

# Oxhey Village Environment Group

(Oxhey Village Residents Group)

Affiliated to The Hertfordshire Conservation Society



www.oveg.org

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## November 2008

### Contents

**Page 2**

Oxhey Matters

**Page 4**

Membership form

**Page 5**

News

**Page 6**

History sheet

**Page 7**

OVEG Free Directory

**Page 8**

What's On



OVEG held a Barn Dance at St Matthew's Church Hall on Saturday, October 27. The event proved extremely popular and was well attended by young and old alike.

### Chairman's letter

## Spirit is stronger than ever

I wonder how many of you woke with surprise to see snow last month, the first time its fallen in October since 1954.

For the Filer family, however a bigger surprise was finding myself dragging a sledge across the fields at 6.50 in the morning with an excited son.

What a fantastic way to start the day, fresh crisp snow, sun rising over the trees, inquisitive horses. I took time to take it in – how lucky we are to live in Oxhey.

Traffic is getting worse, grid-lock at the Arches, it must be the countdown to Christmas! This, more than

any other time of year, is time to think about family, friends and neighbours.

Over the past few months, I've been able to enjoy, and be part of, my children's school life. It is good to see how the schools play such an important role in fostering this community spirit, not only the life long friendships our children are making, but the mums and dads in the playground.

This community spirit appears stronger than ever, even though we've all seen lots of change, families growing up, people moving

away, new families moving in, yet amidst this change, the underlying foundation of our community still remains intact.

I hope you enjoy this Christmas edition of the newsletter, there are important updates on the major projects, plus news on forthcoming events.

Please let me take this opportunity on behalf of the Committee to wish you and your families a warm and healthy Christmas and New Year.

**Regards  
Andrew**

Thank you for your on-going support.  
Please help us by telling your friends and neighbours about OVEG.  
Together we are strong. It's your voice, have your say, join us today.

**Annual subscription due (tick)**  
If this box is ticked, please send your  
subscription to the membership secretary

# Oxhey Matters

## Bushey Arches

Hopefully you will have noticed the work is under-way and is planned to be complete by the end of Nov.

OVEG have requested that provision is made to erect a Christmas tree in the centre arch, this requested was positively received by the council who are now exploring if this would be possible. Keep your eyes open.

Funding for the tree would be provided through sponsorship organised by OVEG.

## Bushey Station

As reported in the last newsletter, OVEG met with representatives of

London Overground, who are now responsible for the Metro Service (Slow Train) and also the general up-keep of the station.

While a number of the renovations have already taken place, there are still lots to complete.

OVEG will continue to liaise with London Overground to ensure all the work is complete as per the original work schedule. Some of the work will consist of:

- Improved drainage to all platforms,
- Repair fences, paint metalwork,
- Lining will be added to the tunnel, allowing the seeping water to drain away.



- Install at least two shelters on platform six (More if we help with funds)
- Ticket office area will be updated to allow for disabled access and non-slip tiles
- Outside – the station will be tidied up, signage improved, cycle shelters added at both entrances.

## Fast Trains

Good news! 12-car trains are coming.

London Midland are preparing a new timetable which will come into effect on December 14. The new timetable will include at least one additional 12-car train, probably the 07.49, followed by further 12-car

## Contact us

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[www.johnwhiteman.co.uk](http://www.johnwhiteman.co.uk)

Newly opened to complement our existing offices:-

**Oxhey Village Office**  
37 Pinner Road  
Oxhey Village  
Herts  
01923 247742

trains over the following months.

This is fantastic progress and addresses one of the key concerns raised in the survey last year, which was the lack of capacity and quality of service.

OVEG and ward Councillors have now established a good working relationship with representatives of London Midland who are keeping us informed on the progress of extending fast trains and improving the service.

### Anti-Social Behaviour

We are making a stand and making a difference.

Working together with the Police, The Anti-Social Behaviour team at Watford Council and Ward Councils, OVEG have now agreed an overarching plan to address concerns being raised in the community.

