# Newsletter

# **ODIHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Serving the people of Odiham & North Warnborough

#### Chair's message—Cllr Angela McFarlane

There is so much going on that we have decided to introduce a third newsletter this year. It complements the two printed editions in Spring and Autumn and if popular, we will look to also print this edition next year as budget allows. There is always a tension between reaching people and using resources sustainably. We are aware that not everyone is online, reads Facebook or looks at our website. However, it seems there are people who are happy to read email even though they don't use other digital media. To make sure as many residents as possible have access to information about what OPC is up to or consulting on, we are investigating a cost-effective way to have a dedicated emailing list that people can sign themselves up to, or unsubscribe, as they wish. Watch out for more news later in the year!

Improvements continue a pace at The Bridewell. July and August will see the fitting out of a new small meeting room and kitchenette on the first floor and new furniture in the hot desking area. All paid for from a Lottery Community grant. If you are looking for work or meeting space in the heart of the village, check out The Bridewell.

It must surely be unique to have two street parties and two beacon lighting celebrations in three years and I am honoured to have been able to officiate on behalf of OPC at all of them the Platinum Jubilee, the Coronation and the D-Day 80 celebrations on 6th June. Once again our community pulled out all the stops and Odiham was able to take part in the day long international programme thanks in no small part to the magnificent bell ringers at All Saints who rang the D-Day peel at 6.30 pm. Many thanks to them and all the others who took part in planning and carrying out a programme we can all be proud of, to remember and give thanks to those who made unimaginable sacrifice all those years ago so that we can enjoy the freedom we have today.

#### FORTHCOMING MEETING DATES

Full Council—16th July, 20th August, 17th September. Planning & Development—15th July, 3rd August, 27th August, 16th September. Finance Committee—16th July. Amenities Areas Committee-20th August. https://odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk/events

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**ODIHAM PARISH COUNCIL** The Bridewell, The Bury, Odiham, **RG29 1NB** 

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## 80th anniversary of D-Day beacon lighting—Thank you to everyone involved!



#### **Community award winners**

The Annual Parish Assembly was held on 30th April at The Old School/Vine Church. The Annual Parish Assembly is not a council meeting, it is a meeting of electors convened by the Parish Council so the agenda and meeting format is different to a normal council meeting. There were annual reports from the Council chair and committee chairs and two guest speaks this year; Sam Mabbott from Citizens Advice Hart and Chris Dudgeon from All Saint's Church who spoke about All Saint's work in the community.

#### Presentations can be viewed at Annual Parish Assembly - Odiham Parish Council

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the 2024 community awards which are awarded to recognise outstanding contributions to the Odiham, North Warnborough and RAF Odiham communities. This year's winners include:

Jonny Bass (photo 1) Youth award- Jonny has worked tirelessly for his local community. He gets involved in every activity that enables him to give back to the community. Some of the things he got involved in included the Jubilee Tea Dance, where we invite elder members of the community into school to celebrate events that are happening nationally. He gave up his time to make tea and sandwiches as well as play guitar and sing as part of the afternoon activities. He also raises money for local charities this year raising £300 by organising an Easter egg hunt for pupils at Robert May's School.

Helen Fleming (photo 2). Helen is a key member of the Odiham Society with extensive knowledge of the Parish which she puts to good use. She was active in the development of the Neighbourhood Plan and has continued to contribute to the monitoring of its application and the recent review. There would not be the Odiham Book Exchange without Helen's contribution and its formation and ensuring role as a director of the CIC. She also served as a Parish Councillor for some 12 years.

Tom Janaway (photo 3) for carrying out works when members of the community post their concerns. He has recently cut back branches and cleared roads of trees that have fallen in the storms. He has never turned down a request of help and is not part of any group.

Kathryn Ball (photo 4) for supporting every community event and project going - from selling tickets for events to providing refreshments for volunteers. Kathryn also works tirelessly to raise funds for Cancer Research and support charities Kathryn has also served as a Parish Councillor for more than one term whilst running two businesses at the heart of the High St. She has also served as a Trustee of Odiham Consolidated Charities.











#### **Celebrating Armed Forces Week**

Thank you to everyone who joined us at Beacon Field for a flag raising ceremony to mark the start of Armed Forces Week, to show support for all Armed Forces, Veterans and their families.

