games and discos. Whether it's building, drumming, dancing or trying something completely new, there's something for all ages to get involved in.

This summer you can find us in War Memorial Park, Penwood, Tadley, Russell Howard Park and Brighton Hill Park. Pack up a picnic and join in the fun. For more information visit LoveBasingstoke.co.uk/news/August-Adventures

News from Cranbourne

It's hard to believe we're quickly approaching the end of the academic year! We welcomed our new Year 7 cohort to the Cranbourne community for their transition days, where they had the chance to meet new friends, get to know key staff members and experience a day in the life of a secondary school student.



Our Year 11s have now reached the end of their time at Cranbourne and are looking forward to taking the next steps in their educational journey. Their leavers' prom took place at the end of June at Sherfield Oaks and was a fantastic opportunity for them to celebrate in style. We'll see them very soon for results day – we're sure they will make us very proud.

Arts month is now well underway and we've been so impressed with the talent, hard work and dedication shown by our students. Festivities kicked

off with our Year 9 performance of *Sparkleshark*, a play following the transformative power of storytelling. Our performing arts club took to the stage with their musical theatre extravaganza, wowing us all with their renditions of songs from the stage.

Our annual summer concert returned on Wednesday 17 June and our students delivered a truly fantastic night of talent. Their passion for the arts is truly inspiring, and it makes us so proud to watch the Cranbourne community shine.

The final performance of arts month treated audiences to an immersive retelling of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Tuesday*. Both plays blurred the lines between performer and spectator and an enjoyable night was had by all.

Cranbourne day of sport saw students compete in various sports events including tug of war, football and other field events to earn points for their house. It was fantastic to watch our students show incredible enthusiasm, sportsmanship and embrace their house spirit. Results will be announced at the end of term – who will take home the win? We can't wait to find out!

Chloe-Mai Parfitt



Overton Art Group

Save the Date! Overton Art Group Summer Exhibition Saturday 22 to Sunday 23 August, Overton Recreation Centre, Bridge Street.

Nandita Hoyes



Ladies Societies



Oakley Afternoon WI May 2026

The speaker at our May meeting was Jenny Mallin. Her talk was entitled *East India Company*.

Jenny gave an interesting talk about India at the time of the British Raj, based on her grandmother's legacy and the memories her grandmother passed down through the family. Indian women (memsahibs) looked after the family and managed the home. Often they had up to 11 servants to help. Young women at that time were sent out from Britain to marry into the military. They were given money and could stay for one year. If they could not settle, they returned home after the year.

Other business followed, including voting for resolutions and various other domestic items.

The AGM was held and Janet our outgoing secretary was thanked for all her hard work over several years.

Our monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of the month at 1:30 pm at East Oakley Village Hall (the green hut). Visitors are made most welcome at the meetings and are also invited to come along to the coffee mornings held at the Barley Mow on the last Monday of the month.

For further details please contact oakleyaftsec@hampshirewi.org.uk

Janie Vickers

Oakley & Deane WI

On the 9 June Oakley & Deane WI members wore our posh frocks and pearls, were served canapes and a choice of cold drinks and we had a Midsummer Cabaret with Paul Hudson singing songs from the Kings of Swing. Although the weather was not typical for mid-summer a good time was had by all.

Members were able to put their names down for four theatre outings as well as offering to volunteer at the June front garden stalls and at the village show in



August.

Oakley & Deane also have a walking group that usually meets on the last Sunday in the month plus other days during the month when they can be fitted in. In May we had walks in the lovely villages of Wherwell and Sherborne St. John and we have a few more walks planned. We also have a Scrabble group that meets once a month. The eating of cake is involved at this meeting.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 14 July at 7:30 pm at Oakley Village Hall, Station Road, Oakley. It will be a themed evening organized by a group of members instead of the committee and we have been asked to bring a favourite childhood teddy bear to the meeting.

Any ladies over 18 are always welcome at our meetings to see what we do and what events we organise. Entrance is free for your first two visits. You do not have to be able to make jam or cakes to join this WI. It is a great way to make friends you have not yet met and promote women's views and discuss problems.

