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July 2025

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Wootton St Lawrence Community Magazine

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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

Deadline for August 2025 issue: 10 July

Editorial

Apologies if something you sent in for July Link hasn't, unfortunately, appeared. We had an issue with e-mail routing between 1 and 11 June which I was unaware of, because some items were still getting through, so I didn't perceive a problem. Also I was on holiday and only accessing my e-mails remotely. On my return I tried to contact people, who I thought may have sent in something over that period, but may not have found everyone.

If what you sent in is still relevant for the August issue, please re-send, as e-mail is fine now. Could I also ask that, if you send in anything and receive an error message, please phone me to let me know. Thank you to the person who did that and alerted me to the problem. In addition, if you send in something and do not receive a *Thank you* from me within 48 hours, please phone to let me know.

Thank you

Chris Wassell

CONTENTS

Village News	5,7,20
Health Matters	7,8
Ladies' Societies.....	10
Feature: Citizens Advice Bureau.....	10
Feature: News from Jolly Olly's	13
Feature: DogsHomes	13
Feature: Hampshire County Council	14
Pause for Thought	14
Conservation	15,16,19
Young Oakley	21,22,25
Fund Raising.....	25
Gardening	26
Church News	28
Local News.....	4,28,31,33
Freeads.....	34
Sport	34,35
Walking	36
Index of Advertisers	37
Information, Churches, Village Halls.....	38

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Local News

u3a
Overton & District



The Life of Service of the 1st Duke of Wellington

This presentation by Richard Bennett and John Missenden includes many illustrations covering the Duke's life, long successful military career under three different sovereigns, and later as a politician and statesman.


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Village



Holiday at Home

Following on from Oakley's first Holiday at Home last year, we will be doing our second one this summer over three days 29, 30 and 31 July – at St Leonard's Centre in the village.

This year our theme will (loosely) be Jane Austen, as we celebrate the 250th anniversary of her birth. We will be filling the three days with a variety of activities including quizzes, crafts, games and entertainment. Each day there will be a lunch, and tea and cakes will be served in the afternoon.

So, if you are a senior who may not go on so many holidays as you once did and would enjoy a three-day interlude with friends, or if you know of someone who might like to come along, please get an application form from the church office. Transport to and from the venue will be provided by Community Care for anyone who needs it.

Hope to see you there!

Alwyn Brenchley, Katey Butler and Diane Taylor



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Village



Oakley Village Show - 9 August 1:30 pm Oakley Infant School

By the time you read this, the show will be less than a month away. That means it's time to check how your flowers, fruit and vegetables are looking, take those last-minute photographs, add a few final brush strokes to your picture, put the finishing touches on your craft items, and do a dummy run with your Victoria sponge! Phew!

At least there are a few more weeks to go, unless, of course, you are entering this year's new container class or any of the creative writing classes. The deadline for these classes is 11 July, so don't miss out. Remember, schedules with entry forms can be found on the OCA website, ocaoakley.org.uk or in Jolly Olly's. And, if you think entering is for experts only, then think again. It really is great fun to have a go, and it's a huge encouragement to everyone to see tables filled with exhibits.

But if we haven't persuaded you to enter a class, you still need to make sure the date is in your diary. As always, there will be plenty to do and see for all the family. The show will be opened by Jamie Gane, the inspirational adaptive athlete, and will be hosted by Graham Hardy, both of whom live in the village.

In the arena, will be the ever-popular Bubbles Man plus displays from local groups and, to finish, a traditional Tug of War. Add in a variety of stalls including food and drink to suit all tastes, and you have the perfect mix of ingredients to make for a perfect afternoon out. (Just one cautionary note: sorry, we cannot allow dogs on school premises,)



Finally, the show is a huge amount of fun, but entails a lot of hard work, especially at the end of the afternoon, when everything must be packed away. If you can spare even half an hour at about 5 pm to give us some muscle, we would be very grateful!

In any case, we look forward to seeing you.

Ann Davis, on behalf of the show committee



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Thursday 17 July 2025

Time: 1830 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.ocaoakley.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.

Health Matters



Coeliac UK North Hampshire Group

Events: Family Picnic and Play, 13 July 2025 11 am to 1 pm, Eastrop Park, Eastrop Lane, Basingstoke RG21 4QB.

We shall be meeting up at Eastrop Park at 11 am where the children can play in the paddling pool, play team games on the grassy area or play in the playpark. Bring a picnic and feel free to bring extra gluten free treats to share. The park is located in the centre of Basingstoke, a short walk from Festival Place shopping centre and the railway station. More about the venue here: basingstoke.gov.uk/eastrop

If you would like to join us, please email us at northhampshire@coeliac.org.uk so that we know to look out for you and can let you know exactly where

in the park we'll be meeting. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult throughout the event. We look forward to seeing you there!

Next group meeting Wednesday 16 July in the Waitrose cafe in Basingstoke between 10:30 am and noon. If you haven't joined us before, look out for at least one member of our committee wearing a bright orange Coeliac UK top.

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



Medlink for Recalls

We would like to say a really big thank you to all our patients who have responded to the Medlink recalls/medication reviews that have been sent out since 1 April 2025 and we have been really pleased with the high response rate. For those patients who have not yet provided us with a contact e-mail and mobile telephone number, we would encourage you to do so as, along with your consent, these details will allow us to send you any relevant information much more easily. Medlink gives you one review in the month of your birth which is of particular help if you have more than one long-term health condition.

Healthier Together website

Please be aware that the Healthier Together website has been updated at: healthiertogether.nhs.uk

Skin Cancer Awareness

We are raising awareness of the risks of skin cancer and ways you can help to reduce your risk. 86% of cases of melanoma are preventable yet increasing numbers of people are being diagnosed with this type of skin cancer. There are now more than 16,000 new cases each year in the UK. Being sun-safe and regularly checking your skin for any changes, are two really important ways you can reduce your skin cancer risk.

Facts about Skin Cancer:

Melanoma skin cancer is the 5th most common cancer in the UK, accounting for 5% of all new cancer cases (2017-2019). 1 in 36 men and 1 in 47 women will be diagnosed with skin cancer in their lifetime

There are two types of skin cancers: melanoma and non-melanoma:

Non-melanoma refers to skin cancers which develop in the upper layer of your skin (the epidermis). You can be diagnosed with basal cell carcinoma (BCC), most non-melanoma diagnoses are BCC, or squamous cell carcinoma (SCC). Both these types of skin cancers don't spread to other parts of your body. Non-melanoma cancers usually develop in areas which are most exposed to the sun such as your face, ears, hands, shoulders, upper chest and back. Melanoma can spread to other parts of your body which is why it's the more serious type of skin cancer.

Overexposure to the sun or sunbeds are the main cause of all skin cancers. More than 1 in 4 skin cancer cases are diagnosed in people under 50, which is early compared with most other types of cancer.

