

WOOF

ALL THE LOCAL NEWS & EVENTS FOR
WALLISWOOD, OCKLEY, OKEWOOD HILL & FOREST GREEN

JULY/AUGUST 2026

PULL-OUT 'WHAT'S ON' IN MIDDLE PAGES

News items

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CONTENTS

Advertisers directory	2
Welcome	5
Village news	
Ockley Parish Council	6
Hurtwood Centenary	30
Events	
Okewood Hill Summer Fair & Flower Show	8
The Pavilion Café	17
Village Lunches	18
Walking Group	24
Village Events	25
Ockley church service times	46
Ewhurst Bowling Club	46
Okewood and Forest Green church service times	47
Albury Music Festival	48
The Arts Society Rudgwick	49
The Arts Society Cranleigh	49
General Interest	
Pride of Place	11
To See Or Not To See... that is the question	13
The Garden in July and August	14
Ockley Toddler Group	18
Arafat	20
Ockley Village Hall	32
Road Unclosed	36
Thinking about your weight?	38
Could You Help a Neighbour in an Emergency?	39
Village Charities	41
Clubs and Societies	42
Village Halls to Hire	42
Wheelchair for Loan	43
Church Contacts, The Ark & Historic Churches	45
Bus Timetable	50
WASP Bus Timetable	51

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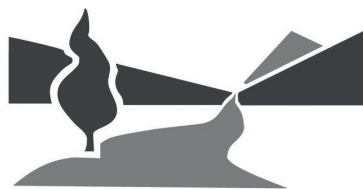
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WELCOME

'Tis the season of moths, all sorts, and power cuts. I am old enough to remember English summers of old and the miners' strike, with no central heating and candles to see by, and never knowing whether to wear a cardigan over a summer dress because the temperature changed so fast. Our garden too reminds me of my childhood garden – roses, lupins and green everywhere. And we have an all too familiar smell throughout our house of moth balls! Those pesky pests!

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to Woof, which seems a bit of a harking back to the past too – with Gordon Lee-Steere's fascinating history of Ockley Village Hall, itself a memorial to many good local men who died far too young in the last great wars, and its continued use as a legacy to the community of Ockley. Colin Seelig opens the lid on his involvement in our British Government's cloak and daggers dealings with Yasser Arafat in Gaza at a time when there was reason to hope for a lasting peace.

And of course we have current local news – the upcoming Okewood Hill and Forest Green Summer Fair and Flower Show, and other slightly further flung but still local events well worth visiting. And, all too current sadly, an article on weight loss from the doctors of Shere. . .

Enjoy.

Amanda Elsdon-Dew



The Ockley Village Facebook page is here to encourage local businesses, charities, societies and clubs to share their news with the villagers of Ockley as well as keeping the community connected. We look forward to hearing from you.

OCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual Assembly and Annual Meeting of Ockley Parish Council took place on Monday 11th May. It was good to see the meetings being well attended by parishioners. The Chairman Jason Wright presented his report to all and this is available to read on the OPC website along with the SCC report from Helyn Clack. At the Annual Meeting Jason Wright was re-elected as OPC Chairman and James Lee-Steere re elected as Vice Chair. There is still one vacancy for a councillor and OPC would love to hear from anyone in the village who could join the team and help with the council's work. If you are interested in becoming a councillor, please email [**clerk@ockleypc.co.uk**](mailto:clerk@ockleypc.co.uk) for further information.

The Parish Council policies had all been reviewed and were unanimously approved. The minutes of both meetings are now on the OPC website for all to read. The Annual Accounts were approved and signed and would be submitted to the external auditor. They have been published on the website and a copy put on the notice board at the end of School Lane.

In another change, I (Amanda Barclay) have taken up the role of Parish Council Clerk. Some of you may know that our last clerk resigned some time ago and Lesley Fletcher has been covering the clerk's duties since then. I am delighted to be back with the parish council having previously been a councillor for 6 years (2 as chair) . Lesley will mentor me for an initial period as I get to grips with my new role. She is tremendous support and I will take every opportunity to learn from her vast knowledge of OPC procedures and also historic village knowledge.

As always, your Parish Council is here for you so, if you have any questions or issues to raise, please email [**clerk@ockleypc.co.uk**](mailto:clerk@ockleypc.co.uk) and of course everyone is welcome to attend the OPC meetings, dates of which can be found on our website.

Amanda Barclay

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Okewood, Ockley & Forest Green Summer Fair & Flower Show returns on Saturday 8 August 2026

One of the Surrey Hills' best-loved summer events, the Okewood, Ockley & Forest Green Summer Fair & Flower Show will take place on **Saturday 8 August 2026, 12 noon–5pm**. Established in **1893**, this year marks the **126th show**, bringing a traditional village-fair atmosphere, a packed programme of entertainment and plenty to see and do for all ages.

Highlights include a **Fun Dog Show**, live music from **Swing Ela Jazz Duo**, the **Rampant Roosters Morris Dancers**, an **Exhibition Marquee** with competition classes for vegetable and flowers; preserves, cakes and bread; photography and crafts; and also many children's categories. There is also a dedicated **Kids' Zone** with a free face painter, ball pond and Punch & Judy. Visitors can also browse **50+ stalls**, enjoy the **food court**, and admire **classic cars, static steam engines** and much more. It is the largest and best summer fair in the Surrey Hills.

To **enter your own produce or crafts** look out for the Show Schedule in local outlets or go to www.okewoodhillflowershow.co.uk and enter online. There are over 200 classes to choose from so there is something for everyone.

Entry is **£5 for adults**, with **children under 16 free** and gates open at **noon**. Come along for an easy, family-friendly afternoon out in the Surrey Hills.

Location: Okewood Hill Cricket Ground RH5 5PU

Parking: Free parking (please follow the signs)

Media/Enquiries: info@okewoodhillflowershow.co.uk

Website: <https://www.okewoodhillflowershow.co.uk>





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PRIDE OF PLACE

Last year, 2025, was, indeed, a special year for the Year One of The Teddy Bear Picnic. In spite of the rain, all participants had a very special time.

This year, 2026, on the traditional May Bank Holiday weekend, the sun did shine and the number of volunteers did double to 20!

75 copies of THE GREAT TEDDY BEAR PICNIC sold to raise donations for St. Margaret's Church and the Cricket Club. Brilliantly manned Tombolas also achieved wonderful results. The children will never forget the Wonderful Treasure Hunt; it was magically presented.

See below the list of winners for the Teddy Bear events and prizes.

All of the guests for the day were expressly appreciated. Thank you all for making the day wondrously unforgettable.

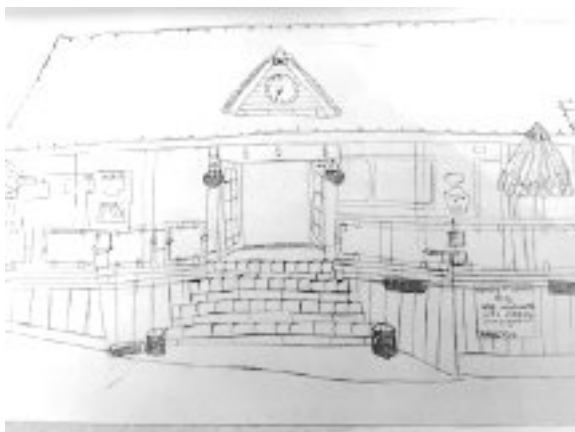
Prize Winners

The Teddy Bear Name:
Jasmine Moss

Best Decorated Teddy Bear:
Sophie Albery

The Teddy Bear Flag:
Madeleine and
Chloe Bedgood

Children sent their drawings of the Cricket Club to say 'thank you' for the most wonderful day.



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TO SEE OR NOT TO SEE... THAT IS THE QUESTION

In light (oh the irony!) of the many recent power cuts, it seems indifferent not to mention them. They have become quite the fixture of our village lives it would seem.