These groups are now meeting every six weeks to review progress and discuss issues being raised, and agree the appropriate action can be

taken.

The main two issues being addressed first are:

- General Anti-Social Behaviour, nuisance, noise, graffiti.
- Drink related issues, including under age drinking.

The plan consists of a number of steps:

1. Consult with Police Anti-Social Behaviour Team, Councillors and residents.

**Action:** Meetings are now taking place on a regular basis, every 6 weeks.

2. Collate information from various reports which capture recorded complaints, identify hot spots and key issues. Put in place action plans to address issues.

**Action:** Reports are being reviewed and monitored at the above meetings.

3. Provide posters, flyers and other

key information to residents to ensure ALL incidents are reported.

**Action:** Posters will be put around the village by the end of November. Flyers will be put through residents doors, along with fridge magnets to encourage people to report all issues, no matter how small.

4. Put actions plans into place, address issues being raised.

**Action:** Various patrols are monitoring hot spots. People have been stopped, questioned and drink/ cigarettes confiscated from under age youths. Police are investigating where youths are obtaining alcohol and will be taking action against shops if they are found to be flouting the law.

5. Via Newsletters, Posters, websites and other means.

**Action:** The OVEG website and Newsletter will provide ongoing updates, as will Council and other publications.

## Day out for Red Cross

In July some Red Cross members were invited to Buckingham Palace, this was to celebrate 150 years since the Red Cross was granted the Royal Charter.

They were welcomed by The Prince of Wales, Duchess of Cornwall and Princess Alexandra.

The Red Cross members from Oxhey Village were Paggly Parrish, Gill Flitton, Phyllis Boskey and Jill Greenstreet.

Winnie Evans was invited but unable to attend.

Meryl Kebbell of Grangewood, Oxhey Lane also attended, Meryl used to open her gardens for the Red Cross funds.

### **DB Electrical & Air Conditioning**

**Dennis Beeston**

**41 Upper Paddock Road Watford, Herts.  
WD19 4DY**

**Tel & Fax: 01923 236740**

**Mobile: 07966 145103**

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# Oxhey Village Environment Group



**Membership Secretary:**

Karen Filer  
17 Park Road  
Bushey  
WD23 3EE

**Subscription: New / Renewal**

Please return this completed form to the following address :

I / we wish to apply for / renew my / our membership of the Oxhey Village Environment Group and enclose my / our annual subscription.

Please send a cheque or cash to the Membership Secretary, making cheques payable to :  
**"Oxhey Village Environment Group"**

|                                             |        | Per Individual | Total Amount |
|---------------------------------------------|--------|----------------|--------------|
| Individual Subscription                     | 1 year | £1.00          | £            |
| Postal Subscription (outside Oxhey Village) | 1 year | £3.50          | £            |
| Individual Subscription                     | 5 year | £5.00          | £            |
| Postal Subscription (outside Oxhey Village) | 5 year | £17.50         | £            |
| <b>Cheque / Cash enclosed</b>               |        | <b>Total</b>   | <b>£</b>     |

*Please note that 5 year membership helps OVEG to reduce administration and keep costs down.*

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Name _____          | Name _____          |
| Address _____       | Address _____       |
| _____               | _____               |
| _____               | _____               |
| _____               | _____               |
| Email Address _____ | Email Address _____ |

The Data Protection Act 1998 - All information is held in a secure file and will not be passed to anyone other than OVEG elected Committee members and Newsletter distributors. Should you require further information on this please tick here [ ]

**OVEG Administration Use**

|                                  |                               |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Added to membership records [ ]  | Membership period From _____  |
| <b>Date :</b> _____              | To _____                      |
| Signature _____                  | <b>Round No</b> _____         |
| Cheques <input type="checkbox"/> | Cash <input type="checkbox"/> |