Brown or black skin is more susceptible to a type of melanoma that is not associated with sun exposure, but appears on the palms, soles, under the nails and in mucosal membranes such as the mouth. These areas

should be regularly checked for people with this skin type. (source: British Skin Foundation)

Risk factors:

- a previous non-melanoma skin cancer.
- a family history of skin cancer.
- pale skin that burns easily.
- a large number of moles or freckles.
- taking medicine that suppresses your immune system.
- a co-existing medical condition that suppresses your immune system.

You can minimise your risk of developing skin cancer by practising sun safety:

- use high factor sunscreen.
- dress sensibly in the sun.
- limit the amount of time you spend in the sun during the hottest part of the day (11 am to 3 pm).
- avoid sunbeds and sunlamps.

Regularly checking your skin for signs of skin cancer can help lead to an early diagnosis and increase your chance of successful treatment.

More information:

Skin check leaflet from Melanoma Focus: melanomafocus.org/about-melanoma/skin-check-leaflet

Melanoma Focus (melanomafocus.org) have shared a number of visual assets for social media – these can be found here: melanomafocus.org/about-us/may-is-melanoma-awareness-month

Are you at risk of Skin Cancer: britishskinfoundation.org.uk/are-you-at-risk-of-skin-cancer

Heather Bronks

Friends of Watership Down Health

The Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Watership Down Health will be held at Overton Surgery, Overton on Wednesday 16 July at 6 pm. All patients aged 18 years and over who are registered with Watership Down Health are invited to attend.

The Annual Accounts will be available for inspection at Oakley, Overton and Kingsclere Surgeries from Wednesday 2 July.

Nominations for membership of the Executive Committee should be submitted to the Chairman by Wednesday 2 July and must be supported by at least 2 patients aged 18 years and over.

Notice of any resolutions to be considered should be given to the Chairman by Wednesday 2 July and must be tabled by not less than 10 patients aged 18 years and over. For more information contact Chairman, Sue Berry – 01256 770565 or Secretary, Sue Carter - 01256 770681.

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Ladies Societies



Oakley Afternoon WI

The speaker at our AGM was Mr Graham Birchmore who gave us a talk about dreams and their significance. The talk included a history, today's status and the interpretation of dreams. His own interest in dreams was sparked when as a child he had several predictive dreams which came true.

The history of dreams was interesting in that there are several references to dreams in the Bible and the Koran. The ancient Egyptians had temples devoted to dreams, where you could go along and have your dreams interpreted. The ancient Egyptians thought dreams were a message from God. In today's world the interpretation of dreams has lost significance. Finally, Graham explained the general meaning of some common dreams. e.g. when you dream you are flying then this means you are aspiring to greatness.

This was followed by a question and answer session and the vote of thanks was given by Carol.

Following tea, we had the AGM with the assistance of Helen Tyson, our WI Advisor. Some of the bye-laws needed updating or amending, the annual finance and general report were read out and the committee were re-elected with the addition of 2 new members.

The birthday cards and posies were distributed and this was followed by the drawing of the raffle.

Our meetings are on the 3rd Monday of the month at 13:30 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 Janet on 01256 782734.

Janie Vickers

Oakley and Deane WI

Bee keeping involves a considerable amount of knowledge so Oakley and Deane WI were informed by David Holloway, a Trustee of Basingstoke and Deane and Hampshire Beekeeping Association, at the June meeting. It is fitting for Oakley to learn about bees as the father of beekeeping is the Rev. Charles Butler rector of Wootton in 1683. There is a window devoted to him in Wootton Church. Bees existed in 4,000 BC as shown on a cave painting. One pound of honey requires 2 million flowers to be visited. Much of the honey in shops has been bulked up by fructose. David is also a Partnership manager with bees abroad in Uganda.

Members sold some garden produce and names were taken for an outing to Kew Gardens lights in December. The next meeting on Tuesday 8 July will be organised by members who are not on the committee and it will be a surprise.

Details of membership are on our website Oakleydeanewi.weebly.com.

Jean Freeman

Feature



Damp and mould in rented housing

This month, our advice covers what to do if you're living in a rented property and notice damp or mould. You should check your tenancy agreement and don't hesitate to ask for advice. It's important to report the problem to your landlord or letting agent in writing as soon as possible as they are usually only responsible for repairing the problem when they become aware of it. Your landlord shouldn't blame you for having damp in your home. It's their responsibility to find out what's causing the damp.

There are several types of damp:

- rising damp - which happens when moisture travels up from the ground through the masonry to the height of about one metre
- penetrating damp - which happens when water penetrates into the fabric of a building from outside to inside, for example, because of a leaking downpipe

- construction damp - where damp is caused by a problem in how the property was designed
- condensation damp - which generally happens when a property can't deal with normal levels of water vapour because of a lack of insulation, ventilation or heating, or a combination of all of these things.

You can find more information on dealing with each of the above types of damp on the Citizens Advice website: citizensadvice.org.uk/housing/repairs-and-housing

Citizens Advice Basingstoke is an independent local charity relying on volunteers and fundraising to provide free, confidential and impartial advice for people in the Basingstoke area, whatever the enquiry involves. To talk to an adviser please call the free Adviceline on 0808 278 7829, Monday to Friday, 9 am - 4 pm.

Lucy Sweet

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Feature



News From Jolly Olly's Coffee Shop Woo hoo Wednesdays!

Until the end of the school summer term we will be staying open for an extra 30 minutes on Wednesdays and offering Primary School Kids Special Drink and Snack Combos for just £1! We will also be selling yummy kid's ice cream sundaes. Orders must be placed between 3 pm and 4 pm but we will stay open until 4:30 pm, so no need to rush the treats down!

Bread

Your enthusiasm for the Weli Deli sourdough bread delivery on Fridays has led us to realise that our customers really enjoy a freshly baked artisan loaf of bread. Therefore, we are now trialling Saturday bread deliveries from The Street Bake House. If the bread sales are popular I plan to order every Saturday and to sell it on a first come first served basis while stocks last.

Help for Heroes

£42 was raised from our prize draw and sale of



second-hand books on the anniversary of VE DAY. Many thanks to David Trangmar who donated the prizes and to all who made a contribution.

Book Club

Reminder - Our book this month is, *The Nightingale* by Kirstin Hannah. Comments will be invited on our Facebook page on 7 July. Our next book will be *In Order to Live* by Yeonmi Park. You can find more details on Facebook.

Monday Opening

We will be opening on Mondays **from 11 August to 15 September** after which time I will consider the viability of training and employing a new staff member from September to allow this to continue.