Personally, I no longer re-set any of the digital clocks on my various appliances as it is a pointless exercise requiring constant activity. So visitors to my house are always slightly bemused by my Alice in Wonderland collection of varying timekeeping items set across what appears to be many time zones!

And cooking...now as a 'lazy cook' you can be sure that on the rare occasion I feel moved to create a culinary masterpiece, it is, without exception, needing to go into a piping hot oven just as the power goes off. No warning, perhaps a very nice text message some time later telling me it might happen, and no clear idea of when it might go back on.

So really it then calls for a pub dinner, having first checked that said pub isn't also sitting gloomily with the candles lit!

And the icing on the uncooked cake is the many and varied reasons given by the power network as to why we have had an unplanned power cut, ranging from fallen trees in high winds (fair enough) all the way through to 'we aren't sure but we're having a look'.

One wonders whether we have a particularly aggressive type of pheasant busily pecking away at power lines, or perhaps a rare beaver chewing their way with great vigour through low lying lines – or, perhaps, we just have to accept that part of the charm of village life is the ongoing, and unrelenting, power challenge, and find our 'Dunkirk' spirit and clever ways to keep warm and eat, so continue to support our local hostelryes!!

If nothing else, it is incredibly heartwarming to see all the offers of help, trips to get takeaway food and supply of any provisions needed through the various village WhatsApp groups which unite us as a community, and allow our lovely British humour to shine through, most of the time. . .

Power to the people!

Lynne Porter

THE GARDEN IN JULY AND AUGUST

Another year and another discussion about the erratic weather in the UK! Our gardens – and us as gardeners – are having to get used to dealing with extremes. After a long, grey winter, early spring gave us brighter but chilly days, with frosts lasting well into mid May. Many gardeners seem to have struggled to get seedlings going and thriving until much later than usual this year. And then we had no real rain for around five weeks, including three weeks of unseasonably hot days, reaching 30 degrees! Many emerging leaves were scorched – hydrangeas in particular – and a number of plants and shrubs suffered if left unwatered. This was challenging at a time traditionally used for new planting. Yet as we write this in early June, we're now into the second week of fairly torrential rain. This has been a mixed blessing, giving our gardens much needed water yet battering some of the beautiful blooms on our roses, peonies, ornamental poppies and many more. But, as is always the case, whilst some of our favourite early summer plants have struggled with the cold, then the dry then the very wet, there are always those who thrive and have treated us to some wonderful displays. Roses have been especially spectacular.

Hopefully you've now planted out any annuals you've grown from seed or bought, such as cosmos, zinnia, cornflowers etc or cleared patches and sown seed directly in the ground. Remember to keep deadheading plants to keep them blooming (roses, lupins, delphinium etc) and also cut some plants right back, such as geum and some geraniums and they should come back again in a month or so.

Some more sunshine would now be very welcome so that the mid-summer favourites can begin to step into the spotlight. Now is the time for salvias, verbena, echinops, fuchsia, the many lovely phlox varieties, hollyhocks, later-flowering clematis and dahlias to name but a few. And let's not forget the many flowering shrubs still bringing such beautiful colour and texture to the garden, from sambucus and deutzia to spiraea, cotinus and the many varieties of hydrangea.



By July, many annuals should be looking their best, and we'll start to see lovely hanging baskets and containers brightening up gardens all across Surrey. Think vivid reds, lipstick pinks, corals and lilacs from pelargoniums, begonias and verbenas; the soft, blousy blooms of petunias; the honey-scented charm of pale nemesia; and the cheerful trailing stems of lobelia, bacopa and fuchsia. To keep everything going strong, water regularly and feed once a week with a liquid fertiliser - perhaps make Fridays your very own 'Feeding Fridays'!

Later-planted sweet peas should still be putting on a lovely show, particularly if you pick them often to stop them setting seed.

Do keep your vegetables well watered through the warmer weeks, especially tomatoes, cucumbers, courgettes and squash, and give them a weekly feed to help them stay productive. If you're growing cordon tomatoes, it's a good idea to stop them getting too tall by pinching out the main shoot. Look for the leaf just above the fourth truss (the set of developing fruits) and remove the tip there. This helps the plant focus its energy on ripening the fruit before the end of the season. You can also take off a few of the lower leaves to improve airflow. Bush tomatoes, on the other hand, can simply be left to get on with it.

First early potatoes should soon be ready to lift, along with spinach, peas, beans, carrots, salads, and spring-planted onions and garlic. It's also a good time to think ahead and sow spring cabbage, leeks and brassicas for a useful winter crop. And if you have gooseberries or redcurrants, a summer prune will help keep them in good shape.

And, finally, an important date for the diary: the **Okewood, Ockley & Forest Green Summer Fair, Flower Show and Fun Dog Show** takes place on **Saturday 8th August**. All the much-loved attractions will be back again, including Morris dancing, classic cars, the fun dog show and craft demonstrations. There will also be plenty of interesting stalls to browse, and do make time to visit the marquee and enjoy the flower and vegetable exhibits. There's still time to enter your own fruit, vegetables or flowers too - the deadline is 4th August - using the online entry form at www.okewoodhillflowershow.co.uk/show-marquee/

We hope to see you there!



Martin Smith & Emma Treeby

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The Pavilion Café was originally the idea of Kindred Spirits, the women's outreach group from Ockley, Okewood and Forest Green Parish, 12 years ago. Run by a team of volunteers, it has raised more than £20,000 supporting charities, local charitable causes and Ockley events. Thanks to our customers' generous donations we've recently been able to support ...

- **Air Ambulance Charity Kent Surrey Sussex**
- **Stroke Association**
- **Dementia Charity Run**
- **Young at Heart**
- **Ockley Village Teas**
- **Ockley Toddlers**
- **Amber Foundation**
- **Local hardship payments**
- **Local Parish Church projects**

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ARAFAT

In October 1994 I was asked to join my colleague Richard Deh on a visit to Palestine. We were both staff of Crown Agents, a British international development organisation. We went to Gaza City, to work on a project to provide wages for Yasser Arafat's so-called police force which was really his army. Following the Oslo Peace Accord in 1993, the British Government decided to contribute money to the peace process by supporting the budget of the new Palestinian Authority. The Accord provided for the creation of a Palestinian interim self-government, the Palestinian National Authority (PNA). It would have responsibility for the administration of the territory under its control, thus giving the Palestinians a degree of independence from Israel.

The Oslo process is the 'peace process' that started in 1993 with secret talks between Israel and the PLO. It became a cycle of negotiations, suspension, mediation, restart of negotiations and suspension again. It is so called because it was facilitated by the Norwegian Government.

Richard and I flew to Tel Aviv, arriving there early in the morning from where we took a taxi as far as the border with Gaza. The border crossing at Erez provides the experience of going from the first world to the third world in just a few metres. Once on the Gaza side, you are immediately plunged into a world of deprivation and hardship, and it is quite a shock.

We checked into the Cliff Hotel and were shown to our rooms where we intended to get some rest before facing the challenges of the day. I had hardly stretched out on the bed before the owner of the hotel knocked on the door with a message. We had been summoned by Yasser Arafat to attend a meeting with him immediately to discuss our mission. It was a short journey to Arafat's headquarters, and we soon found ourselves sitting at a huge conference table which, apart from Richard and myself, was occupied by Arafat's military, some of whom had their weapons in full view.

Arafat (known to the Palestinians as Abu Amar) sat at a table facing us at a slightly higher level. He seemed to be distracted by a screen, and we later found out that he was watching cartoons whilst at the same time talking to us. He made it abundantly clear that he wanted the money paid out to his police force as soon as possible, and he showed complete disdain for the checks and verification that we were required to do by the British Government.

Following this rapid introduction to Gaza and the Palestinian leader, we went to see Terje Rød-Larsen, Ambassador and Special Adviser for the Middle East Peace process to the Norwegian Foreign Minister, a key player in this peace accord. It was immediately obvious that he was very wary of us inadvertently aggravating an already tense situation. He briefed us very carefully and asked us to report to him regularly. He provided us with a car, a driver and, to a limited extent, security. He reminded us that there

were no embassies in Gaza and that if the Israelis closed the border, we would just have to wait to get out.