Following a parade, RAF Odiham Station Commander Matt Roberts explained the origins of Armed Forces Day and thanked the community for their continued support. Cllr Pam Verdon responded on behalf of Odiham Parish Council saying there had always been strong bonds between RAF Odiham and the community and thanked their ongoing support.

Armed Forces Week ends with Armed Forces Day on Saturday 29th June and we hope everyone will all join the celebrations at The Bands in The Bury <u>inOdiham</u>

Our thanks to RAF Odiham, Odiham & North Warnborough Bowling Club, Buryfields Infant School, Mayhill Junior School and Leapfrogs Pre-School for supporting the event.









Cllr Angela McFarlane and the Clerk, Andrea Mann, enjoyed a rather soggy day in London on 21st May when they attend a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. Our thanks to the Hampshire Association of Local Councils for their nomination.

And Cllrs Steve Bell, Angela McFarlane and Caro Seabrook joined the local Guides on 3rd June to celebrate their 100th birthday.



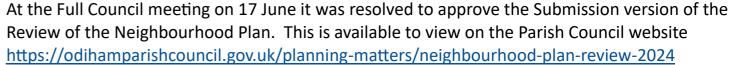


# **ODIHAM AND NORTH** WARNBOROUGH

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2014-2032

Submission Draft (June 2024)





Following the consultation of the reviewed Plan carried out January to March, a further 13 sites for Local Green Space designation have been included. The next stage of the review is for the Plan together with supporting documents to be forwarded to Hart District Council for their approval and further consultation before it is sent to an Examiner to approve.

Many thanks to the volunteers of the Steering Group who have spent the last six months working on the review in order to ensure that the Plan is up to date and in accordance with national and local planning policies.

Other planning news:

Site iv Land at Albion Yard (12 dwellings) – a pre-application request has been submitted to Hart and their response has still not been published.

Site v Land at Dunleys Hill (30 dwellings) - an application was submitted in December 2023 and refused in March 2024.

Site vi – Land at Hook Road (15 dwellings) - an application was submitted in October 2023 and no decision has yet been made by Hart District Council.

Anyone can sign up to receive notifications of local planning applications or make a comment on an application at:

https://www.hart.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-development/viewing-andcommenting-applications

#### **REVIEW JUNE 2024**



#### Planning the Community Emergency Plan

OPC is in the process of developing a Community Emergency Plan: a document that will eventually be accessible to all and which will describe how we as a community could enhance our collective resilience and to respond to emergencies in our area. Of note, this is in no way a suggestion that OPC become a first responder nor activity best dealt with by the emergency services. What this is intended to be is a plan for the community to look to in any post-emergency situation and a repository for people to access if they need help. Possible scenarios, for example, could include mass evacuation of properties due to a gas leak; response to local flooding, and helping people stranded in snow (like we saw happen in 2010).

So what? Well, this is a plea. A plea to anyone who thinks that they have something: a skill, an asset, or a resource, that might be of assistance in such a situation. You might be a trained first aider. You could own a robust 4x4 that you'd be willing to offer up? Perhaps you have a diesel generator that you might consider offering up in certain circumstances? Or maybe you have a small field kitchen stashed away in the shed?

Basically, what we hope to do is to build a register of local people who would be willing and able to be helpful in responding to an incident. This register would form part of the Community Emergency Plan and would enable a better response in the event of a situation that threatens our community. If you think this might be you, or if you want further information, please get in contact with the Parish Clerk at clerk@odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk in the first instance.









# **Community Emergency Plan**

Helping the community to:

- Prepare for
- Respond to
- Recover from

Emergencies in our area

#### Local Rights of Way

The Conservation Volunteers Workgroup was set up to assist Hampshire Countryside Services (HCS) in keeping local rights of way clear from vegetation. From your feedback, we know how much you appreciate this work. The Parish is blessed with green walking routes connecting Odiham, North Warnborough and RAF Odiham, providing access to schools, shops and public services. Since creating the group last year, the volunteers have met 8 times, cleared multiple paths, won over £4,500 in grant funding, built a board walk and new steps. And, more recently, purchased new power tools and completed relevant safety training courses. Our enormous thanks to all the volunteers who give of their time.