Please look out for updates on our Facebook and Instagram pages. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Best wishes from The Team at Jolly Olly's Coffee Shop, 32 Oakley Lane, Oakley RG23 7JY (Tel 01256 782658) Find us on Facebook, Instagram and Trip Advisor

Feature



DogsnHomes Fostering

At the start of the year we wanted to recruit some more fosterers to join our fabulous community. Having such an incredible network of fosterers means that we can ensure that any puppies that arrive and are unable to join their forever home immediately, are given a safe and loving start to their lives in the UK. We decided to launch 'Fostering February' and our Fostering Information Evening was a huge success, we had several applications, some of whom have already started to foster for us. If you are interested in fostering, details are on our website - dogsnhomes.org.uk

Ukraine

Much of our energy is also focused on helping support the dogs and cats in Ukraine and we continue to do this by sending over supplies kindly donated by individuals and companies. To date we have shipped 266,500 kg which is quite incredible - facebook.com/DnH.Ukraine

Our Justgiving appeal to fund transport is: justgiving.com/campaign/fuel4food

Storage

We are continually looking for storage to help us continue with this part of our work and BIG



YELLOW STORAGE very kindly offered us free non-food storage. We still need storage where we can keep animal food so, if you have an empty garage/container, please contact our Community Liaison sharon.w@dogsnhomes.org.uk

Mill House Monthly Walk

We truly love seeing so many of our DogsnHomes pooches in their new lives. It's such a unique opportunity to meet other adopters (and fosterers) and we're so grateful to the Mill House, North Warnborough, for allowing us to enjoy refreshments before the walk and to host the event. Join us on the 3rd Saturday of each month but please remember you must book in advance. All dogs and walkers welcome! brunningandprice.co.uk/millhouse

Events

Much needed funds have been raised at our Comedy & Curry Night and Abba Tribute at the Gulshan in Fleet, Easter Egg Raffle at The Tweseldown in Fleet and Music Quiz Night at The Tweseldown. Follow us on Facebook for upcoming events - facebook.com/dogsnhomes facebook.com/DnH.Ukraine

*DogsnHomes Rescue, Fleet, Hampshire
Registered Charity No. 1183775*

Feature



Hampshire County Councillor Report: Candovers, Oakley and Overton

£ 7 Million Boost for Skills Training in Hampshire! Hampshire County Council has secured £7 million from the Department for Education to continue our Skills Bootcamps for another year—almost double last year's funding!

- Fast-track training for adults aged 19+
- Flexible courses in AI, leadership, data, teaching, sales & more
- Guaranteed job interviews for unemployed learners
- Over 1,750 places available in 2025
- Designed around real employer needs

This is a brilliant way to help local people gain skills for life while supporting Hampshire's businesses to grow and thrive. Whether you're looking to upskill, change careers, or grow your workforce—now's the time to get involved. Learn more and apply:

hants.gov.uk/business/skillsbootcamp

Connect to Support Hampshire

Connect to Support Hampshire is the service which is designed to help people remain living independently in their own homes. HCC have recently updated the Connect to Support Hampshire website to help residents stay independent for longer.

- Modern Design: Enjoy a fresh, contemporary look.
- Improved Navigation: Enhanced homepage navigation with popular search topics. Use keywords for better search results and get suggestions as you type.
- Expanded Community Directory: Now covering 63 towns and villages across Hampshire, including a new Younger Adults category.
- Marketplace Directory: Find paid services like podiatrists, financial advisers, handypersons,

gardeners, and more.

- Home Care Directory: Home care and nursing care agencies in Hampshire.

- Care Home Directory: Care homes and nursing homes in Hampshire.

- Multilingual Support: Translate everything into different languages using Google Translate.

Visit the site here to explore all the new features!
connecttosupporthampshire.org.uk

Looking after Hampshire's most vulnerable young people

The newly opened Hockley House is the first children's residential home in Hampshire to combine children's social care, health care, and education under one roof. The home, repurposed from an existing set of County Council properties, will provide intensive therapeutic support to children and young people aged between 12 and 18 who have significant needs across both health and social care. This investment will enable more Hampshire children with complex needs to receive support much closer to home and to develop their independence and life skills.

Bookings open – Holiday Activities and Food programme

Hampshire's Holiday Activities and Food programme is back for the 2025 summer holidays – and eligible families can now browse and book FREE places for their children at one of 180 local schemes across the county. While the programme is aimed at children eligible for benefit-related free school meals, up to 15 per cent of places are available for other children who could benefit, such as those with Education, Health and Care Plans.

Cllr Juliet Henderson

Pause For Thought



Moments. Life is really built moment upon moment. Some bright and new and full of joy, some dark, deep and shocking. But one by one they build the foundation, core, body and reflection of our life. We cannot erase those we wish we didn't have to endure, we can't simply banish what we don't want to be true and, of course, we would never wish to forget those that bring us our greatest moments of happiness. Each one makes us who we are. Each one a small building block of our legacy and the footprints we will leave.

Choose kindness. Choose grace. Choose others. Choose ice cream, beautiful views, your favourite tippie, your bestest friend, choose to smile and dance

and laugh. Choose friendship, to forgive, to forget, to cherish and always, always choose to love. It is a choice. Not always an easy one. But life is better when we choose to embrace every moment and to see the beauty in it all. The highs of the mountain tops and the lows of the valleys but all part of our story to walk. Tomorrow's moments are not promised.

Let our legacy as a community be one of deep compassion, consideration and care for one another. And at the heart of it all remember you are chosen, perfectly created and loved unconditionally. Moment by moment and footprint by footprint. Finding that little bit of joy in it all.

Conservation



**Hampshire &
Isle of Wight
Wildlife Trust**

New nesting tower gives swifts and house martins a lifeline

A specially designed nesting tower has been installed at Blashford Lakes Nature Reserve to support struggling populations of swifts and house martins. It marks Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust's first nesting tower across its estate, and provides much-needed secure nesting sites for these red-listed bird species.

Swifts and house martins have experienced significant population declines in recent decades, due to habitat loss and a reduction in suitable nesting sites. The UK breeding population of swifts have declined by 66 percent between 1995 and 2022, while house martins have declined by 44 per cent.

Standing five metres tall, the tower features 23 swift boxes and 12 house martin cups, offering much-needed breeding opportunities. It incorporates ventilation to keep the nests cool during warmer months and is equipped with solar panels and speakers to play pre-recorded bird calls, attracting young birds searching for a nesting site to settle into.

"This is the first nest tower of its kind across the Trust's entire estate," said Jack Medley, Reserves Officer at Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust. "It marks a significant milestone in our ongoing efforts to help swifts and house martins, two

remarkable species facing serious challenges. The tower is part of our commitment to providing innovative solutions that help these birds thrive."

Swifts and house martins migrate from sub-Saharan Africa to breed in the UK, depending on suitable nesting sites and an abundant insect population. Historically, swifts have nested in the roofs of older buildings, but modern renovations are sealing up access points, leaving them without suitable breeding spaces. The new tower mimics natural nesting conditions, offering a secure, predator-free location, giving these birds a vital lifeline.

Jack says, "Swifts and house martins are remarkable birds that complete incredible migrations from Africa each year. By providing secure nesting



Swift and house martin tower © Chris Fairchild



Your Local Cats Protection Branch Needs You!!

Basingstoke Cats Protection is currently inundated with cats on our waiting list who we so desperately want to help... but with all our current foster homes full of felines there is little we can do.