**OVEG SUBSCRIPTION RECEIPT**

|                                   |                                                                                                                                                                       |            |             |         |            |             |         |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|---------|------------|-------------|---------|
| Name _____                        | <b>Round No</b>                                                                                                                                                       |            |             |         |            |             |         |
| Address _____                     | <table border="1"> <tr> <td>1 Year [ ]</td> <td>Postage [ ]</td> <td>Total £</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 Year [ ]</td> <td>Postage [ ]</td> <td>Total £</td> </tr> </table> | 1 Year [ ] | Postage [ ] | Total £ | 5 Year [ ] | Postage [ ] | Total £ |
| 1 Year [ ]                        | Postage [ ]                                                                                                                                                           | Total £    |             |         |            |             |         |
| 5 Year [ ]                        | Postage [ ]                                                                                                                                                           | Total £    |             |         |            |             |         |
| Payment received by - name: _____ | <b>Membership Renewal Period:</b>                                                                                                                                     |            |             |         |            |             |         |
| Signature : _____                 | From: _____                                                                                                                                                           |            |             |         |            |             |         |
| Date : _____                      | To: _____                                                                                                                                                             |            |             |         |            |             |         |
|                                   | <b>Membership Renewal Date:</b>                                                                                                                                       |            |             |         |            |             |         |
|                                   | January _____                                                                                                                                                         |            |             |         |            |             |         |

# Open Gardens raises £1,500 for Peace Hospice

Thank you to everyone who opened their gardens/allotments, raised plants for sale, made scarecrows and cakes, and supported the event by coming and touring the gardens.

We had a wonderful day with many locals visiting as well as many who came from afar-Hemel, Harrow, Stanmore etc.

The one theme that was apparent again and again was the amazing 'sense of community' that outsiders experienced and commented upon.

It was very satisfying to hear their comments because the Open Gardens is all about our community, and was started up primarily as a way of bringing locals together.

Any money that we make is a secondary concern.

This was the 14th Open Gardens, and we decided to produce a small recipe book of some of the delicious home made cakes that are made for the refreshments.

We still have copies available for a donation in the region of £2.00.

Finally, I would like to thank Bryan Hutt, who has worked tirelessly and quietly (for years) at producing the Open Gardens Booklet and the new recipe book.

We couldn't manage without him.

Looking forward to the 2009 Open gardens...

2009 Open Gardens will be on Sunday June 28. Please consider opening your garden in 2009. Telephone Jane Hopkins on 01923 241002 for details.

**Jane Hopkins and Julie Bowtell**

# Can you help to deliver?

I would like to thank all our Newsletter Distributors for all their hardwork, walking the streets of Oxhey to bring you your Newsletter. A lot of time and effort is taken doing this, with many of our Distributors also collecting money and keeping me informed of all the changes.

From time to time some of the distributors are unable to do their rounds, for various reasons, such as holiday.

We would welcome any volunteers who would be available to help us out. The Newsletters go out on average four times a year, so it wouldn't take up too much time.

If you're interested in helping please call me on 020 8950 0836 (after 18:00).

Once again a big thank you to our current distributors

**Karen Filer**

## Don't miss out

We have been auditing the OVEG Membership List and believe that it is up to date.

We would like to thank everyone for their continued support with OVEG by maintaining your membership.

If there is a tick of the front of your newsletter it means that your subscription is due for renewal, you can either hand it to your distributor or post it to myself.

You will receive a subscription receipt with your next newsletter.

If however you do not wish to renew your membership and we haven't heard from you by the next issue, we will remove your details from our membership list.

If you do wish to renew your subscription, you can fill out the subscription form on the opposite page.

Thank you once again for all your support, OVEG can't exist without you.

## In short...

■ Belated birthday greetings to OVEG member John Jeffreys, of Upper Paddock Road, who celebrated his 90th birthday last month.

■ Bushey and Oxhey Methodist Church's Boffees runs every weekday morning between 10am - 12pm. With coffee, tea and biscuits available, it's an ideal opportunity to take the weight off your feet and have a chat.