HCS, part of Hampshire County Council (HCC), has ultimate responsibility for Hampshire's rights of way but cuts in budgets unfortunately leave many routes overgrown and impassable. We're extremely grateful for their support during the setting up of the group, for ongoing assistance and grants but we genuinely believe we will need to keep the volunteers group running for the foreseeable future. A recent update from HCS said:

"As you may know, each summer, Hampshire County Council's Countryside Access Group embarks on a programme of vegetation cutting to ensure safe and accessible pathways for our communities. Traditionally, this has been carried out by our dedicated Ranger Team and supplemented by contractors. However, this year brings some changes due to escalating contracting costs. Over the past three years, we've witnessed a steady increase in contracting expenses, which has seen the cost of this work over doubling. After careful consideration and review of our budget, we regret to inform you that we are unable to sustain our previous priority cutting schedule with contractors.

To address this challenge, we're seeking to mobilising a larger staff resource from within the Countryside Service. This will involve a combination of programmed works and responsive measures to address reported issues. Additionally, we're exploring partnerships with organisations such as community payback and continuing to support the invaluable contributions of our volunteers. If your Parish is concerned about potential shortfalls in vegetation clearance, we're here to assist. We can provide guidance and support on developing your own volunteer network and through the Countryside Access Parish Delivery Partnership Fund (CAPDP), funding is available to support equipment and training for volunteers in your area. For further information or enquiries, please visit the CAPDP website https://www.hants.gov.uk/community/parish-pages/parish-partnership-fund

With the ongoing financial pressures faced by local councils, we appreciate your understanding as we navigate these challenges together. Should you have any concerns or suggestions for collaboration, please do not hesitate to reach out, using prow@hants.gov.uk. Your input is invaluable as we strive to maintain our public rights of way together for the benefit of all. If you identify any issues on the path network please report through our online reporting system - https://hantsrow.esdm.co.uk/standardmap.aspx )."

It would be very difficult for Odiham Parish Council to take over full responsibility for this requirement – most of the councillors have full-time jobs, of course. But, with your help and support, we can do our bit to help.

Of note, it is also very important for house owners and landowners to cut back vegetation from their own property which overhangs a public highway or right of way – in some cases it is a legal requirement. You may not even realise your property is next to a right of way. You can check the HCC website https://maps.hants.gov.uk/rightsofwaydefinitivemap/ or contact the Parish Office who will be able to help. It is worth noting that HCC does have the legal power to enforce cutting back of overgrown vegetation from private properties, if owners do not comply.

The Conservation Volunteers usually meet one Saturday per month during the main growing season. Please come along—everyone is welcome and you really can do as little or as much as you can. The next date is Saturday 27th July, 10-12, meet at The Bridwell. Future dates will be published at https://odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk/events













#### **Community Grants**

Four local groups benefitted from grants at the start of year which were awarded through the Council's community grant scheme:

- £640 was allocated to North Warnborough Village Hall towards replacing two window and flooring in the kitchen area and cloakroom.
- £100 to Victim Support towards the cost of purchasing security items to make people feel safe in their homes and community.
- £640 was allocated to The Vine Church towards the cost of astro turfing outside space on the condition that the remaining funding be achieved within 12 months.
- £640 to Odiham Community Pre-School towards the cost of replacing a carpet.

The next round of grants will be considered in July.

#### **New defibrillator**

A grant from London Hearts funded 50% of the cost of another defibrillator in the Parish which was installed at North Warnborough Village Hall, by agreement from the hall's committee. This brings the total to 5 parish council owned and managed defibrillators in the Parish. All locations are recorded at <u>Defibrillators - Odiham Parish Council</u>



#### The Bridewell co-working space

A Lottery grant of almost £20,000 will enable works to the floor space at The Bridewell. This unused space is already available for informal hot desking but the grant will improve the space by installing a new kitchenette, small meeting room, redecoration and new furniture.

Work is expected to take place during August so please follow the Council's website and Facebook page if you, your community group or small business is interested in hiring a desk or small meeting room.

Our objective has always been to offer this space for informal and affordable hire to help support overall building running costs, not to charge commercial rates.







#### Hampshire Forest Partnership—"shoots along the routes"

We'd like to again highlight the offer for people and organisations to get involved in one of several Hampshire Forest Partnership (HFP) initiatives to increase the number of trees, orchards and mini-forests in Hampshire - FOR FREE!!!!!

The link below provides the details, but just think of the opportunities to improve the environment, improve drainage and cool roads.....