Future events and reports on past activities can be found on our website oakleydeanewi.weebly.com and on our Facebook page [facebook.com/oakleyanddeaneWI](https://www.facebook.com/oakleyanddeaneWI). We can also be contacted by email oakleydeanewi@gmail.com



Basingstoke Ladies Probus Club

THE ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED & SEMI-RETIRED PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS PERSONNEL IN LOCALISED CLUBS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD
"What did you do last night...? Save a life?"
Someone in SERV Wessex probably did.

At their May meeting, the Basingstoke Ladies Probus Club listened in awe to Rob Harris, a volunteer blood driver, detail the service of S(ervice by)E(mergency)R(ider)V Wessex, the voluntary emergency rider charity better known as "blood bikes".

Operating 365 days a year across East Dorset, Hampshire and Wiltshire, SERV Wessex provides an essential out-of-hours courier service for NHS hospitals and healthcare providers. Staffed entirely by unpaid male and female volunteers, the charity transports vital medical supplies between hospitals, dialysis units, laboratories and emergency response teams, including Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance (HIOWAA). Items carried include blood, plasma and platelets, pathology samples, medication,

Ladies Societies



Blood and milk boxes on 2 and 4 wheels



*Affiliated to
Hampshire County
Federation of the WI
AGM – alias “Elect
and Reflect”*

Sometimes an organisation can be so busy attending to ensuring its very existence, its planning, its focus on what’s good for the members, etc, that it can go almost unnoticed just how much it, and its members, achieve. The recent AGM of The Rookdown Revellers WI was different from what one might expect but typical of the success of this branch.

frozen donor human milk and essential medical equipment.

Originally formed in 2019 to support Queen Alexandra Hospital in Portsmouth, SERV Wessex received the Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service in 2021 in recognition of its support to the NHS during the pandemic.

Today, around 95 volunteers — riders, drivers, dispatchers, fundraisers and administrators — give their time free of charge. Most use their own vehicles, supported by a small charity fleet of marked motorcycles and cars.

Volunteer dispatchers work from home coordinating deliveries, monitoring weather and road conditions and liaising with hospitals and partner blood bike groups when inter-county transfers are required.

In 2025 alone, SERV Wessex covered more than 139,000 miles, completed around 2,300 delivery jobs and transported approximately 3,800 medical items, saving the NHS an estimated £185,000 in courier costs.

Annual operating costs are approximately £50,000, with an additional £25,000 required every four years for vehicle replacement and fleet renewal. The charity relies entirely on public fundraising via community events, supermarket collections and local group talks, grant applications and online donation schemes to maintain its life-saving services.

As the leaflet asks, ‘What did you do last night?’ The Ladies Probus Club felt very humbled...

Yet another fascinating monthly talk, combined with the BCoT restaurant’s delicious lunch offering.

If interested to know more about BLPC membership and the upcoming programme, please contact: The Admin Secretary - reverendjane@hotmail.co.uk - 07754 296994

Annie Vicars

The actual business of the day was accomplished – Pauline Steiner nominated and accepted as president for the coming year, other committee members finalised – but only after each person was asked to submit anonymously three facts about themselves others might not know. Fellow members then had to guess the author. The range of experiences was fascinating and enabled this “small but perfectly formed” friendly club to bond even further on hearing surprising snippets of the lives around them.

But then the president, in her first AGM report, outlined the activity of the year and it is fair to say she had a rather stunned reception as she listed:

Visiting speakers covering:

- Make your own hand scrub – and we did
- Introduction to BSL
- Christmas in Mexico
- Dogs for autism
- Surgical instruments
- Nepal’s culture and education
- Diet and exercise for menopausal women

Activities including:

- Restaurant meals
- Walks in Arlesford, Overton and more planned
- Barn dance
- Let’s glow walk, Memorial Park
- Fundraising quiz night

Visits to:

- Bletchley Park
- Salisbury Cathedral
- Chichester Cathedral
- Christ Church, Oxford
- Cinema (*Nuremberg, Hamnet, The Devil Wears Prada*)

- Queen Elizabeth II – Buckingham Palace
- Kinky boots
- Museum of London

*And all in just one year...! Fancy joining in, ladies?
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Feature

News From Jolly Olly's Coffee Shop

Basingstoke Young Carers

Our collecting tin was sent to the Basingstoke Young Carers in June. Thank you to everyone who purchased a second hand book, donated or "pressed for pennies" to activate the lovely model that Bob Porter created to help support the fund raising.