We are looking for fosterers in the Basingstoke area, either indoor or in an outdoor enclosure which is provided by Cats Protection (approximate size 13ft x 4ft or 4m x 1.2m). Full training will be provided and all expenses are covered by Cats Protection – food, litter, bedding and electricity.

Fostering is an incredible experience guaranteed to give you an extreme sense of joy, achievement and pride. The days spent in a loving foster home make the world of difference for our cats and kittens, setting them up for a lifetime of happiness 🐱

PLEASE consider opening your home and heart to a cat in need; if you cannot foster, please spread the word to anyone who may be able to help us.

If you're interested in finding out more, please contact Lynne at

welfareteamleader@basingstoke.cats.org.uk

or call our enquiries line on 01256 584544.



Conservation



spaces at Blashford Lakes Nature Reserve, we're giving them a fighting chance to stabilise and recover. It's fantastic to see this conservation effort come to life."

The tower also provides easy access to a rich supply of insects, their primary food source. The wetlands, reed beds and woodlands at Blashford



Swift and house martin tower being installed at Blashford Lakes Nature Reserve © Chris Fairchild

Lakes Nature Reserve create perfect conditions for insects to flourish, ensuring the birds have the resources they need to thrive during the breeding season.

Bringing this vision to life required a combination of expert knowledge, skilled design, and generous support, as Jack explains, "I'm incredibly proud of this project and would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who made it a reality. A special thank you goes to Hampshire Ornithological Society for their generous funding, Hampshire Swifts for their expert advice and guidance and to Peak Boxes for their craftsmanship. This tower represents a huge step in our ongoing conservation efforts to protect these vulnerable species, and we couldn't have achieved it without the support of our partners and the dedication of so many involved."

Located next to the site's largest lake, Ibsley Water, the tower is viewable near Goosander hide. It will be closely monitored, with data collected on nest occupancy each year.

Helen Skelton-Smith



It is the height of summer but not all OWGers have been resting on their laurels (or hazel wands). Instead, they have been getting stuck into surveying the woods, in some cases weekly, to see what impact thirty years of conservation work has had. When

the group first formed in 1997 a number of surveys were carried out to establish a base line. Since then, we have been somewhat remiss in repeating the work, with perhaps the exception of butterflies, where a ten-year survey was completed.

The recent surveys have been looking at flowers, bats, dormice and butterflies, and are part of a Borough wide initiative. The dormice monitoring is carried out in conjunction with The Hampshire Dormice Society as the work has

to be led by someone certified to handle dormice as they are a protected species. Bat surveys involve the use of bat detectors which make the ultrasonic sounds the bats make audible to human ears and can provide a visible trace of the sound waves making it possible to identify the species of bat.

The results of the surveys are logged for local use and via an app iRecord for national use. As well as



noting the species and quantity, the location is noted. The plant surveys are less technical, requiring just good eyesight and a clipboard. Some of the plants that have been identified are: Lady's Mantle and Common Spotted Orchid. It is hoped that we will be able to compare the new data with the base data. The group welcomes volunteers who would like to be involved in the survey work, so please get in touch via our email or come and see us at the village fete. Email:

oakleywoodlands@gmail.com

Alan Merry



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Conservation



Celebrating Basingstoke and Deane's conservation champions

The time local volunteers have spent carrying out nature conservation work to protect and enhance the borough's natural environment has grown by more than 2,000 hours in a year. Over 12,000 hours were given by nature conservation groups from April 2024 to April 2025 to support Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's pledge to help nature recover and tackle the ecological emergency, up from 9,874 hours in the same period last year.

To thank the 251 volunteers responsible for this tremendous effort, a garden party with food and live music was held on Friday (13 June) at the Walled Garden in Basingstoke. Cabinet Member for Climate and Ecological Emergency Cllr Chris Tomblin joined the celebrations to show his gratitude to them and the 18 nature groups they belong to.

These groups, who are supported by the council and Natural Basingstoke, help to restore and manage green spaces owned by the council to benefit wildlife and local communities. Their work supports the council's rangers, who manage over 300 hectares of green space in the borough, along with its biodiversity, tree and grounds maintenance teams.

Great crested newt populations have suffered rapid decreases in recent decades due to habitat loss but, thanks to the Popley and Marnel Conservation Group's ongoing efforts to care for Popley Ponds, numbers are now on the up, helping to reverse the decline of this rare amphibian. Other recent successes include the careful management of woodland and scrub at Sherfield Park by the Sherfield Park Conservation Group to help reptiles, birds and insects thrive. Biodiverse lowland heath habitats are being restored in Tadley, thanks to the efforts of The Friends of Wigmore Heath group and the council's rangers.

And last autumn, nature volunteers from 10 different conservation groups including in Basingstoke, Overton and Whitchurch joined the council's rangers to sow thousands of wildflower seeds across 14 acres of land. As these wildflower meadows bloom in coming years, they will provide new food and shelter for insects including bees and butterflies and help to restore the very rare and fragile wildlife-rich grass chalklands that were once common in the southern part of the borough.

Cllr Chris Tomblin said: "The 12,052 hours our volunteers have committed to nature conservation efforts over the past year is nothing short of extraordinary. It's an increase of over 2,000 hours compared to the same period last year and equivalent to someone working with no breaks for 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for more than a year.

"Working with our communities to reverse the decline of nature in the borough is a core part of our biodiversity strategy and I am so grateful to each and every person who has given their time and expertise to help us protect our natural environment. We are making great progress together but there is always more to do and the conservation groups are always looking for more people to join them. There are so many benefits, including getting exercise, being outdoors in the fresh air and making new friends, and so I encourage everyone to think about whether they could get involved too."



Cabinet Member for Climate and Ecological Emergency Cllr Chris Tomblin with Gill, chair of Natural Basingstoke, and the council's rangers

Growing the diversity of native plants and wildlife on its land and working together with communities to enhance and create habitats were two of the priority actions the council set for itself when it adopted its biodiversity strategy in March last year.

Opportunities to become a nature conservation volunteer can be found at NaturalBasingstoke.org.uk



Local nature volunteers with the council's rangers and Cabinet Member for Climate and Ecological Emergency Cllr Chris Tomblin at the 'thank you' event

Village



VE-Day Celebration Picnic in Oakley , 5 May 2025





Hello from St Leonard's Pre-School

Whoa! And Ready, Steady Go! If you walk past us in July you might see the children racing on hobby horses, balancing bean bags on their heads or skillfully dribbling balls, walking backwards, skipping and walking sideways, busy practicing for Sports Day. Hopefully there will be a big audience to cheer them on then a well-deserved ice-lolly for everyone at the end.

Just before the end of term we will have our Leavers' Concert in St Leonard's Church for all 20 of our children leaving us to start school in September 2025. The children will be acting out a story, singing

songs they have chosen, with a few solos. The children will also be playing their favourite instrument to their audience.

We had a very exciting visit from PCSO'S Andy and Kieron who spoke to the children about their role and brought in police jackets and hats to wear. The children also had the opportunity to sit in the police car and look and listen to the sirens and blue lights. They also stopped the traffic to enable us to cross the road to our evacuation point by the church. Here are some photos from the visit.