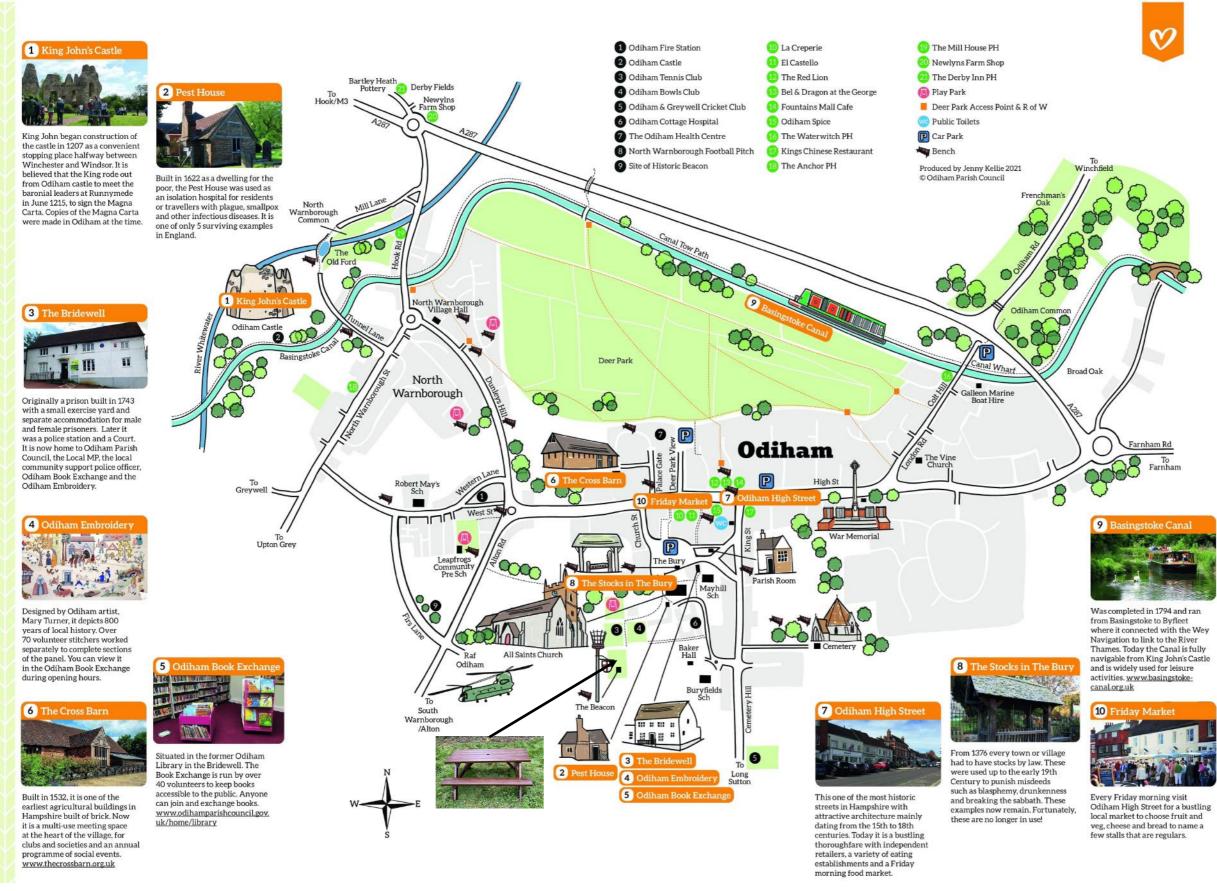
Shoots Along the Routes covers everything that isn't a mini forest or community/school orchard, so hedgerows, individual trees, tree clusters etc. Aimed especially at landowners, they can apply to HFP directly, or through the parish council. They can accept joint applications, but we will need proof of landowner consent for each different site.

Mini forests - the link below provides guidance on how you can also apply. Community/schools orchards - likewise, the link provides details on how to get involved. https://www.hants.gov.uk/hampshireforestpart.../get-involved





#### **Enjoy local greenspaces**



#### Parish Council owned open spaces with facilities

#### **Recreation Ground**

2 play areas Multi-use-games-area Large open space Separate football goals Trim trail (Zip wire no longer in use)

Chamberlain Gardens Fenced play area Seating & picnic benches Peaceful surroundings away from traffic