Colour and Company Club

Several folk have enjoyed our new Colour and Company Club over the past month. Anyone is welcome to join us between 2 and 3 pm every Tuesday in July. Colouring sheets, pencils and pots of tea and biscuits for sharing are provided as part of the £4 price.

Knitting Club News

Wow! The knitters have donated £200 to Hampshire Air Ambulance and £200 to St Michael's Hospice this month. Thank you to them all for their fabulous efforts and to all those customers who have donated wool or purchased a knitted product from the community stand. It has been so lovely to welcome some new folk along to join the team in recent months. Anyone is welcome to come along between 2:30 and 3:30 pm on Saturdays.



Monday Madness

Be our 30th customer of the day AND quote code Monday30Me on a Monday in July to enjoy your visit for FREE! The code must be quoted to apply.

Sale

I am delighted to have accepted an offer for the purchase of Jolly Olly's Coffee Shop. The new owner will be Debbie Timms, a lovely local lady whom I know you are going to enjoy getting to know. Debbie is very community-minded and is a customer of Jolly Olly's. We are both keen to make the transition as smooth as possible and will keep you updated with any relevant news.

32 Oakley Lane, Oakley RG23 7JY (Tel 01256 782658)

Find us on Facebook and Trip Advisor and Instagram



Jolly Olly's opening day in 2011, with her sons outside the cafe

Gardening

Oakley Gardening Club

We welcomed our speaker Katherine Lee to our June gardening club meeting talking about "an introduction to garden design". She took us through the different stages of planning, depending on her client's budget, what work was to be done and also their wishes in the garden, etc. Katherine gave us lots of things to think about, and

showed slides of her successes from start to finish. Katherine made it a very interesting talk.

Our competition, which we have every month, is

open to members only. June's competition was "a bridesmaid's posy with a rose".

The next meeting is on 3 August at St Leonard's Hall 7:30 pm. Our speaker is Brian Pettit and he will be talking about "wildlife



of the New Forest". Visitors always welcome. For more information contact Maureen on 780788.





New Wellness Talks Coming to Oakley



Tracey Chappell



Marian Hook

Local Health Coaches Launch Community Initiative to Support Wellbeing



Venue: The Oakley Room, St Leonard's Centre, Oakley
Date & Time: Thursday 23 July 6:30 – 7:30 pm
 As life becomes increasingly busy and demanding, many of us are looking for ways to improve our health, wellbeing

and quality of life. We believe that small, positive changes can make a big difference, and that everyone should have access to practical, reliable information that helps them live well.

We are Marian and Tracey, both qualified Functional Medicine Health Coaches with our own Wellness and Wellbeing Consultancy businesses.

Marian has lived in the village for the past 22 years, and together we have many years of experience in nurturing both body and mind. As a way of giving back to our local community, we are delighted to be launching a series of wellness talks here in Oakley. You are welcome to come to as many or as few as you wish. There is no charge.

Our aim is to share knowledge, practical tools and simple strategies that people of all ages can use to optimize their health. Whether you are

looking to boost your energy levels, manage stress, maintain a healthy lifestyle or support your mental wellbeing, we hope these sessions will provide useful and encouraging guidance.

Why Wellbeing Matters

The choices we make every day, how we sleep, eat, move, balance stress and connect with others, can have a significant impact on how we feel both physically and emotionally.

The good news is that improving wellbeing does not have to involve dramatic changes. Often, it is the small habits we practise consistently that create the greatest benefits. By understanding the foundations of health and making simple adjustments to our daily routines, we can improve our resilience, enhance our quality of life and potentially reduce the risk of future health challenges.

Our First Talk: The Foundations of Wellbeing

Our first session will focus on five key pillars that underpin good health:

- Quality sleep
- Stress balance and resilience
- Nourishment and healthy eating habits
- Social connection
- Movement and nature

We will explore how each of these areas influences our wellbeing and share practical, achievable ways to incorporate healthy habits into everyday life.