We were not casual about security in Gaza for long. One afternoon, as we returned to the UN office and were about to get out of the car, we heard the crackle of gunfire. Our driver immediately made us stay in the car whilst he lined it up with a side door in the compound wall. As soon as there was a lull in the exchange of fire, he told us to get out and get into the compound as fast as we could. As Larsen had told us, the risk was not that we would provoke any trouble ourselves but that it was impossible to avoid the possibility of being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Verifying the salaries and entitlements of different ranks and service of Arafat's men was revealing, if not tedious. We assumed that these must have been a legacy of the Palestine Police Force established by the British following Allenby's entry into Jerusalem in 1917. The salary structure was difficult enough, but the entitlements were hugely complicated by having been awarded personally by Arafat himself. Many of the documents were written by hand in Arabic and we had to get help just to decipher them.

At the end of this exercise, we had to arrange payment in cash to each man on the payroll. We needed four million dollars, which we could draw from a bank in Amman, Jordan - 150 km and two borders away. Not only that but we had to avoid Friday the Muslim holy day and Saturday the Jewish holy day. We assembled a team to put salaries together and a lorry arrived on Saturday, late after nightfall after both holy days, and a large transparent plastic sack with the money in it was unceremoniously delivered to us.

Salaries were denominated in shekels and we had dollars, so it was impossible to pay them exactly in dollars. The solution was pragmatic. We paid the bulk of each salary in dollars, and the balance in shekels by making frequent visits to the petrol station across the street to get the change we needed. As the new day dawned (Sunday, the Christian holy day), we completed the exercise and we hoped we would leave Arafat happy.

Unfortunately, our next visit was not so smooth. For some reason, which was not clear to us, this visit to Gaza was delayed by two weeks, which resulted in the month's salaries not being paid on time. Our arrival was met by the same summons to see Arafat, but this time he was openly hostile. 'You are my enemy; you are supporting the Israelis,' he said. We apologised for the delay and tried to reassure him that we were ready to pay out the salaries right away.

He told us we were too late and that he had taken a loan from the finance minister from which he had paid his men. We suspected a bluff and immediately made an appointment to see Mohammad Nashashibi the (first) Finance Minister of the Palestinian National Authority, who confirmed that what Arafat had told us was in fact correct.

We managed to persuade Arafat and Nashashibi that we could still transfer the money to them if we could do the verification exercise retrospectively. In other words, we offered them a reimbursement of the loan on condition that we could do the necessary checks. Not surprisingly, they agreed but not without complaint and some unflattering comments from Terje Rød-Larsen.

We were just getting into the car to leave the Cliff Hotel and go to the airport in Tel Aviv, when the owner came rushing out to say that there was a call from London for us. I went in and picked up the phone. A colleague whose name I will not mention said, 'I have just agreed with the ODA (Overseas Development Administration) that you can stay another day.' This meant that we could bill for another day's fees. We, however, were ready to leave.

'We have finished; there is nothing left to do,' I said. 'I insist that you stay,' he replied. 'We have paid the bill.' 'There is nothing else for us to do and we are coming home,' I told him, and we jumped into the car.

We went to check in at the British Airways desk in Tel Aviv airport where we were told that they had received instructions from our manager in London not to check us in. Instead, the airline had reported this to the airport authorities, and so we were ushered into a room to be interviewed by the police. It took a while for it to sink in, but Richard and I gradually realised that this was the consequence of our colleagues in London reacting to our gesture of defiance.

There must be a generic truth that you do not alert the security services of a foreign country to anything that colleagues might be doing there. Worse, if you do not realise that asking an airline not to board staff that work for you is bound to arouse suspicion and that the airline would feel duty bound to refer to the airport police shows a profound unworldliness bordering on recklessness.

Our eventual departure from Tel Aviv was another lesson in local politics. Politeness was not one of the qualities displayed by the officers who interrogated us. Of course, they knew we had been in Gaza, but they specifically wanted to know what we had been doing there. The paperwork we had with us did prove that we were acting on behalf of the British Government, but it did not improve their mood. They finally let us catch our flight but with only minutes to spare.

Looking back to the Oslo Accord, it is very hard to think about what might have been. On 13 September 1993, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO Leader Yasser Arafat had shaken hands on the White House lawn, watched by President Bill Clinton. It was an unprecedented moment, and the world had expected so much. The Oslo Accords (there were two of them) had weaknesses, but the great men - who signed them - were not succeeded by equally great men.

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WALKING GROUP

Thursday 9th July	The Pheasant, Buckland	10am
Thursday 23rd July	Wotton Hatch	10am
Thursday 13th August	The Onslow Arms, Loxwood	10am
Thursday 27th August	The Owl, Kingsfold	10am

Thursday 9th July

Meet at The Pheasant, Buckland at 10am for a moderate 4.5 mile walk around the outside of Buckland Lake then up to the North Downs Way briefly before dropping down to Underhill Farm and Buckland Green to return to the start.

Thursday 23rd July

Meet at the Wotton Hatch at 10am for a moderate 4.7 mile walk down the Greensand Way to Broadmoor and across Shootlands Farm to Leylands, and Friday Stree, returning via Wotton House.

Thursday 13th August

Meet at The Onslow Arms, Loxwood at 10am for an easy 5.5 mile walk along the Wey and Arun Canal, heading across Pephurst Farm to Woodlands Furze and then the Sussex Border path to Alfold Bars, returning via Gennets Wood and back on the towpath.

Thursday 27th August

Meet at The Owl, Kingsfold at 10am for a fairly easy 5.5 mile across Wattlehurst and Bonnets Farm to cross the A24, and then the railway at Ridge Farm then over to Nunnery Farm returning via Balckfriars Farm back to Kingsfold.

Please ring Sue on 01306 627168 if coming so she can reserve a place for you for a well deserved lunch in the pub afterwards.

VILLAGE EVENTS JULY 2026

1st Wednesday 9.00am–12pm - Pavilion Café

Ockley Cricket Pavilion - Every Wednesday, see p17 for details

2nd Thursday 9.30am–11.30am - Ockley Toddler Group

Ockley Village Hall - Every Thursday, see p18 for details

6th Monday 6.00pm - Pilates with Sarah Reeves

Forest Green Village Hall - **NOTE change of location** - Every Monday (during term-time)

7th Tuesday 9.00am - Pilates with Tiffany Lee - Every Tuesday (term-time)

Walliswood Village Hall

7th Tuesday 9.15, 10.30am & 6pm - Pilates with Sarah Reeves

Forest Green Village Hall - **NOTE change of location** - Every Tuesday (during term-time)

7th Tuesday 1.30pm–2.30pm - Seniors Exercise Class

Oakwood Hill Village Hall - Every Tuesday

8th Wednesday 7.45–9.00pm - Bell ringing practice

St. Margaret's Ockley - Every Wednesday except 1st in month

9th Thursday 10.00am - Walking Group

The Pheasant, Buckland - See p24 for details

12th Sunday 10am–12pm - Café on the Green

Forest Green Village Hall

20th Monday 12.30pm - Village Lunches

Ockley Village Hall - See p18 for details

23rd Thursday 10.00am - Walking Group

Wotton Hatch - See p24 for details

Church services p46-47

JULY 2026

VILLAGE EVENTS – SEE PREVIOUS PAGE FOR DETAILS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Pavilion Café Ockley Cricket Club bar	2 Toddler Group Punchbowl Quiz	3	4 Walk from The Parrot
5	6 Pilates with Sarah Reeves	7 Pilates with Sarah Reeves Pilates with Tiffany Lee Seniors Exercise Class	8 Pavilion Café Bell ringing practice Ockley Cricket Club bar	9 Toddler Group Walking Group	10	11
12	13 Pilates with Sarah Reeves	14 Pilates with Sarah Reeves Pilates with Tiffany Lee Seniors Exercise Class	15 Pavilion Café Bell ringing practice Ockley Cricket Club bar	16 Toddler Group	17	18
19	20 Pilates with Sarah Reeves Village Lunches	21 Pilates with Sarah Reeves Pilates with Tiffany Lee Seniors Exercise Class	22 Pavilion Café Bell ringing practice Ockley Cricket Club bar	23 Toddler Group Walking Group	24	25
26	27	28 Seniors Exercise Class	29 Pavilion Café Bell ringing practice Ockley Cricket Club bar	30 Toddler Group	31 Live music at The Cricketers	