**Beacon Field** Large open space away from traffic

Seating & picnic benches

**Bufton Field** Fenced, traditional play area

Chapel Pond Drive Fenced play area suitable for up to 12 years

Quieter sites managed to promote biodiversity

**Community Orchard** Seating & picnic bench

Small woodland at The Firs

Small woodland at Colt Hill

## Enjoy local walks





Links to other sites:

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

Hart District Council

https://www.hart.gov.uk/countryside-and-leisure/green-spaces-and-nature

Hampshire County Council https://www.hants.gov.uk/thingstodo/countryparks

**Public Parks and Open Spaces** http://research.hgt.org.uk/cat/public-parks-open-spaces/

#### LOCAL WALKS

**Odiham Society** 

https://odiham-society.org/publications-test/walks-and-trails/

#### Ramblers

https://www.ramblers.org.uk/go-walking/routes

#### The Wildlife Trust

https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/visit/choose-your-adventure/find-walk-near-you? gad\_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAjwpszBhAiEiwALwsVYTyiGfsMGWGY7vuczwYMOBtb8MvsuII0Pmep8Fu1g0h\_GHPsc1cJOxoC0HQQAvD\_BwE

#### The Ambling Path

https://www.theamblingpath.co.uk/the-walks/tag/odiham

#### Action against Climate Change to protect our environment and the planet





#### New electrical vehicle charging points (EVCP)

There will soon be public EVCP's in Odiham thanks to Hart District Council's delivery of new charging points across the district.

The charging point in The Bury car park is due to be up and running by the end of July and a second point in The Deer Park is anticipated soon.

Did you know that Hart District Council offer grants for anyone living in a flat towards the cost of buying and installing a socket:

https://www.hart.gov.uk/climate-change-new/how-can-wehelp-you/can-i-get-financial-help-home-upgrades/electricOdiham Parish Council's grounds contractor continues to manage the Council owned sites to promote biodiversity. Where areas have been dedicated to biodiversity net gain, there are signs with QR codes to OPC's website to explain biodiversity benefits.

biodiversity which is why certain areas in the cemetery are managed differently. Following comments from residents, we are thankful to the contractor for responding to concerns saying the site was looking untidy and working with to bring the cemetery up to expected standards.





Whether you're inspired by Wimbledon, or simply fancy having a go at something new, we invite you to pick up a racket and play tennis at Odiham Tennis Club on Sunday 7th July.

Our courts will be open to all, free of charge, between 2pm and 4pm.

We'll provide rackets and tennis balls, so anyone can come along and play.

You can play with your family and friends, rally with some of our current members, or see how fast your serve is. Our head coach will also be on hand to give you some tips and advice to improve your game or get you started.

Come and see what we offer as a club. Visit <u>www.odihamtennis.com</u> to learn more about us.

Those attending, and taking up membership before the end of July 2024, will receive a 10% reduction in fees for the current year.

If you can't join us on the day, contact membership@odihamtennis.com to arrange a visit another time.

This event is part of a nationwide Big Tennis Weekend campaign promoted by the LTA (the sport's governing body) to encourage people to take up tennis.





## Hook and Odiham Lions Club (CI0) Registered Charity Number 1176812

38 Years of serving the communities of Hook, Odiham, Hartley Wintney and the surrounding villages

#### Village Shows and Fetes are full of opportunities!

Here are some events which may interest you and how our Lions Club is involved:

- 7<sup>th</sup> July The Hook Village Show 12-5pm at Hartletts Park— we organise and run this event and we will also be there manning our gazebo
- 13<sup>th</sup> July Odiham Church Fete—we will be there manning our gazebo
- 14<sup>th</sup> Sept Off the Hook—we will be there manning our gazebo

Village events not only make for a great day out for the family with all the stalls, rides, food and entertainment on offer, but they also hold another attraction. Many of you want to become more involved within your community and by attending a village show/fete it's a great way for you to find out what is happening in and around your community and what groups/organisations are active in your area.

The Hook & Odiham Lions Club was formed to serve its local community and we continue to serve the community with such programmes as Prostate Cancer Screening, installing defibrillators, collecting and refurbishing old computers to donate on to those in need, organising village litter picks and helping other groups like the Food Bank and Village Magpies to name a few of our more public activities. We are also active throughout the year *quietly* helping individuals referred to us. We hold fund raising events and accept donations to cover the cost of our programmes with approximately 90% going to help local people and organisations.