There is also a photo of the pizzas the children made during cooking week.

If you would like to know more about the preschool, please contact us on 07772 378265 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



Our beanstalks have made their ways home and we're waiting to see whose grows the tallest. The children also made some gorgeous glittery harps,



which warranted a place on my fridge door anyway!

We've had a lovely half term with a couple of birthdays to celebrate, which only meant one thing – CAKE!

We're hoping for some lovely weather to get out and about in this summer before our long break.

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 398 172.**

News from Cranbourne



We've had another busy few weeks at Cranbourne and are quickly approaching the end of the academic year!

Our new Year 7 cohort were welcomed to the Cranbourne Community for their Transition Days, where they had the opportunity to meet fellow pupils, get to know key staff members and experience a taste of secondary school life!

Year 11 have now reached the end of their time at Cranbourne and are looking forward to the next steps of their educational journey. Leavers Prom was a fantastic opportunity for them to celebrate in style and we'll see them very soon for Results Day. We're sure they will make us proud!

Our Green Cranbourne students were invited to



King's Furlong Junior School to give a presentation on our journey towards sustainability. They were true Ambassadors for our school and we're extremely proud of their dedication to making Cranbourne greener.

Performing Arts Month is now well underway, and we've been so impressed with the talent, hard work and dedication shown by our students. Our Summer Concert kicked off the festivities on Wednesday 18 June and saw students wow audiences with dazzling show tunes, impressive original songs and excellent group performances!

Year 11's took centre stage for the final time at Cranbourne, presenting *When They Go Low*, a thought-provoking play exploring power, gender politics and the impact of social media on young people. Ensemble members from our Performing Arts club entertained us with showstopping numbers from

Mean Girls: The Musical, and we've still got two more events to look forward to!

Students saw success at the annual District Athletics event at Down Grange, with many of them going on to represent Basingstoke at Hampshire Athletics in the coming weeks. The PE Department are busy preparing for our Day of Sport, which sees students embrace their house spirit as they compete to win first place. White House took home the gold last year, but who will be 2025's winners?



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Thank you for supporting our Summer raffle.

See you at School Fayre , 5 July, with our tombola.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page and Calling Oakley for the latest news of our great, weekly offers and our Half Price Days.

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Gardening

Oakley Gardening Club

We welcomed Pip Bensley to our June meeting, Talking about "Chelsea Secrets" and her involvement of 25 years with Hilliers journey, as 27 Gold



a vase were third Hazel Montague-Ebbs, second was Jean Wright and first was Maureen Dallaway. Congratulations went to all members that entered.

Hazel Montague-Ebbs

medal winners, then as a judge for 5 years, before going on recently to win 3 Golds in her amazing skills of flower arranging. A very comprehensive and enjoyable presentation of the different stages needed to bring a week of stunning displays to life for everyone world-wide to enjoy.

Preparation for Chelsea starts 18 months to 2 years before, planning, submitting acceptance, to have sponsorship, costing thousands of pounds. Then the work of supplying thousands of plants, trees, in chosen colours, compost, plastic and every item taken to site. All are transported in lorries, the week before and at the end of the show; then all is required to be recycled.

The talk was enjoyed by members and visitors, who are always welcome. For information about meetings, contact Maureen Dallaway 01256 780788.

Competition results for the single rose in

Wootton St Lawrence

🐾 🐾 🐾

Fete and Dog Show

Saturday 2nd August 2025 12-4pm

On Church Meadow, Wootton St Lawrence RG23 8PE

Free Entrance.

Hot food, ice-cream, drinks, cakes, craft & charity stalls, raffle, children's games

Fun Dog show classes

Register for classes from 12noon, classes run 1pm-3pm



Best Male

Best Female

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Longest Sit

Waggiest Tail

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Church News



All welcome at the Methodist Church coffee morning on Tuesday 8 July and Tuesday 22 July from 10:30 am to noon. £1 for a bottomless cup of tea or coffee and biscuits. Come and meet old friends and new. The charity for the year from September 2024 is St Michael's Hospice. We look forward to welcoming the Woodland well-being walkers at the end of their walk

Patricia Kinchington



Oakley Methodist Church

Services at 10:30 am

July 6	Rev Jenny Ellis
July 13	Judith Cole
July 20	Rev Claire Simpson Communion
July 27	(no service)

COFFEE MORNING Tuesdays July 8 and 22
10:30 am to 12 noon **£1**

Berkshire & Hampshire Borders
Methodist Circuit

The Chapel by the Pond
www.bhbcircuit.org.uk/churches/oakley.html

Local News



ANDOVER CHAMBER CHOIR

Songs and Sonnets

Music for a Summer's Evening

This summer, Andover Chamber Choir will perform a mixed programme of music that captures the spirit of summer and provides a delightful evening of entertainment.

From jazz settings of Shakespeare to music from his time, and from the heady harmonies of Elgar and Ireland to classic British folksongs, the programme includes something for everyone. Of particular note, the programme will include two Hampshire folksongs collected and arranged by Gustav Holst. The musical pieces will be complemented by readings chosen by Prof. Michael Wheeler, chairman of the choir.

Interim Musical Director Amy Walters said, "After a packed programme of sacred pieces for the last few months, we are now enjoying a return to the secular and musical choices that include both the light-hearted and the dramatic. We are learning some new and some more familiar repertoire, and we can't wait to share it with our audience. Over Wallop - a quintessential English village - is an ideal location for this repertoire."

The concert takes place on Saturday 19 July at St Peter's Church, Over Wallop, SO20 8HT, beginning at 7:30 pm. Tickets are £15 on the door or £12 in advance from The Lights (in person, telephone or online), Wallops Community Shop and choir members. Under 16s are admitted free of charge. Light refreshments are included in the ticket price.

Overton Choral Society

We have now come to the end of our 2024/25 season and we will resume on September 8 in St Mary's Hall at 7:45 pm. We are a mixed voice choir and we do not audition. Join us in September to see if it is "your thing".

Thank you for all your support this year, which cumulated with joining other local artists to participate in the Overton Music Festival. In spite of the weather, the event was beautifully organised, well supported and an opportunity for us, not only to perform our repertoire but to hear other local musicians.

We are easily contactable via our website (overtonchoralsociety.org.uk), email (overtonchoralsoc@gmail.com), or phone (01256 397507).

Have a lovely summer.

Lyn Hardy

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Local News



Whitchurch silk mill

There's a buzz of activity at Whitchurch Silk Mill this summer, and we're delighted to share some exciting updates with our local community.

A Fresh Look Online

We've recently relaunched our online shop, and the response has been fantastic! With a sleek new design and easier navigation, it's now simpler than ever to browse and purchase our beautifully crafted silk gifts and accessories from the comfort of home. The new site has attracted attention far and wide, with a noticeable increase in orders—including from international customers. Every purchase helps support our mission to preserve the heritage of silk weaving and educate visitors about this historic craft.

