

THE OXHILL NEWS

August 2023 No. 585



Owen Walton, Melanie Walton, Kevin Walton, Zeke Callaghan, Valerie Walton and Jay Haver. The Waltons return to Oxhill.

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CLUB & GROUP CONTACT DETAILS

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The Peacock Pub	01295 688060
Tysoe Tennis Club:	Club Secretary: Carol Spencer email: carol.spencer234@hotmail.co.uk
Warwickshire Mobile Library:	01926 851031
WOT2Grow Community Orchard:	Liz Atkinson (680045), Paul Sayer (680451), Sue & Mike Sanderson (688080) www.wot2grow.co.uk
talkdementia.uk	Paul & Heather Dowler Tysoe 688376
Carer Support Service	email: talkdementia@mail.com Website: talkdementia.uk Tysoe Village Hall every Friday from 10am

THE WALTONS RETURN TO OXHILL

On July 6th a slightly confused looking group of people were wandering about the centre of Oxhill, members of the Pilates group and myself (not at all being nose!) asked if we could help and it turned out that this friendly family had travelled all the way from Smithville, Ohio, USA to visit our church and look round the village where their long lost relative William Walton had come from. They were travelling the length and breadth of the British Isles but their trip centred round Oxhill.

Thomas Walton was born in 1593 and his son William Walton was born in Oxhill in 1629 and upon his death in 1681 was buried in the churchyard. The family were Quakers and

William had five children Nathaniel, Thomas, Daniel, William and Hester. William had acquired by lease and release an area of land in West New Jersey in America and upon his death left this to his four sons. In 1683 the boys set off to America landing in Pennsylvania where they all managed to buy land and helped set up a settlement which they called Byberry after the village of Bibury in Gloucestershire where two of the boys had lived.

For those of you old enough to remember the American TV series *The Waltons* might wonder if in fact this storey of a farming family may have connections with our Oxhill Waltons? "Good night John Boy."

Grenville Moore



Owen, Kevin and Valerie Walton.

ACCIDENT ANDY

by Andrew Stewart

Hello from a lucky villager! I thought this would be a good way to get everyone up to speed with my recent excitement. As most of you probably know by now, I suffered a serious injury from a circular saw on Father's Day. You may have even seen the air ambulance. Without too much graphic detail, I partially amputated my righthand and severed my thumb and index finger. The first bit of luck was that my father-in-law was immediately able to secure a tourniquet to prevent blood loss while Andrea called the emergency services. There was a 10-minute wait during which time they wouldn't even confirm an ambulance was on the way, so it was a great relief to see the helicopter arrive overhead searching for a suitable landing spot. Not long after the heli-med team arrived a regular ambulance paramedic team arrived too, so I was quickly surrounded by experts. I had to chuckle whilst lying on the floor, watching the pilot play ball with Isla! I was also conscious of dinner burning on the hob and that nobody else seemed too bothered about that.

I was loaded into the ambulance and driven to the helicopter, which was a bit slow and wish I'd just walked but they wouldn't let me. Once in the helicopter I was given a headset and mic so I could talk to the crew. They were a bit concerned by incoming thunderstorms, but said they'd flown in a lot worse during their time in the forces. So off we went, straight over JLR Gaydon, then followed the Fosse Way to University Hospital Coventry & Warwickshire.

By the time we arrived the storm had erupted and I got soaked getting out of the helicopter. I was rushed through A&E and quickly surrounded by doctors and nurses. First thing was an x-ray to determine the damage then I got prepped for surgery. Next stroke of luck was the on-call plastic surgeon that evening was the regions hand expert. I was in theatre for over 9 hours while he and the team put me back together. Once out of the recovery room and moved up to the ward I learnt about what they'd managed to achieve, and what the next steps would be. The hand was back together with tendons, bones, blood vessels and nerves all reconnected, but they didn't think the thumb would last so started discussing options to remove it and replace with one of my toes!

Luckily, the thumb had other ideas and with the help of several leeches over 24hrs, they managed to get sufficient blood flow back which means it's staying on for the foreseeable.

I spent 5 days in hospital and was discharged sooner than expected as I was healing well and once disconnected from all the machines, I was mobile. They sent me off with a bag of paracetamol and best wishes.