AUGUST 2026

VILLAGE EVENTS – SEE NEXT PAGE FOR DETAILS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Walk from The Parrot
2	3	4 Seniors Exercise Class	5 Pavilion Café Ockley Cricket Club bar	6 Toddler Group Punchbowl Quiz	7	8 Okewood, Ockley & Forest Green Summer Fair & Flower
9	10	11 Seniors Exercise Class	12 Pavilion Café Bell ringing practice Ockley Cricket Club bar	13 Toddler Group Walking Group	14	15
16	17 Village Lunches	18 Seniors Exercise Class	19 Pavilion Café Bell ringing practice Ockley Cricket Club bar	20 Toddler Group	21	22
23	24	25 Seniors Exercise Class	26 Pavilion Café Bell ringing practice Ockley Cricket Club bar	27 Toddler Group Walking Group	28 Live music at The Cricketers	29
30	31					

VILLAGE EVENTS AUGUST 2026

 **4th Tuesday 1.30pm–2.30pm - Seniors Exercise Class**

Oakwood Hill Village Hall - Every Tuesday in month

 **5th Wednesday 9.00am–12pm - Pavilion Café**

Ockley Cricket Pavilion - Every Wednesday, see p17 for details

 **6th Thursday 9.30am–11.30am - Ockley Toddler Group**

Ockley Village Hall - Every Thursday, see p18 for details

 **8th Saturday 12.00pm–5.00pm - Okewood, Ockley & Forest Green Summer Fair & Flower**

Okewood Hill Recreation Ground - See p8 for details

 **13th Thursday 10.00am - Walking Group**

The Onslow Arms, Loxwood - See p24 for details

 **17th Monday 12.30pm - Village Lunches**

Ockley Village Hall - See p18 for details

 **27th Thursday 10.00am - Walking Group**

The Owl, Kingsfold - See p24 for details

 **Church services p46-47**

Pub events

Last Friday of every month: 8.00pm, live music at The Cricketers

Every Wednesday evening: 6.00-7.00pm Ockley Cricket Club bar open to all at Pavilion

First Thursday of every month: 8.00pm, the Punchbowl Quiz

First Sat of every month: 9.30am-12.00pm walk from The Parrot, Forest Green

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HURTWOOD CENTENARY

A hundred years of freedom to enjoy 'air and exercise' on the Hurtwood was celebrated on the top of Holmbury Hill on June 14.

The Directors, landowners and a large crowd of enthusiastic supporters of Friends of the Hurtwood gathered on the hill fort to mark the centenary of the original dedication of the common land in 1926. The cairn has been restored and a new centenary plaque added.

Chairman Assheton Don and Lord of the Manor of Shere, Handa Bray, led the speeches and celebrations. It was a glorious sunny day and Handa gave special thanks to her uncle Reginald Bray and his guardian angels for arranging perfect weather!

The Hurtwood covers some 2000 acres across Winterfold, Holmbury Hill, Pitch Hill and parts of Farley Heath. The initiative for controlled public access came from the Bray family who were joined by The Duke of Northumberland. Assheton said the first ranger was retired Ewhurst bobby Sgt Ashment. Control was necessary as in the 1920s people were driving on to the heath in their cars and causing wildfires. There were camps everywhere and it was regarded as a dangerous place.

In 1925 the Law of Property Act allowed more control of common land, especially of vehicles and fires. Reginald Bray's deed signed on November 22 1926 closed the area to motor traffic. Fires were banned and camps were regulated. As a result, livestock dwindled, the camps finally disappeared and the land returned to woodland and became welcoming for walkers, horse riders and cyclists.

Handa said her Uncle Reggie was her hero, as reading his letters she discovered a man deeply caring and involved in all aspects of the welfare of the community. 'He wanted with all his heart for the public to have access to the Hurtwood but not to burn it down!'

Friends of the Hurtwood now manages and maintains access to the whole area. Assheton said a big thank you to the landowners who allow their land to be open for so many visitors with a special thank you to Handa for her ceaseless energy and dedication to the Hurtwood and being so supportive of the Friends. Plus a big thank you to all the members who support it.

If you would like to be part of the community and donate to help FOTH protect the area, please visit foth.co.uk



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OCKLEY VILLAGE HALL

The hall was built by Henry and Anna Lee Steere in memory of their son John who had been killed early in the First World War and of all the other Ockley people also killed. It was formally opened on 12th September 1923. I don't think the Centenary was celebrated in 2023, hence this article.

The elaborate ornamental brickwork is worth examining in detail. The Lee Steere family brickworks by Ockley Station had been closed at the beginning of the war so the bricks came from the Dorking Brick Company at North Holmwood but some of the moulds used for the ornamental bricks are stored at Jayes. I don't know who provided the bricks with the moulded Grenadier cap badge at the top of the buttresses around the building or the lettering over the front door. The memorial on what was then the outside east wall includes a stone from the ruins of Cloth Hall in Ypres destroyed during the war but rebuilt afterwards. John Lee Steere was killed at Ypres in November 1914 and his grave is in the graveyard at nearby Zilbekeke.



The names of the Ockley people who died in the Great War are recorded with photographs of many of them. There are 31 names listed on the board in the hall with 20 photographs. We have brief information about all of them in the Ockley archives. There is another memorial plaque by the staircase with only 28 names and 29 are listed in the memorial in St Margaret's Church. The hall list adds Percy Brewer who died of his injuries in 1923 and also Herbert Matthews. There is a separate plaque recording the names of four of John Lee Steere's cousins who were also killed.

When constructed, the building had a main hall and stage, a room over the north part of the hall accessed from stairs on the east, which also accessed a committee room over the lavatories. There was also a caretaker's cottage, which is now let, and outhouses with boilers etc to the southeast. The curtain for the stage consisted of a painting on canvas of the Lee Steere family on horseback, but it needed to be rolled up when opened, so the legs of the performers on stage appeared first. Not very convenient, so it was replaced by a conventional curtain, though not until the 1970s. The original is stored at Jayes. There was also a gloomy painting of horse riders high on the north wall. There is also a painting of John Lee Steere.

In 1925 the hall was vested in a trust with trustees nominated by the Lee Steeres and a management committee was formed. It appears that the Lee Steeres paid the running costs of the hall until, soon, the hiring fees were sufficient. The hall was used as a cinema and also a badminton court.

After the Second World War the committee decided to add to the hall as a memorial to those killed in that war and, after much deliberation, the kitchen was added to the north. The memorial plaque by the stairs has 11 names, as does the church memorial. The stage was also enlarged by the position of strong tables at the front. The area between the hall and the rectory was given to the hall committee as a parking area.

In the 1980s major repairs were required to the hall. It was reroofed (machine made tiles rather than handmade) and the floor replaced. To get grants to cover part of the costs a new constitution was drawn up as a charitable trust, and the ownership was transferred to the parish council.

A children's play area was created to the east of the parking area on land leased to the parish council and an area to the east of the hall fenced off as a safe area for the nursery children. In about 1997 a school room was added for use as a nursery school, in the area between the north and south extension.

It is considerably older than most of the local village halls (the Dorking Halls were only built in 1931). Although large, it lacks flexibility but is well used by the community.