Improving Accessibility

Thanks to generous funding from Basingstoke & Deane's Councillor Community Grant Scheme, we've installed induction loops to support visitors who are hard of hearing. One is located in the Welcome Building, and a portable loop is available for guided tours in the Mill itself. We're committed to making the Mill a welcoming place for everyone.

Get Weaving!

Our wall-hanging workshops have proven so popular that we've doubled the number of spaces available. Whether you're a complete beginner or a seasoned weaver, there's something for everyone. Upcoming beginners' sessions are on 12 and 16 July, with intermediate and advanced workshops scheduled for June and September. It's a wonderful way to try your hand at weaving and create something truly unique.

Step Back in Time at the Jane Austen Country Fair

Join us on 6 July in Steventon for the Jane Austen Regency Country Fair, celebrating the 250th anniversary of the beloved author's birth. We'll be there showcasing traditional crafts and engaging with visitors in true Regency style.

Expect performances, demonstrations, and a delightful day out for all ages.

Volunteer with Us

We're currently looking for a Meetings Secretary to support our Director, Board, and Committees. This volunteer role involves organising and attending meetings—just one day a month on average. It's a great opportunity to

get involved behind the scenes and help shape the future of the Mill.

Exhibitions to Inspire

Our current exhibition, *Riches to Ribbons*, runs until 20 July and explores the fascinating history of silk ribbon weaving. You'll learn how we create our ribbon broadcloth and see a special collection celebrating Jane Austen's anniversary.

From 23 July to 7 September, we welcome *Fascination of Trees*, an exhibition by Dorset textile artist Jen Best. Her work, inspired by nature and the sea, celebrates trees through knitting, crochet, and button art.

Michaelmas Fayre – Save the Date!

Mark your calendars for 28 September! Our Michaelmas Fayre promises a day of artisan food, craft stalls, family fun, and competitions. Enter your best autumn-themed Victoria sponge or bring along your biggest pumpkin for judging. It's a free event, and donations help us continue our work preserving the Mill's living heritage.



For tickets and more information, visit

whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk, follow us on social media, or subscribe to our newsletter.



Come along and enjoy a delightful afternoon as we perform our outside summer concert

Basingstoke Concert Band

SUMMER CONCERT

Sat 12 July 25 at 3 pm

Sherfield-on-Loddon Village Hall Garden

Tickets cost £12 (U16 free) available from band members, at the door or online at

<https://ticketlab.co.uk/event/id/31562#>

EarlyBird offer £10 - available until 31 May

Cream tea served during the interval - included in your ticket!

Barry Hare

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ACCA



Limitless

War Memorial Park, Saturday 26 July 2025, 11 am to 5 pm, FREE

Get ready to push the limits! Limitless from Love Basingstoke is coming to War Memorial Park for a day of adrenaline, action, and good vibes. Whether you're a thrill-seeker, a sports lover or just here for the music and food – there's something for everyone.

Save the date for:

- ★ Extreme Sports Shows – watch jaw-dropping stunts and high-flying tricks in the Love Basingstoke arena.
- 🛹 Skatepark Jam – hosted by The Stoke Park, check out the skatepark for live action and impressive skills.
- 🤝 Meet Local Sports Clubs – discover new passions and connect with the community.
- 🌿 Wellbeing activities – Chill out, recharge, and explore all things wellness.
- 🍔 Food and drink – Grab tasty bites and refreshing drinks
- 🎧 Live Music and DJ – sit back, relax and enjoy the music.

Check for updates at lovebasingstoke.co.uk/events/limitless

Probus Club Appoints New Committee

In operation since 1979, the Probus Club of Basingstoke caters for retired men who had some management experience in the professions or business, hence the acronym Probus.

Their 45th Annual General Meeting has just taken place and appointed their committee to run things on behalf of their members. The Vice President had to step back from ascending to the top job and so the sitting President, Stephen Thair, will continue for a second year in office. The new Vice President is Paul Klinger, while the other officers were happy to continue in post thereby bringing experience to bear on matters that need organising in the future.

The committee reflects the diversity of the

membership, with the President and Vice President who were solicitors, the treasurer was a nuclear scientist, a past oil company executive is the secretary, outings are arranged by a RAF officer, an IT Consultant is the speaker secretary, and the publicity officer owned a small printing business.

They enjoy monthly business meetings at the Test Valley Golf Club, where as well as enjoying lunch, they have guest speakers.

A social pub lunch which includes wives and partners takes place monthly at a pub on the eastern side of Basingstoke and special meals are arranged in August, at Christmas and Spring time.

Trips are arranged to interesting places. During this last year they had a unique visit to Southwick House, just north of Portsmouth, which was the headquarters for the D Day landings and very recently visited the house and gardens at Kingston Lacy the National Trust property at Wimborne Minster in Dorset.

Autumn visits are planned to include a guided tour of the facilities at Newbury racecourse, a trip on the Basingstoke canal and a visit to the submarine museum in Portsmouth.

Interested? Then see probusbasingstoke.club for more information or contact their secretary, Andrew Barton, on 07814 937202 for an informal chat.

Paul Flint

Council funding boost of £700,000 to improve community buildings now available

Community groups and voluntary organisations across the borough are being encouraged to apply for funding to improve their facilities, thanks to grants from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

Following two successful years, the council has re-opened its Community Infrastructure Fund with a £700,000 pot available to organisations to apply for grants to improve current facilities making them more accessible to users, increase income and reduce costs, or make environmental improvements.

Grants of between £5,000 and £75,000 are available to successful applicants through the two-stage process. The deadline for the first stage of applications is 5 pm on Friday 18 July 2025.

More information about the fund criteria and application process is available on the council's website at basingstoke.gov.uk/infrastructureFund or by contacting cif@basingstoke.gov.uk



Free Ads

All entries should be sent in writing to Maureen Dallaway, by **10 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.

Slater sandwich maker - new, in box - £8 **Baby play mat** - £5 **Baby soft play balls** with mesh holder £4 **Baby sensory toys**- £1 each New **Tagine** - £5

All the above from clean, pet and smoke-free home Tel. 07933 130564

Double Drawer Air Fryer - brand new, unused, still in its original box. £65. Tel. 780065.

4 small **shoulder handbags** as new. 2 black, 1 grey and 1 beige. £7 each. Tel. 781776

Metal garden swing + cushion + cover, for 2/3 people. Free, buyer collects from Oakley. Tel. 07549021174

Mountfield self-propelled petrol driven **motor mower**, adjustable height settings, grass box, serviced annually good working order. £75 ono. Tel. 780039

Comta Rubasse **dining/stand chair**, modern design, sturdy white moulded plastic, chrome steel legs; approx dimensions: 49 cm w x 52.5 cm d x 77 cm h. No obligation inspection welcome. Can deliver locally. £15. Tel. 07879 467242.