At the time of writing, I've been back 4 times for new dressings and physio. I've had my stitches removed and next week I get the metal scaffolding removed too. I've become a bit of a talking point at the hospital due to the severity of injury, but confidence is high



that I'll recover well enough to have some hand function which is great, after all I've got a campervan build to finish!

Obviously huge thanks to all the medical staff who responded and helped put me back together, from the heli-med team to the ward nurses, they've all been amazing and can't thank them enough. Even the food was good!

It's worth mentioning that while the Air Ambulance team get most of the 'hero points', they are a charity so absolutely rely on donations so please consider doing so.

Big thanks also to everyone here who offered us support, help and best wishes. The closeness of our community really shines through in moments like this, so my last thought of being lucky is living here amongst you all in a lovely corner of Warwickshire that is Oxhill.

Apologies if this has put you off Ruth's Recipe this month, but you don't get this level of detail on Facebook!

See you around, Handy Andy



Oxhill Village Hall

THE PROGRESSIVE SUPPER, SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER

Back by popular request!

A great way to get to know people, this event starts with a drink or two in the Village Hall after which we head off around the village in groups of about eight. Our first stop is for the starter - in the home of one of the many amazing cooks that Oxhill is blessed with. Next, in a different group and a different home, is the main course. Finally, we all meet back at the Village Hall for dessert.

You can come as paying guests (£20 per person) or provide a starter or main course and accompanying drinks. This year the theme is Mediterranean.

To book your spot, please contact **Ali Sayer** on ali.sayer@btinternet.com or **07970 922352**, stating whether you'd prefer to host or guest, and advising of any food allergies or intolerances. Ali also needs to know how many people can sit at your table, if you'd like to host.

Please note that only groups of two can stick together all night!

(The event will be held in The Old Chapel if the Village Hall isn't quite finished.)



PAELLA NIGHT, SATURDAY 16TH JULY

Another cracking evening with fifty-three attendees, a new menu, and lots of cheer!

See if you can spot the new faces in the photos...

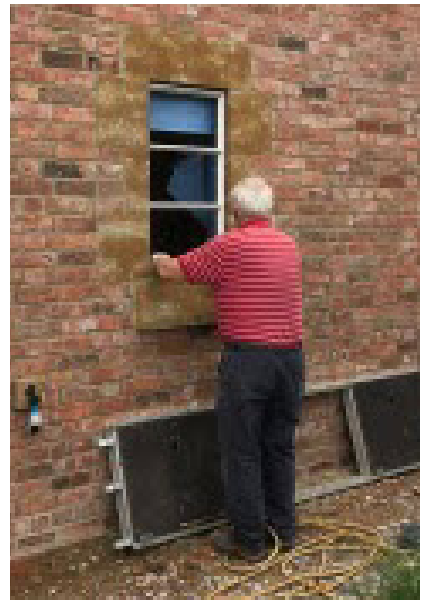




Oxhill Village Hall

Here are some pictures of the progress on the VH showing electrical first fix, windows going in & the ventilation system.

Jo Collings



OPEN MORNING AT THE VILLAGE HALL





TOM ‘COFFEE MAN’ HORBURY RETIRES

(Taken from our village Facebook group)

Our friend Tom “Coffvan” Horbury announced yesterday that next Thursday [July 27th] will be his last visit to Oxhill, indeed it will be his last visit anywhere, he is moving on. I’m sure he won’t mind me saying that due to the current economical climate and dwindling customers the coffee van is no longer a viable business. During lockdown his visit became the highlight of the week for many of us and I know I speak on behalf of all who regularly turned out, to say a big “thank you Tom “ we will miss your cheeky chappy smiling face, the coffee wasn’t bad either (Finn enjoyed his flapjack). We all wish you well in your new job.

Grenville Moore

Reply from Tom Horbury:

Thank you everyone, it is true, I am finishing it’s been an emotional 3 and a bit years, I have come to enjoy my Thursdays in the village! I’m so glad I brought you some slight sanity during the lockdowns! Trust me, you helped me through it!!

I may be finishing Monday - Friday, but I will still be doing events at the weekend (for some reason, they seem to be still busy!) but as they say, this isn’t goodbye...it’s see you soon, you all have become my friends over the years and I really will miss you all. Thank you for the memories, it’s been emotional, but hopefully see you at the van for one last time on Thursday. Thank you Oxhill, Tom “The coffee Man” Horbury!