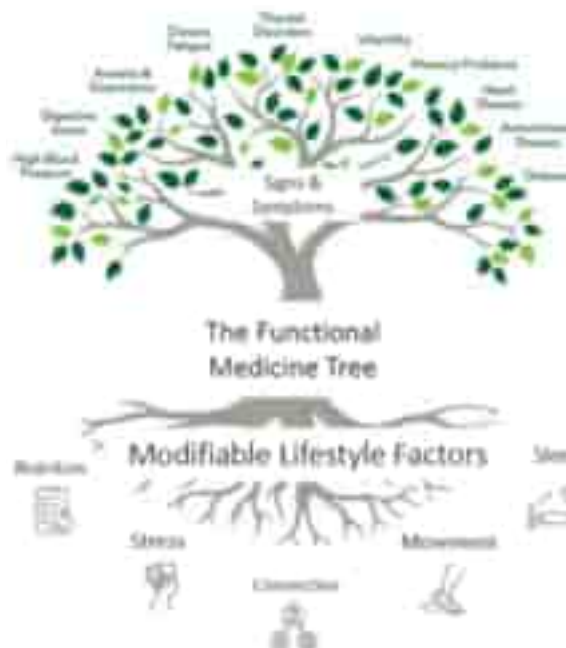
In future talks and workshops, we plan to explore each of these topics in more detail, providing deeper insights and further practical guidance.

Hopefully, the wellness talks will take place approximately once a month and last about an hour. Our wish is to create a friendly, welcoming space

where people can learn, share ideas, ask questions and feel inspired to take positive steps towards better health and wellbeing.

Whether you're just beginning your wellbeing journey or looking for fresh ideas and encouragement, we hope you'll join us and look forward to meeting you and sharing a cup of tea afterwards. No need to book.

However please feel free to call or email if you have any questions – Tel. 07795 148180 or marian@mjhspa-wellbeing.com



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GP Triage

As we continue to work with our new GP Triage software, we would like to thank all the patients who have given us constructive feedback. Rest assured that information is being shared with the developers to enable us to tailor the system for Watership Down Health and, most importantly, our patients.

GP Triage is available from 07:00 am Monday to Friday. Our reception team will continue to be available between 08:00 – 18:30 Monday to Friday, for queries and other appointments e.g. nurse appointments, but we encourage use of the online GP Triage service for those able to use it.

The GP Triage system can be accessed via our website by one patient at a time only at -
watershipdownhealth.com

Please see below for videos of the new system available via Youtube:

How to Use GP Triage - For Patients (Short Version): youtube.com/watch?v=RIfpB47Xwx8

(Full Version): youtube.com/watch?v=6KuSKDoyETg

Sun Safety

Whilst it has been really lovely to see the sun, please remember to use sunscreen. The heat can be too extreme for some people, so please look out for anyone vulnerable in your life or community.

The NHS website has further information at:

nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/sunscreen-and-sun-safety/

Ticks and What to Look out for

Ticks are small, spider-like parasites found across the UK, and NHS guidance emphasises preventing bites, removing ticks safely with fine-tipped tweezers, and watching for symptoms such as a circular rash that may indicate Lyme disease.

What ticks are

Ticks are tiny spider-like creatures (1 mm–1 cm) that feed on the blood of animals and humans. They live in grassy, wooded and park areas across the UK.

Tick bites: symptoms

Usually painless but may cause a red lump, swelling, itchiness, blistering, or bruising. Seek medical advice if you develop:

A pink/red rash Fever (38 °C or above)

Flu-like symptoms Swollen lymph nodes

Lyme disease risk

Caused by bacteria spread by infected ticks.

Early sign: circular or oval expanding rash (erythema migrans), appearing 1–4 weeks after a bite. Not all ticks carry Lyme disease, but risk is higher in southern England and the Scottish Highlands.

How to remove a tick (NHS method)

Use fine-tipped tweezers or a tick-removal tool.

Grip as close to the skin as possible.

Pull upwards steadily without twisting or crushing.