## Load of Hay

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**Call us on 01923 441113 to book now.**

**Parties Catered For, Everyone Welcome !**

*Bryan Hutt has supplied this history sheet which is reproduced in it's original format*

OVEG LOCAL HISTORY SHEET

No. 37



”GRANGE COTTAGE WATFORD HEATH

by

Leslie Smith

1909 - 2006

We think the house was built at least 200 years ago although, unfortunately, there is no mention of the "date of birth" in the deeds. It was built for the washerwoman of Oxhey Grange (the big house, just down Oxhey Lane, now obscured by houses having been built all around it). The washing was done in the outhouse at the back, now used as a small studio, and the ironing and airing in the building in the garden, which is known as "The Barn".

The water for washing was pumped from a well just outside the back door and is covered by a slab which can be seen partly covered by the back door step. As far as is known the well is still full of water.

When we arrived here\* the Barn had been in use as a store for coal, logs, garden tools and general rubbish. It was half covered with Virginia creeper which was growing through the tiles and hanging down in long, filthy streamers almost to the floor which was just earth. The first thing we did was to put in a concrete floor, and then line the walls and underside of the roof with hardboard. A power line was also laid on from the house.

\* 1951

There was a huge fireplace (hence the big chimney) with an iron grille over it where the irons were heated. All down one side, under the windows, were tables hinged to the wall where the ironing was done.

The Barn has been used for all sorts of purposes. During the war it was a school for very small children, and then it was a youth club for bigger children. Then even bigger "children" used it when it became the "Over-18 Club". It used to get packed pretty tight with boys and girls - young men and women! But 20 or 30 years ago they were all very well behaved! There, were a number of marriages resulting from meetings there! Now it is used as a workroom.

The garden has changed somewhat: where the large lawn is, was flower beds and trees, with crowds of laurels out at the back, very few of which remain. Children find the garden attractive as a place for hide and seek. Adults find it attractive as a fairly peaceful spot.

# OVEG Free Directory

## A

### Acupuncture

- Alan Imberg M.B.Ac.C. Kingsfield Centre for Physiotherapy, Chalk Hill, Oxhey 01923 220546
- Mary Hurley M.B.Ac.C. 30 Cedar Rd, Oxhey, Watford. 01923 240793

### Artists

- Kelly Mills www.freewebs.com/kellymills 07932 642676 kelly.mills@yahoo.co.uk

## B

### Bakers

- Lovedays 25 Villiers Road, Oxhey 01923 224748

### Bouncy Castles, Party Products, Air Raising Fun

- 19 Cross Road, Bushey 01923 210362

### Bank

- HSBC 85 Chalk Hill, Oxhey 0845 740 4404

### Building

- Ian Mackay Associates Structural, Building & Design Consultants, 83 Upper Paddock Rd, Oxhey, 01923 234828
- Counter & King—Architects 48 Capel Road 01923 819222
- R P Marsh Carpenter, Joiner & General Bldr 47 Lower Paddock Rd, Oxhey Mobile: 07932 037 050
- Waterford Developments 30 Villiers Road 01923 244466

## C

### Cars

- Bodicraft Supplies 1 Chalk Hill 01923 444676/7
- Bushey Auto Parts 3 Chalk Hill 01923 235100
- Kendal Cars Chalk Hill 01923 238058
- T S Motors Chalk Hill 01923 229228
- Graham's Bodyshop Chalk Hill 01923 817707

### Chemists

- Abell Chemist 4 Haydon Rd, Oxhey 01923 235253
- B J Bond 32 Villiers Rd, Oxhey 01923 223468

### Child Minder

- Julia Ghai Registered Child Minder 88 Oxhey Avenue, Oxhey 01923 212063

## Churches

- Bushey Baptist Church 48 Chalk Hill, Oxhey 01923 441330
- Bushey & Oxhey Methodist Church King Edward Road, Oxhey 01923 223906
- St Matthews C of E The Parish Church of Oxhey, Eastbury Rd 01923 241420