Gordon Lee-Stere

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ROADS UNCLOSED



Driving to church the other day, past a 'road closed' sign, reminded me of when I got it wrong a few years ago. No one would have made it to church by car the other day if they had obeyed the signs, completely blocking off the road leading to Okewood church. Nearly all of us drove bravely on and discovered that it was, as usual, just a case of the workmen not having moved the 'road closed' sign on Friday and the road was not closed. There was a minor roadwork outside the entrance to Gatton Manor, coned and taped off, so presumably work was to resume on Monday. We told each other charitably that maybe it would have been too expensive to pay people to remove the signs over the weekend and then replace them.

Had an official in a yellow coat tried to stop us in Walliswood, I am sure we would have been polite and respected the sign. We were, after all, going to church and also my husband was driving and he is always polite. I was on my own a few years ago, though, and rebelled. It was, I felt, outrageous because the 'road closed' sign was at the top of the Okewood Hill road, where it joins the A29, and I wanted to go to Village Greens, via Ockley. To go back meant a very long detour via Ruckmans Lane and Weare Street and I could see that although the huge tarmac lorries were parked up all ready to start their resurfacing work they were doing nothing. It seemed that a good mile of road, my route, was closed off quite unnecessarily.

I stopped where asked and when a yellow-coated official came over I asked, very politely, if I might be allowed to drive through since the work

hadn't started, and I was in quite a hurry to get to Village Greens because I had lost my purse, and thought it might be there. He hesitated and nearly said 'OK', but couldn't quite bring himself to agree and said no. That was when my old rebellious nature asserted itself. I let pure indignation take over and, I fear, my inner Margo Leadbetter of 'The Good Life' came to the fore! I looked this man in the face and said, 'Well, you have told me I can't drive on, but I am choosing to ignore you,' and drove past the barrier and towards Ockley on the empty road. I felt great as I did, thoroughly empowered. And then rather apprehensive as I approached another yellow-coated person manning the barrier at the Ockley end. My inner 'Margo' was already wilting and I wasn't sure what I would say when challenged but all was well; I only needed to say politely that I was looking for my lost purse and I was waved through. Phew!

I got to Village Greens where, needless to say, I hadn't left my purse (which I later found at home) and decided virtuously, and no longer brave, to return via Weare Street. When I got to the junction between Weare Street and the A29 I saw that the barrier had been extended right along the road and was now blocking me from getting out onto the road and across to Ruckmans Lane, though there were absolutely no roadworks taking place. Oh bother! However, I was determined to conform but was very relieved when the yellow-coated man here let the car in front of me across because it was going to be a long way round otherwise. I stopped, ready to ask very politely and gratefully if I too might cross. But no! It was the same man as the one I had been so impolite to before. He said that I absolutely couldn't cross, that it was more than his life was worth to let me because his foreman had been so furious that I had ignored both him and the sign that he had been given orders that my car was, on pain of death, not to be allowed through any barriers.

So I had to drive all the way back up Weare Street and didn't dare risk turning right onto the A24 and taking the Kingsfold route back to the A29 because I might find the barriers had by then moved even further back than Ruckmans Lane and Weare Street, and I was now the pariah driver of the area. So I went all the way round via Mole Street, Walliswood and back into Okewood Hill, a lengthy twisty journey that gave me plenty of time to regret my earlier, very brief triumph over the closed-road tyranny. Though I confess I did enjoy my very brief flash of 'Margo'.

Amanda Elsdon-Dew

THINKING ABOUT YOUR WEIGHT?

The message from the panel of Shere doctors who addressed a good turnout for the SALV evening on April 15, was there is NO QUICK FIX.

The answer to controlling weight for a healthy life was a combination of good diet, slow eating, small portions, good sleep, mindfulness and exercise for the long term – in short, a complete lifestyle overhaul. Diets and drugs just produced short term results that were quickly reversed.

Dr Douglas Wardrop began by outlining definitions of obesity and the effects of superfluous fat in different parts of the body. He suggested measuring one's waist circumference in relation to one's height was the best indication of being overweight. It should be no more than half one's height. Fat around the organs was the least healthy as it caused inflammation and increased the risk of cardio-vascular disease and cancer.

He produced some horrifying statistics: 2/3 of the population are either overweight or obese. Social deprivation means obesity is more prevalent in the north than the affluent south east. Men are more likely to be obese than women, but more women are morbidly obese than men. As well as educational background and poverty, there are ethnic influences as well: 65% of Caucasians are overweight, 75% of Afro Caribbean, and 35% of Chinese. The Japanese regard being fat as showing lack of restraint. The most worrying was the increase in obesity in children and the rapid rise in infant Type 2 Diabetes. Obesity (on its own, not just overweight) affects just over 10% of children entering school and just under 20% of those in early teenage years (13/14).

Tackling obesity was more complicated than just reducing food intake and increasing exercise, he said. Genes played a part. Socio-economic factors, sedentary jobs and the effects of poor mental health were all contributory, but it currently costs the NHS £6b a year to treat people and that cost stands to rise to £10b by 2050.

Dr Emma Watts discussed lifestyle choices: healthy nutrition without ultra processed food, the importance of being hydrated, reducing portion size and as people get older, reducing carbs and increasing proteins. She suggested exercising for 150 minutes per week – just half an hour a day for five days and setting small realistic goals for increasing strength. Mindfulness reduced stress. The focus should be on changing habits, celebrating small steps of progress and setting long term goals.

Dr Marcus McEwen looked at the drugs available that have become the popular solution for quick weight loss. Ozempic and Mounjaro were originally designed to help diabetics but were found to have great potential in inducing rapid weight loss. They made patients feel fuller for longer and reduced their appetite, resulting in the loss of between six and

eight stone. He detailed a list of side-effects but said the drugs were effective.

However he said they were not the complete answer. Few people fulfilled the Government conditions for an NHS prescription as the cost would otherwise bankrupt the NHS overnight and most people acquired the drugs privately. And when people stopped taking the drugs – the weight went straight back on.

SALV chairman Adrian O'Loughlin gave a vote of thanks to Tim and Lesley Austin for their generosity providing refreshments.

COULD YOU HELP A NEIGHBOUR IN AN EMERGENCY?

As emergency paramedics can sometimes take a considerable time to reach our villages, a proposal has been made to create a local volunteer support scheme for vulnerable residents.

The idea is to publish, in WOOF magazine, a list of local volunteers who would be willing to attend a neighbour in the event of a medical emergency, where paramedics have been called but advised that they may be delayed for several hours.

Volunteers would not be expected to provide medical treatment, simply to offer reassurance, practical help and companionship until professional assistance arrives. While first aid training would be very welcome, it is not essential — a calm and caring presence can make a great deal of difference in an emergency.

If you feel you could help as part of this village support network, whether or not you already have first aid training, please contact Claire Read on 07811 161976 or email mrscread@gmail.com

Even a small amount of help could make a very big difference to someone in need.

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- WIFI
- Staging
- Acoustic Padding
- Sound System
- Tables and Chairs

www.oakwoodhillvillagehall.org

bookings@oakwoodhillvillagehall.org

Scan here to find out more..



VILLAGE CHARITIES

Abinger Consolidated Charities

For the benefit of residents in the Ancient Parish of Abinger (inc. Abinger Common, Hammer, Forest Green, Walliswood and Okewood Hill). If you or someone you know is struggling financially, don't hesitate to ask us for help.

Contact Kim Clark in confidence:
kimclark50@gmail.com

Amber

Provides a temporary safe home and support to homeless unemployed young people in crisis (Reg. Charity Number 1051388).

louise.cheung@amberweb.org
or 01306 627924

Gambia Horse & Donkey Trust

We provide veterinary support for mainly equines, but also other animals who require our help. We also run a primary health care clinic for the local people.

www.gambiahorseanddonkey.org.uk
(Registered Charity No. 1096814)

Ockley United Charities

Gives financial assistance to parishioners who find themselves in financial hardship and it also provides an annual gift to parishioners who are of restricted means. Please get in touch if you are suffering financial hardship.

Gill Christie

gill@c21mediagroup.com or

Dick Thomas

dickthomas1000@btinternet.com

Okewood, Forest Green and

Ockley Aid in Sickness Fund

Provides financial assistance to people with medical needs due to illness, injury or disability

(Registered Charity No. 204846).