Clean the area with soap and water or antiseptic.

What NOT to do

Do not use heat, alcohol, petroleum jelly, or attempt to smother the tick.

Prevention

Stay on paths; avoid long grass.

Wear long sleeves and trousers tucked into socks.

Use insect repellent on exposed skin.

Check skin, clothing, children and pets after being outdoors.

Advanced notice - national seasonal flu & Autumn Covid-19 booster vaccinations Autumn 2026

We are planning to advertise our seasonal flu and covid-19 vaccinations clinics in August 2026 with a view to being able to book an appointment by the middle to end of August 2026. Further information on how to do this will be in the August 2026 newsletter. Please make sure we have current contact details and we recommend that, if you use the NHS app, the notification feature is switched on.

The next NHS app help clinic will be run by the PPG at the Overton practice on 28 July, 9 – 11 am.

The full version of this newsletter is available on the Watership Down Health website.

Heather Mann

Coeliac UK North Hampshire Group

Simple blood test could transform coeliac disease care

A new project at the University of Oslo is set to become the biggest research investment in the history of Coeliac UK. The specialist research team in Norway is studying gut damage in people with coeliac disease to better understand the disease process. This work could lead to the development of a simple blood test that identifies if there is ongoing inflammation – even when people are following a gluten-free diet.

In turn, this could:

- Help detect people at greater risk of long-term complications
- Provide clearer insights into how well the condition is being managed
- Transform how coeliac disease is monitored and treated in the future

Next meet-up

Next meeting Wednesday 15 July 10:30 - 12:00 at Waitrose café, Basing View

Contacts

To contact the Local North Hants Group, please email northhampshire@coeliac.org.uk

Join our Facebook page Coeliac UK North Hampshire Local Group, or see our events on the North Hampshire Coeliac UK website page coeliac.org.uk/local-groups/north-hampshire

Dave West

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Local News



Whitchurch Silk Mill

Visitors this summer will find activity throughout the building. On the ground floor, silk continues to be woven on historic looms, while elsewhere you may see bobbin winding, trimming and finishing work in progress. A newly arranged archive area on the middle floor offers insights into over 200 years of the Mill's history, alongside a space where preparations for finished silk products can be observed.

Like many heritage sites, the Mill faces ongoing challenges in maintaining an historic building. In response to rising energy costs, solar panels have recently been installed on the Welcome Building roof, contributing to a more sustainable future while complementing the Mill's traditional reliance on water power. In addition, a grant from the government's Arts Everywhere Fund will support essential conservation work to the wheelhouse, helping to safeguard it for future visitors.

There are also several events planned in July. On 7 July, Tracey Panek, historian for Levi Strauss & Co, will give a talk exploring the company's development from its origins in the California Gold Rush to its global influence today. On the same day, a guided Silk Production Tour will offer visitors an opportunity

to see the weaving process up close and learn more about the people and skills behind it.

A range of workshops continues throughout the month, including weaving, crochet, sewing and silversmithing. These sessions are great for beginners as well as those wishing to develop existing skills and provide a friendly way to try something new.

For those who have not visited recently, the Mill is a distinctive and working part of Whitchurch's history. Whether calling in for a short visit, attending a talk, or taking part in a workshop, there is always something to discover.

We look forward to welcoming local residents and visitors over the summer months.

Tickets for our events are generally available from the mill shop or from our website via the "Events" page. To keep up to date with what's on at the Mill, follow us on Facebook and Instagram or subscribe to our email newsletter via the link on our website.

Contact: info@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk – www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk – 01256 892065

Sue Tapliss

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<https://www.basingstokechorsociety.org.uk/summer26>

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Local News



Probus Club of Basingstoke Celebrates its 46th AGM

Founded in 1979, the Probus Club of Basingstoke has elected a new president and committee at its 46th AGM.

As the Probus name suggests its membership is made up of retired *professional* and *businessmen* who enjoy meeting regularly for lunch where they have a range of interesting speakers as well as a social monthly pub lunch accompanied by their wives or lady friends. Mixed specialist lunches are taken several times each year and organised outings are arranged to interesting venues.