## Cleaners

- CJ's Cleaners 110 Villiers Rd, Oxhey 01923 233087

## Clubs

- Oxhey Conservative & Unionist Club, Lower Paddock Road, Oxhey 01923 224596
- Oxhey Bowling Club Contact Les O'Neill 0208 386 3893

## Cycling

- 13's Cycle Depot 73 Chalk Hill 01923 234221

## Couriers

- Bushey Despatch 35b Chalk Hill 01923 255922

## D

### Design

- Initial Monogram Co. Ltd Tee Shirts etc. 18 Capel Rd, Oxhey 01923 255540

### Decorating

- Acornley Decorating Matt Acornley 07956 150093
- Tile Depot 26 Aldenham Road, Oxhey 01923 637977
- Bushey Blinds and Awnings 23 Aldenham Road, Oxhey 01923 801300

## E

### Estate Agents

- Friends 99 Villiers Rd, Oxhey 01923 242255
- John Whiteman 37 Pinner Rd 01923 247742
- Rose & Co 6 Ye Corner, Oxhey 01923 446100

### Electrical

- DB Electrical & Air Cond'ng 41 Upper Paddock Rd, Oxhey 01923 236740

## F

### Fashion

- Hel's Kitchen 44 Aldenham Road, Oxhey 01923 213999

### Furniture

- Upholstery by Design

Unit 5,  
57 Bushey Grove Rd, Bushey  
01923 819977

### Fireplaces

- Grate Ideas 125 Pinner Rd, Oxhey 01923 253510

### Fishing

- Oxhey Angling Centre 28 Pinner Rd, Oxhey 01923 441110

## G

### Gardening services

- Elizabeth's Garden Design 01923 819194
- The Village Gardeners 01923 251206

## H

### Hire Equipment

- ATT 8 Ye Corner, Chalk Hill, Oxhey 01923 244500

### Hairdressers

- Danato Gents Hair Stylist 36 Aldenham Rd 01923 247877
- Angels - Hair & Nails 27 Villiers Rd 01923 242503
- Stella's 17 Capel Rd 01923 228795
- Hair-Tech 1b Oxhey Avenue 01923 249070

### Health

- Bushey Health Centre London Rd
- Manor View Practice 01923 247446
- Attenborough Practice 01923 231633
- Bushey Osteopathic Clinic 19 Finch Lane, Bushey 020 8950 8886
- Bowtech at Body Balance Villiers House, 110 Villiers Rd Oxhey Village 01923 227340
- Aloe Vera health, nutritional & skin care products 20 King Edward Road, Oxhey 01923 249785
- Holistic Heaven 45 Capel Road 01923 334735
- 07778 624414

### Hypnosis

- Clive Disney 07958 590279

## J

### Jewellery

- Saffron Alice 50b Capel Rd, Oxhey 01923 448445

## L

### Local Groups

- Allotment Society Contact Mary Reid 01923 238728
- Friends of Attenborough Fields. Contact Ian Mackay 01923 234828

## M

### Milk (Dairy)

- Braziers Dairies Oxhey Lane, Carpenders Park 020 8428 4474

### Musical Instruments

- Thwaites 33 Chalk Hill 01923 232412

## N

### Newsagents

- Nil's Newsagent & Post Office 75 Aldenham Road, Bushey 01923 221599
- News Bit 107 Villiers Road, Oxhey 01923 223949
- Rose Grocers Ltd 83 Chalk Hill, Oxhey 01923 225495

## O

### Off-Licence

- Rich Wines 1 Pinner Road 01923 229562

## P

### Photographers

- 46 Cross Rd, Bushey 01923 333373

### Plumber

- Astral Solutions

### Plumbing and Solar heating

- 19 Cross Road 01923 497865

### Printers

- Bluelobster 9a Pinner Rd 01923 228503

### Public Houses

- The Victoria Chalk Hill, Oxhey
- The Railway Arms Aldenham Rd, Oxhey
- The Villiers Arms Villiers Rd, Oxhey
- The Rifle Volunteer Villiers Rd, Oxhey
- The Load of Hay Watford Heath, Oxhey
- The Royal Oak Watford Heath, Oxhey