Purple leather small satchel, quality leather with carry handle, detachable shoulder strap with comfort pad; two internal compartments with zip closures, lilac fabric lining; buckle straps on side for umbrella; two external pockets with magnetic clasps; approx 39 cm w x 29 cm h. No obligation inspection welcome. Can deliver locally. £25 Tel. 07879 467242.

Wheeled foldable **walking frame** with shopping bag. (Red) Hardly used. £30. Tel. 07765 745494

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Sport

Loddon Vale Indoor Bowling Club

Loddon Vale Indoor Bowling Club is situated in the Leisure Park near Milestones. We bowl indoors and the weather does not have any influence on when we can or cannot bowl. We are a friendly social club and are not driven by winning competitions although rumour has it we are very successful at all levels of competition with our ladies, men and juniors.

Lots of social events take place year-round with some of our quiz nights attracting over 85 members including families and friends. Sunday roasts and afternoon social gatherings are also very popular.

We have a very well stocked bar and food available most days from a menu with a wide selection for all tastes.

Our local trade sponsors support us by offering our members some great deals. We would like to invite you to see our club and what support we can give you as a sponsor if you are in a trade not already showing at our club. We attract many activities outside of bowls the use our function room for Pilates, Jujitsu, skittles, darts, weddings, birthday parties and local

firms using our facilities for company events, etc.

Come and give indoor bowls a try and enjoy reduced membership to end of September with five free coaching lessons from our fully qualified coaches. Call us on 01256 356507 or pop down just before noon on a Tuesday or Thursday after one of our roll ups for a chat and a go!

Jim Heyneker

Oakley Tennis Club Open Evening – Thursday 14th August 2025

Do you play tennis? Did you use to play and would like to have another go? If so, why not





come along to our open evening from 6pm onwards and see our newly refurbished club (*see photos on previous page and this page*).

We are a small friendly club based in the village on the B3400 Andover Rd and would love to see some new faces. We can provide you with a racket and balls so come along and see what you think. If you don't play you are still welcome to come along and see the new clubhouse and recently painted courts.

Fran Martin

Oakley Bowling Club News

Our OPEN DAY gave us the opportunity to show off our improvements in the pavilion. In the afternoon we held a Spoon Drive for members to which we were delighted to welcome County Councillor Juliet Henderson and Borough Councillor Julian Jones who, between them had provided funding for the new tables, carpets and for the inside painting of the building. Some 20 people visited during the day, and we are delighted that 10 signed up as members and are already playing regularly.

If you missed the opportunity don't worry. There



The Councillors

is another **OPEN DAY ON 13 JULY from 10 am to 2 pm**. No equipment needed, just wear some flat sole shoes. Before you know it, you will be on the green putting up your first bowls. We will give you guidance, show you our facilities and make you aware of the bowling and social membership offers available. On the individual playing front, Alice Lovett has reached the

quarter finals of the County Two Bowl Singles and Laura Butler the final of the North Hants Two Bowl event. Alice is again skipping for Hampshire in the Johns and Walker Cup and we were delighted to see her talent has been recognised by the England outdoor managers who have selected her for the England Under 25 team that will play in the international series in Ayr from 12 to 14 September.

Success in national team events has largely eluded us and our eleven league teams have begun the season with mixed results though three of the four teams in the Basingstoke and District Leagues are in the top two spots.

Domestically we held the first of our one-day competitions- the Two Bowl Pairs. There were 36 entries with Wendy Aherne and Peter Pearce (pictured below) winning the final against Richard Waters and John Ryan.



For more information visit our website oakleybc.org.uk or call Spencer on 01256 780418 or Diane on 01256 781465

Spencer Kerley



Woodland Wellbeing Walks July

Come and enjoy scenic walks around our local woods and fields, plus a special Jane Austen guided walk from Steventon Church.



Finishes with a sociable cuppa @ Methodist Chapel

Start Point for Walks:

Tuesday, 8 July @ 10 am - Village Pond.



Tuesday, 15 July @ 10 am - Village Pond for car

share drive to start for *Jane Austen Special*

Tuesday, 22 July @ 10 am - East Oakley Village Hall

[aka The Green Hut]



Other Details:

Start time: 10 am

Pace: gentle

Duration: 1 hour approx

Routes: varied

Contact: Barbara 07722 757057

Oakley Ramblers

On a blustery, but dry Sunday in May, Oakley Ramblers headed to Greenham Common near Newbury for a walk that was split into two 8K loops. We met at the Control Tower and, in the morning, 11 walkers set off east, around the perimeter of the common, leaving it after approximately 500m heading towards the Kennet & Avon canal. Passing the end of



Newbury Racecourse, we soon reached the canal where we enjoyed walking along the towpath for 2.5K, before crossing the canal and making our way back up to the common. On arriving back at the Control Tower, we enjoyed lunch before 6 walkers set off for a second walk of 8K. This time we went west to the end of the common and into the woodland which borders Sandleford Priory. We circled back to

the common and then walked down to the east end before returning to the Control Tower.

On 1 June, 12 of the group went on our annual walking trip; this year we visited the Eryri National Park in Wales, where we walked for 4 days. The weather forecast was very mixed so 9 of the group decided to head up Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa) on day 1 whilst the weather was dry and were rewarded by excellent views from the top. The rest of the group opted for a lower-level walk which included Crimpiau. On day 3, we had an excellent morning guided around Llyn Idwal by a local expert, Mia, who told us about the history, geology, and flora of the area. On our last day, a small group climbed Moel Siabod whilst the second group enjoyed a walk along the river from Capel Curig to Betws-y-Coed taking in Swallow Falls on the way.



Our planned walk dates for July are Wednesday 9, an evening walk on Thursday 17, and Sunday 27. Find us on Facebook or visit our website for more information: oakleyramblers.org.

Corinne Thomas

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AV Services 32

Bathrooms

Overton Bathroom Centre 23

Beauty Services & Products

Lara's Beauty Workshop 30

Builders

Block Paving Specialist 40
Intersett Block-Paving
Specialist 29
LDR Building Services 18

Building Supplies

Oakley Landscaping
Supplies 11

Car Servicing

ARG Automotive Ltd. 23
Bakers Garage 40
Blue Peter Garage 30

Care Homes

Oak Lodge 30

Carpenters & Joiners

DL Carpentry 32
Graham Brown Carpenter and
Joiner 27
Russell Clark Carpenter and
Joiner 11

Carpets & Flooring

Oakley Carpets &
Furniture 11

Catering

Party Line 32

Chimney Sweeps

Smokeless Sweeps 4

Community Services

The Kingfisher Day
Centre 23

Computer Services

Candover Park Solutions 27

Domestic Appliance Repair

B. Cooper Domestic
Appliance Repairs 29

Dressmakers

Alterations and Repairs 24

Electricians

A Sewell Limited 27
Paul Williams Electrician 12
Wired Electrical Services 29

Fencing

Bob Berry Fencing 27

Funeral Directors

L Titcombe & Family 9
Spencer & Peyton Ltd 27

Garden Services

Goslings Garden &
Fencing 24
Green 'n' Tidy Gardens 23
Lawnmaster 39
Oakley Lawn Cutting 11
SW Contract Services 18
The Green Room 17
Trees & Hedges 11
TreeScene 32