The new president is Sherfield on Loddon resident, Paul Klinger, a retired solicitor, while the other officers have a mix of working experiences. In fact, the glue holding the club together is the spread of members working across the spectrum of all the local commercial and industrial employers as well as medical, nuclear, police and military services.

See their web site: www.probusbasingstoke.club for more information.

Paul Flint



Basingstoke Concert Band's (BCB) Golden Anniversary Season 2026

<https://bcband.org.uk>

Join BCB as we continue our 50th anniversary celebrations with a wonderful programme of music and special events throughout the rest of 2026.

Jazz on a Summer's Afternoon

Have you bought your tickets yet? Join us on **Sunday 5 July at 3pm** in the garden of **Sherfield-on-Loddon Village Hall** for an afternoon of live jazz. Your ticket includes tea, coffee and a delicious selection of homemade cakes. Please bring your own chair and settle in for a wonderful summer afternoon of music and refreshments.

Celebrating 50 Years of Basingstoke Concert Band

BCB celebrates its 50th Anniversary with a special concert featuring the premiere of a newly commissioned work at **The Haymarket Theatre, Basingstoke** on **Sunday 20 September at 3pm**. Save the date – we'd love to see you there.

A Magical Christmas Finale

Our Annual Christmas Concert promises a magical afternoon for the whole family. Join us at the **Main Hall, Queen Mary's College, Basingstoke** on **Sunday 6 December at 3pm** for a spectacular finale to our 50th celebrations. Featuring a special live performance of The Snowman alongside the film shown on screen, this enchanting one-off event is sure to delight audiences of all ages – especially children.




What is the u3a?

It is the "University of the Third Age". We are a lively organisation centred in the Overton area including members in Whitchurch and Oakley, for people no longer working full-time who want to keep learning. There is no minimum age and no requirement for qualifications. Our aim is to have fun, make friends, stay fit and exercise the mind.

Our u3a branch has over 30 interest groups and over 200 members.



Our interest/study groups are run by members e.g. languages, crafts, history, games, lunch clubs and gardens. There are monthly talks which are held on the third Wednesday of each month, in St. Mary's Hall, Overton at 10 am. (Next meeting: 15th September)

Joining our u3a is easy, it costs just £10 a year. Everyone is welcoming and friendly! Take a look at our webpage for information on Talks, Outings, Groups and how to apply for membership. <https://overton.u3a.site.uk/> or email (direct on info@u3aoverton@gmail.com).

If you aren't able to look online you would be welcome at one of the monthly talks where we can provide more details.

Free Ads



All entries should be sent in writing to Maureen Dallaway, by **15 July** for inclusion in next month's Link. Entries may also be sent by e-mail to freeads@oakleylink.org.uk Please include an address or telephone number.

Flymo Speedi-mo 360vc Lawn Mower used only once therefore as brand new, purchased from B & Q for £134 but will accept £80 - a genuine bargain. Barry Shepherd 07980360791

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spare bedroom. Approx 58 cm sq. No obligation inspection welcome. Can deliver locally. £45 the pair. tel. 07879 467242

What-not stand, unusual oval design, free-standing, three shelves and small drawer. Approx 80 cm H x 39.5 cm W x 29.5 cm D. Brown/rosewood effect finish - structurally sound, but some marks to veneer so would benefit from refurb/upcycle. No obligation inspection welcome. Can deliver locally. £15. tel. 07879 467242

CD music for sequence dancing - The Alan Lancaster Sound Vol 4, Look for the Silver Lining. 20 tracks which includes music suitable for Foxtrot, Tango, Waltz, Cha-Cha, Swing, Saunter, Jive, Rhumba, Quickstep. CD is in excellent condition; minor marks/scratches to CD case. No obligation inspection welcome. Can deliver locally. £10. tel. 07879 467242

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Mirror suitable for outside use - £3 - 45 cm wide x 60 cm - 01256 781456

Sport



Oakley Tennis Club

Do you play pickleball? Or would you like to start? Oakley Tennis Club are excited to let you know that we now have two pickleball courts and would love to have some new members to join us and play. We are always happy to welcome new tennis members too so why not come along and have a go at either or both!