One way you can help us is by giving us your feedback. Whenever you see our gazebo at an event please stop by for a chat. We are always willing to arrange meeting up for a chat over coffee if you want to find out more about the Lions organisation. You can also visit our website to find out more about us and our programmes.

### www.hookandodihamlions.co.uk



The coaching team at Odiham Tennis Club is running tennis camps during the summer holiday. The programme caters for all abilities, from children who want to try tennis for the first time to those who have regular coaching. The camps are an engaging and fun way to learn to play tennis, alongside other skill-building games and sports and some friendly competition. All sessions are overseen by our LTA-accredited Level 4 Club Coach. For those who are inspired over the summer, we also run a multiple level term-time coaching programme.







# **OPPORTUNITIES TO VISIT**

#### **Year 6 Parent Open Evening Presentation**

## Hall | Thursday 12th September 2024

An evening for Parents/Carers <u>only</u>. A presentation from the Headteacher and members of the Senior Leadership Team on the school's vision and values with an overview of what you can expect if you choose Robert May's School.

 Talk 1:
 5.15 - 6.00pm
 Talk 2:
 6.30 - 7.15pm

See our website to book (Bookings open from 1st July 2024)

## Year 6 Parent / Student Open Evening Tours

#### Wednesday 18th September 2024

An evening for Parents/Carers <u>and students</u> to visit and discover all that Robert May's School offers. Students will act as tour guides to show you round the school and staff / the Senior Leadership Team will be available to answer any questions.

**Tours depart at:** | 5.00pm | 5.30pm | 6.15pm | 6.45pm | (*Last tour ends at 7.30pm*)

See our website to book (Bookings open from 1st July 2024)

### Year 6 Parent School in Action Tours:

2nd, 3rd, 4th October 2024 (Arrival from 9.05am, tours start at 9.15am)

An opportunity for Parents/Carers <u>only</u> to visit the school during a normal school day to see lessons taking place. You will be toured by a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

See our website to book (Bookings open from 1st July 2024)

Robert May's School, West Street, Odiham, Hampshire RG29 1NA | tel 01256 702700 | email info@rmays.com | www.rmays.org







- 6th Odiham Raft Race, 1st September
- Christmas Felting Workshop, November Date TBA

@galleonmarineboatyard

Galleon Marine, Colt Hill, Odiham, Hants, RG29 1AL Opposite the Waterwitch Pub



InOdiham is a group of volunteers committed to promoting our lovely village, primarily by hosting three events:

BANDS IN THE BURY 29 June -it may well be in a happy memory, but if not do come and enjoy yourselves

**ODIHAM FOOD FAYRE** August Bank Holiday Monday, 26 August - a truly marvellous celebration of everything food



and drink, promoting local producers.

**ODIHAM CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA -**A date to remember

Sunday 24 November 2024



The local History and Heritage group 'The Odiham Society continues to open its Heritage Centre at the old Parish Room in The Bury throughout the summer on Saturday 10:00 to 12:00 and on Monday and Thursday afternoons 14:00 to 16:00. Here you can see our meeting room, collection of village archives, photographs and miscellanea and importantly the current exhibition entitled "Beneath our Feet" a photographic display of archaeological finds from the Neolithic to Roman periods and details of the digs within the Parish where they were found. This exhibition continues until the end of August and will be replaced by a new exhibition "Victorian life-the poor" opening on 7<sup>th</sup> September.

The Societies winter season of talks has been replaced with summer guided visits for members to Greywell Hill House and Butser Hill at the Queen Elizabeth Country Park. Another sound reason to join the Society with members subscriptions helping to maintain the archives of the villages of Odiham and North Warnborough. If you join now, your initial subscription is half-price at £7 single or £11 for a couple (renewable 31<sup>st</sup> October).

The Society will have a presence at the village Church Fete at Hatchwood House on 13<sup>th</sup> July. Here you can have a chat with volunteers, view a display from the archives, purchase Society publications and goods and find details of membership.

On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September, The Odiham Society will be hosting Odiham's participation in The National Trust sponsored Heritage Open Days. On this day free access will be provided to The Cross Barn with displays and refreshments, The Bridewell with the Odiham embroidery, The Parish Room with an opportunity to search your house history, The Parish Church with bell ringing, The south Victorian Chapel of the parish cemetery. A pre -booked paid canal trip is also available on the day. Please look out for detailed posters around the villages during August.

# 8TH SEPTEMBER is Sunday FUNDAY!

# A free event for the whole community!