Gifts

Solo Mia 17

Graphic Design

Eley Designs 24

Hairdressing

Hair Beauty 6
Lorna Goodall 4

Health Care Services

cf foot clinic 23
Clear Ears 6
ItalDent 39
Oakley Osteopathic Clinic 18
Square One 39

Heating and Plumbing Services

Catlin Plumbing & Heating 40
Mark Smith Plumbing
and Heating 6
NJP Heating Services 12
Oakley Gas & Heating 9
Paul Baker Plumbing &
Heating 9
W G Shenton Plumbing
& Heating 24

Home Improvements

Access4Lofts
N. Hampshire 32
Field & Field 6

Home Maintenance

James Mccombe
Renovation 32
Oakley Handyman Services 23
Property Care 18

Man and Van Service

Need A Van 4

Memorial Masonry

Haven Memorials 4

Nurseries and Playgroups

Acorns Nursery 12
Barn Nursery 29
St Leonard's Playschool 11

Painters & Decorators

Aaron Ford Decorating and
Home Projects 18
All Aspects 9
Barry Hare Painting
& Decorating 32
Haynes of Oakley painter
and decorator 23
PSC Decorating Services 9

Pest Control

Pest Response Ltd. 29

Pet Services & Supplies

Cats Protection 15
Paws at Home Ltd. 18

Plastering

Nick Goodall Plastering 12

Pubs & Restaurants

The Barley Mow 39

Roofing Contractors

ITC Roofing 9

Soft Furnishings

Honeysuckle Interiors 40

Sport & Leisure

Beechdown Club 2

Taxis

Oakley Chauffeur Services 30
Totally Airports 9

Water Softeners

AMS Mayfair Ltd. 4

Will Writer

Whitchurch Wills Limited 29

Windows & Conservatories

Hayward Glass and
Glazing 23
S J Hunt Windows 12
TF Windows and Doors 6

LOCAL INFORMATION

Oakley Community Association

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

Councillors & Politicians

Member of Parliament, Basingstoke

Luke Murphy - luke.murphy.mp@parliament.uk 07946 617981
 47 Winchester Street, Basingstoke, RG21 7EF

Parish Councillors:

Fred Bullions
 Vaughn Burns
 Dave Condliffe
 Ken Crafer
 Ian Ellison
 Trevor Green (Vice Chair)
 Amanda Hayman
 Gary McAllister (Chair)
 Alex Rowley

Parish Clerk : Nicola Beere, 1 Station Road, Oakley

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

Assistant Clerk: Kelly Green

Finance Assistant: Stephanie Scantlebury

Borough Councillors:

Paul Gaskell Cllr.Paul.Gaskell@basingstoke.gov.uk 07812 894479
 Hannah Golding 07305 123671
cllr.hannah.golding@basingstoke.gov.uk
 Julian Jones Cllr.Julian.Jones@basingstoke.gov.uk 0794 6475700

County Councillor: Juliet Henderson

juliet.henderson@hants.gov.uk 862413

Estate Agents

Brockenhurst Estate Agents, 6 Rectory Rd 700280

Police - 101 or 999 in an emergency

Gas Emergencies 0800 111 999

Health (111 or 999 in emergency)

Defibrillators (Call 999 first) are located at:

The Fox
 The Barley Mow
 The Green Hut (Hill Road)
 The Infant School,
 The Cricket Club
 Peter Houseman Field.

Doctors' Surgery 0333 034 1033

Out of hours call 111

CHURCHES

The guidelines for social activities are subject to change; for more information use the contact details below.

Church of England

St Leonards (Oakley)
 St Lawrence (Wootton)
 All Saints (Deane)

Website:

www.oakleywithwootton.org.uk

Church Office: St Leonard's Centre,
 Rectory Rd, Oakley
 Tel 782724 9:00 am -1:00 pm week-days

office@oww.church

Revd Ben Kautzer ben@oww.church
 01256 420903

Contacts for Deane:

Deidre Coles - Warden Tel 781495

YouTube channel: Search St Leonard's Church Oakley for Church@Home and Kids@Home services.

Methodist

Chapel by the pond

Website:

<https://www.bhbccircuit.org.uk/churches/oakley.html>

Hill Road adjacent to the village pond
 in East Oakley

Revd Claire Simpson

revclaire72@btinternet.com

Tel: 01256 323103

Roman Catholic

St Joseph's and
 St Bede's

Website:

www.stjosephsbasingstoke.org.uk

171a St Michael's Rd, Basingstoke,
 RG22 6TY

Fr Paul Leonard,
 Parish Office -Tel: 323595

office@stjosephsbasingstoke.org.uk

Community Church

Websites:

www.lifespringcommunitychurch.org

or www.hopebasingstoke.org

St. Luke's Hall Overton
 or Sarum Hill Centre, Sarum Hill,
 Basingstoke

Contact: John and Wendy Thurston
 (780135)

or Paul and Ann Davis (782769)

Village Shops

Coop - Oakley Lane 780857

Craft Kits N Bits, 4 Rowan Tree Road 020 3488 5499

One Stop - Oakley lane 780227

V&B Butchers in the Vale 780323

Village Café, Jolly Olly's Oakley Lane 782658

Village Pharmacy in the Vale 782381

Oakley Scout Group

TBD

oakley@bwds.org.uk

Oakley Girlguiding

Caroline Lloyd

c451lloyd@outlook.com

VILLAGE HALLS

East Oakley Village Hall ("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 Leonards Centre - Rectory Road

Contact Church Office: 782724

NOTE: If you wish to add an item or correct any entries, please send an email to: john@oakleylink.org.uk Last amended: 15/5/2025

What's coming up this Summer at the Barley Mow...

Our Evening Set Menu

Join us from 5pm, Monday to Thursday, and get three courses for £21.50 or two courses for £16.50. Whether it's our handmade steak & ale pie that takes your fancy, or our indulgent apple & raspberry crumble served with vanilla ice cream or custard, we've got dishes for everyone.



Functions

Our function space is the perfect place to host your next special event. Ideal for birthdays, family reunions, corporate events and more. Enjoy the privacy of your own space to enjoy with family and friends no matter what the occasion. Our team are on hand to make your experience special from start to finish.



Lunch & a drink for £11

Available 12-5pm Mon-Fri
Join us midweek and get lunch and a drink for £11. Choose from a tasty selection of pub classics, sandwiches and wraps along with a choice of beer, cider, wine or a soft drink for just £11



2 for £12 Cocktails

Whether you're catching up with friends, celebrating a special occasion or simply unwinding after a long day, our cocktail list provides the perfect pit stop. What's more, you can enjoy two of our non-alcoholic cocktails for just £10.



Barley Mow | Oakley Lane | Basingstoke | RG23 7JZ | 01256 636 635

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

www.barleymowatOakley.co.uk

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