We have teams playing in the Basingstoke League for anyone who wants to play competitively, also club nights and social play for those who just want to play for fun. We have a lovely clubhouse and excellent courts to play on, both maintained by the committee and members.

It is a small but friendly club so why not come along to see for yourself. Please contact our membership secretary at franmartin@aol.com or phone/text to 07769 931613 for more information.

Fran Martin

Oakley Bowling Club News

A busy season continues and, so far, ten new members have joined us. If you missed our open day but would like to have a go, just call Norman on 07711 685772 or Diane on 01256 781465. They will arrange for you to be met at the green, shown our splendid facilities and be made aware of our special bowling and social membership offers. Alternatively come to our family day planned for 12 July.



The season has seen mixed results. We bowled out early from national team competitions but Oakley teams top Divisions One and Four of the Whitchurch

Sport

League and Division Two of the Basingstoke Men's League. The highlight, however, has come in individual competitions where Janie Vickers came through a strong field, comprising ten Hampshire Johns Trophy players, to qualify for the county quarter finals of the two bowl singles.

Our first one-day competition saw 22 teams competing for the prestigious Malshanger Bowl. There were four leagues with the winners competing in two close-run semi-finals, The final went to an extra end, with Paul Critchell, in his first full season, and Hugh Aherne defeating Carol Phillips and Richard Waters.

Our social programme gave members the



opportunity to explore our home. A Summerdown Farm tour took us onto farm tracks, fields (where we saw the rare badger -faced Welsh sheep) and along the hedgerows, as Master of Mint, Ian Margetts, talked us through the journey of herbs. We visited the distillery and finished with a cream tea, in the familiar surroundings of the Malshanger clubhouse. The



clubhouse was also the venue for our first mystery murder night. Almost 60 members were present and, with a fish and chip supper at halfway, it was yet another great social evening. More information about the club can be found at oakleybc.org.uk.

Spencer Kerley

Walking



Oakley Ramblers

On 21 May we had a beautiful evening walk around North Warnborough, starting and finishing at The Mill House. We saw roaming highland cattle, went through woods and fields and then joined the Basingstoke Canal. After a brief look at Odiham Castle, we crossed water meadows and completed our circular walk.

On Whit Sunday nine ramblers took a circular route around Popham and Woodmancott. We were glad of the shaded sections of the walk as temperatures quickly rose. We took in scenic views across farmland, and pretty village scenes. We heard



birdsong throughout the route as nature celebrated a gorgeous early summer's day. The walk took us back to the Honesty Café at Dummer Down Farm for welcome drinks and snacks.

In early June, we spent a few days in the beautiful



Elan Valley, exploring a lesser-known part of Wales. It was a wet week, however, this did not dampen our spirits and we enjoyed a variety of walks mostly around six to nine miles, although a few added extra miles sometimes.

Near the reservoirs, we marvelled at the mossy woodland, birdsong and architectural structure of the dams. In more exposed areas we enjoyed fantastic views over the countryside. We ended each day with a meal in a local pub, the quality of which varied from poor to excellent, then chatting over a drink in the Horseshoe Guest House. A wonderfully restorative experience with great company.

Oakley Ramblers is a friendly group; we welcome visitors who can try us out before joining. Our planned walks for July are Wednesday 8th, Thursday 16th, and Sunday 26th. Details of our walks are published on our website a week before the walk takes place and we'd love to see some new faces.

Find us on Facebook or visit our website for more information. oakleyramblers.org.
Corrine Thomas

Woodland wellbeing walks, July

Come and enjoy scenic walks around

our local woods and fields.