Contact Jane Waugh the welfare officer for the trust at 07814 287926

JaneWaugh@btinternet.com

John Ede Trust

Based in Capel, the trust was created by Robert John Ede in 1991. The primary aim of the Trust is give financial assistance to those with learning disabilities, their families and organisations in the local area but also extend this support to the county of Surrey.

www.johnedetrust.org

or Keith Posner 888990

Stella's School Scheme

Sponsoring the education for children in need in The Gambia from nursery to University

www.ssgambia.co.uk

(Registered Charity No. 1130256)

Tapestry Day Club

A not-for-profit enterprise to help beat loneliness and support those living with dementia, giving their carers a break. TDC provides a social day out in a small group, including transport and a home-cooked lunch in a private home.

www.tapestrydayclub.co.uk

(Registered Charity No. 1209048).

The Quick Response Memorial Woodland

A peaceful place located in Pasturewood Road, Holmbury St Mary, where ex-servicemen, their families and friends come to meet, walk, sit, reflect and talk with like-minded individuals.

www.qrmw.org

(Registered Charity No. 1174651)

VILLAGE CLUBS & SOCIETIES

Beare Green Young Farmers

Colin Smith 01273 494528

Capel Camera Club

Meets at the Capel Village Memorial Hall most Wednesdays between September and April.

See www.capelcameraclub.org.uk or ring Dick Thomas on 01306 627569.

Capel Cricket Club

thony.birch@bennettchristmas.com

Capel Tennis Club

lynettevonkaufmann@gmail.com

Forest Green Cricket Club

We play friendly matches every Sunday between the beginning of May through to the end of September, mainly on our home ground. New players are always welcome!

We also host a social member's bar in our pavilion every Friday evening throughout the summer.

For more information please contact our chair Malcolm Clayton on 01306 621 225.

Girlguiding

Rainbows:

capel.rainbows@btinternet.com

Brownies

: capelbrownies@gmail.com

Guides: capelguides@outlook.com

Ockley Cricket Club

Ockley Cricket Club was founded in 1852 and regular matches have been played on The Green since, although there is evidence that games were played even before that.

Most of our games are Surrey Downs League matches.

Contact Loll Figg on 01306 712408
Jason Edgecombe 07918 784446

Oakwood Hill Club (opposite The Punchbowl)

The club runs competitive and friendly cricket, stoolball, snooker and darts teams in local leagues. We are always looking for new players and social members.

The pavilion has been completely renovated with carpeting, kitchen,

bar and a large outside seating area. It is available to rent for functions and parties for around 30 inside.

Please contact Dave Bishop on 01306 627524 for further info.

The Ockley Society

The Ockley Society is a group of enthusiastic, villagers whose aim is to develop, support and encourage a healthy village community spirit.

Please see the Ockley Society Facebook page for further details and contact information. We are always interested in hearing from anyone who has time or resources to contribute to any of events each year.

We currently host two quizzes (March & October), The Cricket Sevens (September), The Ockley Bonfire, Firework and Torch Parade (November) and Carols on the Green (December), plus one or two extra events per year.

Contact the Chairman Alan Hardy for further information at theoockleysociety@outlook.com

Ockley Dramatic Society

We are a friendly group, we don't take ourselves too seriously but we do undertake our productions seriously. Now entering our 77th year, we have undergone a revival these past few years, attracting more than 20 regular acting members and 20 children dancers. We put on a large-scale pantomime each New Year and recently restarted our summer productions, which consist of two one-act plays with a supper provided.

We utilise many skills, not just on stage, carpenters, artists, technical, musicians, props, coffee makers, cake bakers, wardrobe, publicity, finance to name but a few roles. If interested, please do call our Chairman for a friendly chat, Stephen Dallyn, 01306 712111.

Walking Group

For more details please contact Sue on 627168 or by email to srsjdixon@btinternet.com

Wheelchair for Loan

Do you or anyone you know need a wheelchair for a short time?

If you do I have one available . Please give me a call on 07512 973661

(Wheelchair donated by the family of Doreen Scott.)

Michael

VILLAGE HALLS TO HIRE

Need space for an event? Why not hire one of the village halls?

FOREST GREEN

Forest Green Village Hall is a carpeted, cosy hall. Suitable for family events, children's parties, group meetings, fitness classes, rehearsal room, functions, etc. Wheelchair friendly with outside space and parking facilities.

Charges from £8.00 per hour.

For booking enquiries please contact
Gaye Collis on 01306 621298
or gaye@forestgreenvillage.co.uk.

OAKWOOD HILL

Discover the hidden gem of Okewood Hill, the Oakwood Hill Village Hall!

Nestled on the picturesque recreation ground, next to the cricket club. This spacious hall can accommodate up to 100 people, making it the perfect venue for your next event. The hall boasts an array of amenities, including parking, a well-equipped kitchen, a sound system, seating, and Wi-Fi access. Accessibility is a top priority, with designated disabled parking bays, a convenient ramp, and accessible toilets. The hall's open-plan layout offers a stunning view of the cricket ground from its paved terrace.

Whether you're planning a community gathering, celebration, class or meeting, Oakwood Hill Village Hall is the ideal choice. For bookings and inquiries, contact 07544 525827, email bookings@oakwoodhillvillagehall.org website www.oakwoodhillvillagehall.org or find us on Facebook: facebook.com/OakwoodHillVillageHall

OCKLEY

Ockley Village Hall is the perfect venue for parties, wedding receptions, rehearsal room, fitness classes, meetings and much more. We have a purpose-built kitchen with a large electric range cooker. It is equipped to cater for more than 100 people and has a serving hatch. The building is wheel chair friendly. There is parking for more than 50 cars with designated disabled spaces. For further information please contact Bea Milne on 07553 266934 email ockleyvillagehall@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page.

The Cricket Pavilion is also available for hire at competitive rates.

Contact John 07791 520003 or
jthorse99@gmail.com

WALLISWOOD

Why not hire this light and airy refurbished hall fitted with (free to users) fibre optic Wi-Fi. The hall is double glazed throughout and has full gas central heating. It has a fully fitted kitchen and the main hall can seat 80 people at tables, more if a buffet. The hall is ideal for holding parties, family gatherings and business meetings/training sessions and much more. Bi-fold doors open onto an attractive large secure playing field, ideal for children's birthday parties etc. Hire charges from £10.00 per hr.

For further information contact :
walliswoodvillagehall@gmail.com
or visit our website:
www.walliswoodvillagehall.org

CHURCH CONTACTS

St. Margaret's Ockley

Rev. Liz Richardson 01306 711260

www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk

St. John the Baptist Okewood & Holy Trinity Forest Green

web: www.okfg.org email: admin@okfg.org Tel: 07856 684477

Parish office hours; Weds, Thurs, Fri 9.30-1pm

Parish office located in St John the Baptist church, Church Lane,
Okewood Hill RH5 5QT

THE ARK

The Ark is a hall set in the beautiful, tranquil surroundings of St John the Baptist Okewood, available to hire at weekends or school holidays.



- competitive hourly rates
- new extended car park
- venue holds up to 50
- easy access by car
- disabled access inc. toilet
- fully equipped kitchen

For bookings please email Liz Coleman: admin@okfg.org

HISTORIC CHURCHES

We have magnificent churches in our villages. 'Friends' charities have been set up to fund the upkeep of these historic buildings.

Friends of St. Margaret's

Gordon Lee-Steere: 627112 gel-s@jayeseestate.co.uk

www.friendsofstmargarets.org.uk

Friends of Okewood Church

Barry Thomson: 621234 barryjthomson1@gmail.com

www.friendsofokewoodchurch.org

Friends of Holy Trinity

Matthew Sparkes: matthew.sparkes@linklaters.com

ST. MARGARET'S, OCKLEY – CHURCH SERVICES

Everyone is very welcome to attend the services at St Margaret's Church, Ockley.