### Publishers

- Exley Publications Ltd 16 Chalk Hill, Oxhey 01923 25050

## R

### Railway

- Bushey Station, Pinner Road,

## Riding

- Bucks Meadow Riding School 37 Bucks Ave. 01923 212670

## S

### Schools

- Bushey & Oxhey Infants Aldenham Rd, Oxhey 01923 229731
- Bushey Manor JM School Grange Rd, Bushey 01923 226362
- Bromet JMI School Oxhey Rd, Oxhey 01923 227133

## T

### Take-Aways

- Lal Bagh (Indian) 7 Chalk Hill, Oxhey 01923 224405
- Chutneys (Indian) 9 Chalk Hill, Oxhey 01923 254900
- Junction 5 Chalk Hill, Oxhey 01923 441616/228040
- Plaice 4 Taste (Fish'n'Chips) 81 Chalk Hill, Oxhey
- Happy Choice (Chinese) 46 Aldenham Rd, Oxhey
- 01923 221953
- Surma (Indian) 14 Aldenham Rd, Oxhey
- 01923 249944
- Mezza & Pizza Villiers Road, Oxhey
- Ronnie's Café Station Approach, Oxhey 01923 818077

### Tattoo

- Little Dave's Tattoo Studio 1 Ye Corner, Aldenham Road 01923 248090

### Taxi

- Newline Taxis Station Approach, Oxhey 01923 222121

### Theatre School

- Class Act Theatre School Krystal Parsons 01923 246931

## W

### Watches & Clocks

- Watch Box Chalk Hill, Oxhey 01923 461354 / 220784

### Windows

- Harp Windows Ltd 30 Aldenham Rd 01923 231111

OVEG recognises the importance of local groups, shops and businesses in our community. This directory is provided "free" to help support them. If you would like to advertise in this directory please send your details to Andrew Filer, 11 Wilcot Avenue, Oxhey. Email chair@oveg.org.

OVEG reserves all editorial rights and may exclude details due to space or other reasons. OVEG does not endorse or vouch for the groups, shops and businesses included in this directory. OVEG cannot give advice or enter into correspondence about any of these groups, shops or businesses.

# Forthcoming events...

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## **OVEG Quiz**

**Saturday 24/1/09**

St Mathews Church Hall. Bar available. Booking advised. Please phone Jane Hopkins on 01923 241002. Price TBA

## **Big Breakfast**

**Saturday 28/2/09**

Bushey and Oxhey Methodist Church (this venue to be confirmed) This event aims to provide a cooked or continental breakfast for customers in a convivial atmosphere, using high quality local produce. All profits go to the Peace Hospice. It was a big success when it was trialed several years ago, and provided a great meeting place for families and local residents.

## **Victorian Experience Afternoon**

**Saturday 14/3/09**

Reveley Lodge, 88 Elstree Rd., Bushey Heath, Wd23 4GL. Children will experience life in a Victorian household, the highlight being an afternoon tea party with posh cups and saucers! Guides dressed in period costume will put the children through their paces. Reveley Lodge will provide costumes for children, or come in your own Victorian costume. Parents very welcome to attend. Target audience - up to 10yrs of age. Younger children will need to be accompanied. Details of time/price/age groups to be decided. Booking essential. Please phone Jane Hopkins on 01923 241002

## **OVEG AGM**

**Monday 23/3/08**

Bushey and Oxhey Methodist Church (this venue to be confirmed). Come and join in at the AGM of OVEG. This is an opportunity to become part of the committee and contribute to Oxheys unique community

## **The OVEG Fair**

**Saturday 6/6/09**

Oxhey Green.

## **Oxhey Village Open Gardens**

(not an OVEG event, but supported by Oveg)

**Sunday 28/6/09**

This will be the 14th year that gardens have been open to the public in Oxhey. It is a great afternoon out, and last year raised £1500 for the Peace Hospice. If you would like to open your garden, please phone Jane Hopkins on 01923 241002 for details.