Join us

MUSIC AT THE MANOR

*An afternoon of live entertainment
set in the grounds of Oxhill Manor*

www.nicodemuscharity.org.uk

Celebrating young talent, Supporting young people

3pm until 9pm

SATURDAY 19TH AUGUST

FOR TICKETS PLEASE USE QR CODE OR GO TO:

www.nicodemuscharity.org.uk/music-at-the-manor

Tickets £10 per person (Under 12s FREE)
Oxhill Manor, Beech Road, Oxhill CV35 0QE

Gazebos allowed (no extra cost)
Please contact Joanna 07932636144 via whatsapp
Gazebos allowed access from 12 noon
Non Gazebos from 2pm

Access to car park and event via Kineton Road

Picnics, chairs, blankets welcome
STRICTLY NO BBQs



A fundraising event to support

NICODEMUS





THE PEACOCK

is delighted to support

MUSIC AT THE MANOR

AN AFTERNOON OF LIVE ENTERTAINMENT SET IN THE
GROUNDS OF OXHILL MANOR IN AID OF NICODEMUS
CHARITY

We are providing....

A delicious bbq
cooked by the
Peacock's fab chefs!

An extensive bar with spirits,
beers, ciders, softs & pimms!



A fundraising event to support

N I C O D E M U S

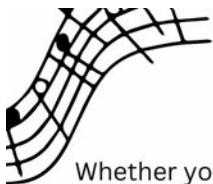
Nicodemus Charity was created 11 years ago by Alastair and Debbie Welford with a key focus of supporting young vulnerable people within the UK and 11 Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Nicodemus trains and supports young people with mentoring skills and works alongside local community groups and churches to reach out to those in their communities that need help.

Many projects including a protection home for severely abused teenage girls, a street rescue project and a school for children who would otherwise be working on the local rubbish dump in Guatemala. These projects have had such a huge positive impact to young people's lives that over 30 of the young people, having had Nicodemus support, now work or volunteer into these projects and have trained to become mentors, passing on the help they received to others in need.

**For more information please go to:
www.nicodemuscharity.org.uk**





MUSIC AT THE MANOR

Whether you want to relax with a cold glass of Pimm's whilst listening to some cool summer vibes, sing along to some Rock'n'Roll oldies or jump around to the Rolling Stones, our local young talented musicians will provide it all...



AMBER LIADAN

KATHERINE ABBOTT

AFTERKNIGHTS

LUKE KEANE

DR APE

WHIPLASH



For more information on these talented performers go to

www.nicodemuscharity.org.uk/music-at-the-manor

Bring a picnic or savour the delights on offer with our local suppliers....

The Peacock Bar and BBQ

of delights

Pimms, bottle beer

Fizz and wine

Cocktails

BBQ

Hot dogs

Flat breads

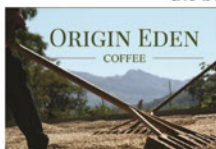
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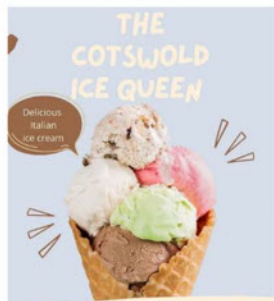
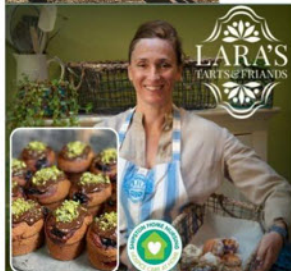
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Full range of AA Grade Coffee bought directly from the growers, now a 4th generation farm certified biodynamic, on the border of Guatemala and Mexico



Full range of fresh Coffee
Teas and Hot Chocolate
Delicious Cakes



OXHILL PARISH COUNCIL – WHAT’S THE POINT?

It’s the question that your parish councillors must constantly address, never forgetting that our main purpose and duty is to protect and support village life and produce or improve amenities and guard against unwarranted intrusions.

WHO ARE WE?

The council is made up from volunteer unpaid villagers with varying skills and experience. The exception is our clerk who manages the finance and ensures that we do not step out of order. Councillors have a four-year term with voted elections at the end. Finding people to volunteer is never easy! Meetings, which can be attended by anyone are held every two months, and any villager is very welcome.

Your Parish Councillors currently are:

- Lis Stuart (Green Lane) Chair
- Malcolm Robertson (Whatcote Road) Vice Chair
- Clare Storey (Green Lane)
- Peter Rivers- Fletcher (Whatcote Road)
- Reuben Connolly (Main Street)
- Parish Clerk – Christine Coles

WHAT CAN WE DO?