The services for May and June are as follows:

July

- 5th 9.30am Matins
- 12th 9.30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)
- 19th no service at Ockley
(10.30am Parish communion at St. John's Capel)
- 26th 9.30am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

August

- 2nd 9.30am Matins
- 9th 9.30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)
- 16th 9.30am Parish Communion (Common Worship)
- 23rd 9.30am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

Should anyone have any queries, please do call Gill Christie 01306 711917 or email curate@capelandockleychurch.org.uk



**EWHURST BOWLING
CLUB**

Affiliated to: BC, SCBA, WSEA, & SCWBA

If you would like to try your hand at bowling, Ewhurst Bowling Club is the place for you. We are having an Open Day on Saturday 16th May from 10:30am to 4:00pm so please come along between these times. We also invite you to our Bowls for Beginners Practice 19th and 28th May and 2nd and 9th June 2:00 to 4:00pm.

If you would like to try bowls before these dates please do ring Roger Newman on 01403 753140

Flat soled shoes are required, all other equipment is provided.

If you have recently moved to the area and you have some bowling experience, you will be made most welcome, please contact Roger to find out more about our Club. You can also visit our web site www.ewhurstbowls.co.uk for more information.

We look forward to welcoming you to our friendly club.



Welcome to The Parish of Okewood and Forest Green

www.okfg.org

Parish office opening hours Weds, Thurs, Friday 9.30 to 1.00pm

Contact Us

Priest in Charge Revd Dr Peter Nevins vicar@stjnh.org.uk

Curate Revd Sarah Murphy curate@okfg.org

Parish Office Liz Coleman admin@okfg.org 07763 772179

Safeguarding Officer safeguarding@okfg.org

Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor Vicki Boxall 01483 790379
safeguarding@cofeguildford.org.uk

Churchwarden Tom Murphy thomasjp.murphy@gmail.com

Churchwarden David Steel david.steel2@sky.com

Treasurer Rupert Harding treasurer@okfg.org

Monthly Service Schedule

	1 st Sunday	2 nd Sunday	3 rd Sunday	4 th Sunday	5 th Sunday
OKEWOOD	10.30am All Age service	10.30am Holy Communion	10.30am Morning Worship	10.30am Morning Worship	
FOREST GREEN		6pm Evening Service		6pm Evening Service	10.30am Joint Holy Comm.

Albury Music Festival

Sunday 19th July from 1pm till 7pm

taking place on Albury Heath, GU5 9DB

Dust off your Festival Hats and get out your Dancing Shoes! We have such a great line-up of bands for you this year! Starting at 1pm with :

- *The Sham* (IG: @the.sham.band) who will be performing covers from bands like Arctic Monkeys and Oasis plus a few originals;
- *William Laborde* (IG: @William_laborde21) playing electric and acoustic covers and originals;
- *Penny Rebels* (www.pennyrebels.com and IG @pennyrebels) with good feel-good rock with a wink;
- *Ash Baker* - described as a Mozart of Pop - FB @theofficialashbaker;
- *Twivee*;
- *Delta Hearts*;
- *The Happy Now* - a local covers band with a penchant for less played but much-loved 80's and 90's Indie and post-punk tunes;
- *Rojam* - a DJ blending House, Tech, Deep House and Dance Music to get you dancing (www.rojam.uk) and finally
- *The MIB Band* - who played to 300,000 people in Hyde Park when Prince William married Kate - which again will be guaranteed to get you up and dancing! (www.themibband.com/ IG@mibband)

Rock up at 1pm, and enjoy our first band and lunch at our sumptuous BBQ with John Murray burgers or hot dogs plus all the trimmings, or eat some Indian food from Mandira's Kitchen, or partake in a healthy Poke Bowl, get a drink from our well stocked bar with Shere Drop bitter, lagers, wines, soft drinks and Pimms, have a Silent Pool Gin & tonic, get a tea or coffee and a cake, have an ice cream from Shere Delights and enjoy our many stalls for both adults and children.

This year our charity partner is Phyllis Tuckwell and we are looking forward to working with such an important local charity that has helped so many of our loved ones during difficult times.

More information on our website www.alburymusicfestival.com and follow us on Instagram @alburymusicfestival.



The Arts Society Rudgwick

Our speaker on Thursday 2nd July at 10.45am will be Dr Lois Oliver on Rosa Bonheur: Animal Painter Extraordinaire (1822-1899)

Lois Oliver is an Art Historian with extensive experience as a Lecturer. She spent a decade working in museums, initially at the Harvard University Art Museums, before joining the curatorial team at the V&A and then the National Gallery in London. Currently Associate Professor in History of Art at the University of Notre Dame (USA) in London and a Visiting Lecturer at the Courtauld Institute, she lectures for arts organisations throughout the UK, and writes specialist audio interpretation for clients including the National Gallery, National Maritime Museum, Royal Academy, Royal Collection and Tate. She has appeared on a number of TV programmes for the BBC and Channel 5, as well as broadcasting on BBC Radio 3 and BBC Radio 4. Also a keen violinist, she plays regularly with orchestras including the Endellion Festival Orchestra.

Visitors welcome with an £8 donation guide in support of our charitable status. Please email our Membership Secretary Anna Trenter on Anna.trenter@fastnet.co.uk as seating can be limited. Complimentary coffee /tea served from 10a.m

Our next lecture will be in October after welcoming our new members at a coffee morning in September.

THIS LECTURE WILL BE PRECEDED BY OUR AGM at 10.30 am



Wednesday 22nd July 2026 at 2.00 pm: TINKER, TAILOR, ARTIST, SPY: SIR PETER PAUL RUBENS AS A DIPLOMAT AND AGENT with Matt Wilson

Were you aware that Rubens was not only the most influential artist of his period, but also a highranking diplomat and informal spy. During his glamorous and prestigious career, Rubens travelled throughout Europe and was esteemed by the mightiest kings and queens of the age. He was intelligent, good-looking and could speak several languages. His career as an artist was an excellent cover for international travel and private meetings. Acting on behalf of the Governors of the Spanish Netherlands, Rubens had covert summits with Europe's most significant power brokers with an aim to bring peace to his native Flanders and to Europe as a whole during the Thirty Years War.

Please contact enidjonestasc@gmail.com or see our website:
www.theartsocietycranleigh.org.uk Registered Charity no. 1142228

Bus Timetable Mole Valley Villager - 50, 433, 522

Monday to Friday (except public holidays)