2nd, 3rd & 4th

Tuesdays

☉ Finishing with a sociable cuppa @

Methodist Chapel ☉

Start Point for Walks

Tuesday, 14 July 10 am - Village Pond

☉ B

Tuesday, 21 July 10 am - St John's Rd lay-by [self led as Richard not available]

Tuesday, 28 July 10 am - East Oakley Village Hall [aka The Green Hut]

☉ B

Other Details

Start time: 10 am

Pace: gentle

Duration: 1 hour approx

Routes: varied

B = Barbara-led [07722 957057] R =

Richard-led [07549 021174]

Barbara Robson



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LOCAL INFORMATION

Oakley Community Association

Secretary - Eve Askew - www.ocaoakley.org.uk
OCAoakley@live.co.uk

Councillors and Politicians

Member of Parliament, Basingstoke

Luke Murphy - luke.murphy.mp@parliament.uk
Belvedere House, Basing View, RG214HG 01256 587093

Parish Councillors

Gary McAllister - Chair	Trevor Green - Vice Chair
Dave Condliffe	Ken Crafer
Sherrie De Kiguchi	Ian Ellison
Jayne Grant	Amanda Hayman
Carl Jeffries	Vince Kitley
Steve Neems	Alex Rowley

Parish Clerk: - Nicola Beere, Oakley & Deane Parish Council,
Newfound Sports Pavilion, RG23 7HH

clerk@oakleydeane-pc.gov.uk or 07983 500372

Assistant Clerk: - Kelly Green

assistantclerk@oakleydeane-pc.gov.uk

Borough Councillors

Marc Connor	
Cllr.Marc.Connor@basingstoke.gov.uk	01256 389093
Julian Jones	
Cllr.Julian.Jones@basingstoke.gov.uk	07946 475700
Alex Rowley	
Cllr.Alex.Rowley@basingstoke.gov.uk	01256 592443 07445 093986

County Councillor

Juliet Henderson - juliet.henderson@hants.gov.uk 862413

Estate Agents

Brockenhurst Estate Agents, 6 Rectory Road 700280

Police - 101 or 999 in an emergency

Gas Emergencies 0800 111 999

Health - 111 or 999 in an emergency

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The Fox	The Barley Mow
The Green Hut (Hill Road)	The Infant School
The Cricket Club	Peter Houseman Field
Andover Road Village Hall	St. Leonard's Centre

Doctors' Surgery	0333 034 1033
Out of hours	111

Village Halls

East Oakley Village Hall ("The Green Hut") - Hill Road Booking Secretary 07788 423252 or email: booking@oakleygreenhut.co.uk

Website: www.oakleygreenhut.co.uk

St John's Centre - St John's Road Contact: Church Office 782724

Oakley Village Hall - Andover Road Contact: 781229

St Leonard's Centre - Rectory Road Contact: Church Office 782724

Churches

Website:

Church of England

www.stleonards-church.co.uk
Church Office: St Leonard's Centre
Rectory Road, Oakley
Tel 782724 09:00 - 13:00 weekdays
Rev'd Ben Kautzer 01256 420903
Contact for Deane - Deidre Cole 781495

Methodist

Website:
Chapel by the pond
Hill Road
www.bhbccircuit.org.uk/churches/oakley.html
Revd Claire Simpson
revclaire73@btinternet.com
01256 323103

Roman Catholic

Website:
St Joseph's and
St Bedes
www.stjosephsbasingstoke.org.uk
171a St Michael's Road Basingstoke,
RG22 6TY
Fr Paul Leonard

Community Church

Website:
www.lifespringcommunitychurch.org
Or www.hopebasingstoke.org
St Luke's Hall Overton
Or Sarum Hill Centre, Basingstoke
Contact John and Wendy Thurston
780135

Village Shops

Annie's Oakley - Meon Road	
Cakes by Maze - Rectory Road	07349 888237
Coop - Oakley Lane	780857
Craft Kits N Bits - 4 Rowan Tree Road	020 3488 5499
Hair Beauty - Meon Road	780745
Honeysuckle Interiors - Meon Road	780831
Lara's Beauty Workshop - Meon Road	07726 207203
One Stop - Oakley Lane/ The Vale	780227
Geoff Aubrey & Sons Butcher - The Vale	373297
Jolly Olly's - Oakley Lane	782658
The Village Pharmacy - The Vale	782381

Oakley Scout Group

Contact TBD
oakley@bwds.org.uk

Oakley Girlguiding

Contact - Caroline Lloyd
c451loyd@outlook.com

NOTE: If you wish to add an item or amend any entries, please send an email to:
john@oakleylink.org.uk Last amended 11th June 2026

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