Service	433	522	522	522	433	50	50	50
Horsham Carfax	-	-	-	-	-	-	13:10	13:20
Broadbridge Heath, Tesco	-	-	-	-	-	-	1317P	-
Ockley, Cricketers Close	09:25	09:25	-	-	-	-	-	-
Okewood Hill, Punchbowl	09:28	09:28	-	-	-	-	-	13:43
Walliswood, Oakfields	09:30	09:30	-	-	12:49	13:09	13:35	13:45
Okewood Hill, Punchbowl	-	-	-	-	12:51	13:11	-	-
Mayes Green	09:32	09:32	-	-	-	-	-	1347R
Ewhurst Green	-	-	-	-	-	-	1340R	-
Ewhurst, Bull's Head	-	-	-	-	-	-	1343R	-
Forest Green, The Parrot	09:34	09:34	-	-	-	-	1349R	1349R
Ockley, Cricketers Close	-	-	-	-	12:54	13:14	-	-
Ockley, Inn on the Green	09:40	09:40	-	-	12:55	13:15	13:55	13:55
Ockley, Kings Arms Court	09:41	09:41	-	-	12:56	13:16	13:56	13:56
Capel, The Street	-	0945R	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coldharbour, Broom Hall Farm	09:44	N	-	-	12:59	13:19	13:59	13:59
Coldharbour, Plough	09:47	-	-	-	13:02	13:22	14:02	14:02
Dorking High St, White Horse (Stop N)	10:00	10:15	12:20	12:20	13:15	13:35	1415R	1415R
Dorking Station	-	-	12:25	12:25	-	-	-	-
Brockham Green, Church	10:07	-	12:32	12:32	-	-	1422R	-
Strood Green, Tynedale Road	10:09	-	12:34	12:34	-	-	1424R	-
Gadbrook Crossroads	10:11	-	12:36	12:36	-	-	-	-
Dawes Green, Seven Stars	10:14	-	12:39	12:39	-	-	-	-
Leigh, The Plough	10:15	-	12:40	12:40	-	-	-	-
Shellwood Cross	-	-	12:44	12:44	-	-	-	-
Parkgate	-	-	12:47	12:47	-	-	-	-
Cudworth Park, The Poplars	-	-	-	1252R	-	-	-	-
Newdigate Bus Shelter	-	-	12:50	13:02	-	-	-	-
Leigh, Nalderswood, Dean Oak Lane	10:18	-	x	-	-	-	-	-
Irons Bottom	10:21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sidlow	10:23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Woodhatch, Angel	10:26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reigate, Morrisons	1030E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redhill, Queenswav	1040E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Service	433	522	522	522	433	50	50	50
Redhill, Queensway	-	-	-	-	1140E	-	Redhill,	-
Reigate, Morrisons	-	-	-	-	1150E	-	Reigate,	-
Woodhatch, Angel	-	-	-	-	11:54	-	Woodhatch,	-
Sidlow	-	-	-	-	11:57	-	Sidlow	-
Irons Bottom	-	-	-	-	11:59	-	Irons Bottom	-
Leigh,	-	-	-	-	12:02	-	Leigh,	-
Cudworth Park,	-	09:40	-	-	-	-	Cudworth Park,	-
Newdigate Bus Shelter	09:50	09:50	-	-	-	-	Newdigate Bus	09:50
Parkgate	09:53	09:53	-	-	-	-	Parkgate	09:53
Shellwood Cross	09:56	09:56	-	-	-	-	Shellwood	09:56
Leigh, The Plough	10:00	10:00	-	-	12:05	-	Leigh, The	10:00
Dawes Green,	10:01	10:01	-	-	12:06	-	Dawes Green,	10:01
Gadbrook Crossroads	10:04	10:04	-	-	12:09	-	Gadbrook	10:04
Strood Green,	10:06	10:06	-	-	12:11	-	Strood Green,	10:06
Brockham Green,	10:08	10:08	-	-	12:13	-	Brockham	10:08
Dorking Station	1013R	1013R	-	-	-	-	Dorking Station	1013R
Dorking High St,	10:15	10:15	10:15	10:15	12:20	12:20	Dorking High	10:15
Dorking South Street (Stop P)	-	-	10:16	10:16	12:21	-	Dorking South	-
Coldharbour, Plough	-	-	10:27	10:27	12:32	-	Coldharbour,	-
Coldharbour,	-	-	10:30	10:30	12:35	-	Coldharbour,	-
Capel, The Street	-	-	-	-	-	1254P	Capel, The	-
Ockley,	-	-	10:33	10:33	12:38	12:58	Ockley,	-
Ockley,	-	-	10:35	10:35	1239R	1259R	Ockley,	-
Forest Green,	-	-	10:41	10:41	1245R	1305R	Forest Green,	-
Ewhurst Bulls Head	-	-	10:47	-	-	-	Ewhurst Bulls	-
Ewhurst Green	-	-	10:50	-	-	-	Ewhurst Green	-
Mayes Green	-	-	-	10:43	1247R	1307R	Mayes Green	-
Walliswood,	-	-	10:55	10:45	12:49	13:09	Walliswood,	-
Okewood Hill,	-	-	-	10:47	-	-	Okewood Hill,	-
Broadbridge Heath,	-	-	1114R	-	-	-	Broadbridge	-
Horsham Bus Station	-	-	11:20	11:10	-	-	Horsham Bus	-

- E
- Operates fast between Reigate and Redhill (no intermediate stops)
- F
- Fridays only
- MTh
- Mondays and Thursdays only
- N
- Via Newdigate
- P
- Picks up at request of passengers set down at this point on outbound journey
- R
- Served on request by passengers already on board
- Tu
- Tuesdays only
- TuW
- Tuesdays and Wednesdays only
- W
- Wednesdays only
- X
- Continues to Walliswood on Wednesdays



Serving Wotton, Abinger
and Shere Parishes

SCHEDULED RUNS

IMPORTANT: Ring 07802 460069 to confirm date & timing

1st & 3rd Tuesday each month to Tesco,
Broadbridge Heath

13.50	Holmbury St Mary
14.00	Forest Green
14.10	Walliswood
14.15	Okewood Hill

2nd and 4th Saturday each month to Cranleigh

09.45	Holmbury St Mary
09.50	Abinger Hammer
09.55	Gomshall
10.00	Peaslake

Around 12.00 noon for the return

Thursday once a month to Godalming Sainsbury/Waitrose

09.50	Gomshall
10.00	Peaslake
10.10	Shere

Thursday once a month to Guildford Lidl

9.50	Peaslake
10.00	Gomshall
10.10	Shere

We suggest a voluntary donation of £5 per trip
Please text or ring 07802 460069
or email: waspbusinfo@gmail.com
to confirm date and times and to book

USEFUL CONTACTS

CHURCHES	Ockley	Rev Liz Richardson	01306 711260
	Forest Green & Okewood, Liz Coleman		01306 628156
CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU	Cranleigh		0808 2787980
	Dorking		0808 2787930
CRICKET CLUBS	Forest Green	Malcolm Clayton	01306 621255
	Oakwood Hill	Dave Bishop	01306 627524
	Ockley	Loll	01306 712408
		Jason	07918 784446
DIAL A RIDE			0300 123 7749
GATWICK CONSERVATION CAMPAIGN		Peter Barclay	01293 862821
GATWICK NOISE COMPLAINTS			01293 311568
GP SURGERY	Capel		01306 711105
JAYES PARK ESTATE OFFICE			01306 621261
LOCAL VOLUNTEER DRIVERS		Simon Figg	01306 627094
MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL		Hazel Watson	01306 880120
		Helyn Clack	07817 745843
NURSERY SCHOOL (Walliswood)		Rupert Thorne	01306 627067
OCKLEY HOUSING ASSOC		Tom Chambre	07718 902345
OCKLEY SPEEDWATCH COORDINATOR		Maureen Newman	01306 627001
OCKLEY TODDLER GROUP		Gill Christie	01306 711917
OKWOOD, OCKLEY & F.G. FLOWER SHOW		Cheryl Barclay	01306 621140
OKWOOD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION		Nick Standen	07787 573549
PARISH COUNCIL	Abinger	Beccy Anderson	07716 928430
	Ockley	Lesley Fletcher	clerk@ockleypc.co.uk
SURREY WILDLIFE TRUST			01483 795440
TWO COUNTIES ART/CRAFT		Janet Mitchell	01483 627322
WALKING GROUP		Sue Dixon	01306 627168
WASP BUS			07802 460069
YOUNG AT HEART		Diana Cuthbert	01306 621326



HOW TO USE A DEFIBRILLATOR

1. Switch on the defibrillator

- Remove or cut through clothing and wipe away sweat from the chest if necessary

2. Stick on the pads

- Attach the pads to the casualty's chest in the positions indicated on the pads

3. Follow the instructions

- Follow the voice and/or visual prompts given by the machine.



Local AED locations

- Beare Green Village Hall RH5 4RD
- Capel Village Hall RH5 5LB
- Forest Green Village Hall RH5 5RZ
- Ockley Cricket Pavilion RH5 5TR
- Plough Pub Coldharbour RH5 6HD
- Punchbowl Inn Okewood RH5 5PU
- Walliswood Village Hall RH5 5RJ

Learn first aid.

Help save lives.

Be the difference.

sja.org.uk

More life saving techniques and videos can be found on our website.



This magazine is delivered free of
charge to every household in Ockley,
Forest Green, Okewood Hill
and Walliswood.

To advertise please contact
advertising@ockleymagazine.co.uk