By having an agreed precept that is included in your general rates, we can fund village projects, support local charities and assist other local councils fight projects like the Anaerobic Digester proposal. We aim to keep the amount included in your annual Council tax allocated to the precept reasonable but this does mean that we have limited funds to carry out projects. (if you would like more information about the Parish Council finances please come along to a meeting or contact our Parish Clerk)

WHAT HAVE WE DONE RECENTLY?

- Funding for the Queens Jubilee event
- Helped fund the Village Hall restoration
- Built the Village Hall bus shelter
- Restored local footpaths and gates/styles
- Organising repairs to various road signs and road surfaces (e.g. Green Lane re-surfacing)
- Public bins and dog poo notices
- Speed checking and traffic calming negotiations- ongoing
- Litter picking
- Supporting the village website

- The chapel field negotiations
- Restoring and providing for village notice boards
- Reviewing planning applications with support or opposition, which is very much an ongoing situation. If you want to do some building project in the village, we can help by advising if it may face opposition.
- Paying for the Oxhill News printing

DISTRICT AND COUNTY LIAISON

Reports are received from both district and county councillors and they support us in various ways including special funding.

THE FUTURE

We do need to know of any other ways in which we can help and improve village amenities and will be carrying out a questionnaire about what you would like us to support / fund.

Parish Council Clerk's Contact details: [**oxhillpc@btinternet.com**](mailto:oxhillpc@btinternet.com)



WOT2GROW COMMUNITY ORCHARD



Harvesting the summer soft fruit is in full swing!! Early this year due to the lovely warm spell after lots of rain but returning to a rather cooler, wet and windy period will slow things down.

We have had red and white currants, raspberries, gooseberries, tayberries, loganberries, blueberries and blackcurrants as usual with the amounts being good. Even the summer raspberries are producing good fruit this year despite the reduction in plants. But the big bonus this year is the cherries as after investing in fleece sleeves to cover them we had had a crop rather than the birds beating us to it!!! Well worth it as they are delicious.

The trees have a good amount of fruit so thinning is being done to encourage larger but fewer fruits and just another few weeks to the first pickings! Apart from the apples the harvest looks a lot less than last year's bumper crops.

If you would like to help out, perhaps learn new skills or help with events and get some great organic fruit why not contact us!

Find out more – contacts below or message us via the web site.

The Orchard is behind the allotments on the Shenington Road in Tysoe.

Liz Atkinson (680045), Paul Sayer (680451), Sue and Mike Sanderson (688080)
website www.wot2grow.co.uk



ST LAWRENCE CHURCH

The summer, as it always does, marks a significant point of transition for many of us, particularly our young people. Children are changing schools, leaving the familiarity of one environment for a new and possibly much larger one. Older ones are leaving school, heading for the next stage of their lives - whether it be work, training, college or university. Others are perhaps coming of the end of a lifetime of work, or changing job. In every case there are mixed emotions, and we pray that each other them, and their families, may know God's presence as they navigate these changes. For all of you,

May God's love surround you,
God's Spirit guide you,
God's whisper cheer you,
God's peace guide you,
God's shield protect you,
God's wisdom arm you,
wherever God may lead you. *John Birch, Prayers of life*

Services across our churches this month:

Sunday, August 6 th	9.30 am	Holy Communion, Oxhill, Glynn Evans
	11.00 am	Family Service, Brailes, Heather Parbury
	11.00 am	Holy Communion, Tysoe, Glynn Evans
	6.30 pm	Evensong, Sutton, Heather Parbury
Sunday, August 13 th	9.30 am	Morning Worship. Oxhill, Jill Tucker
	9.30 am	Holy Communion, Sutton, George Heighton
	11.00 am	Holy Communion, Brailes, George Heighton
	11.00 am	Morning Worship, Tysoe, Jill Tucker
Sunday, August 20 th	9.30 am	Holy Communion, Oxhill, George Heighton
	9.30 am	Family Service, Sutton, Elisabeth Ashworth
	11.00 am	Holy Communion, Brailes, George Heighton
	11.00 am	Holy Communion, Tysoe
Sunday, August 27 th	9.30 am	Holy Communion, Sutton, George Heighton
	11.00 am	Morning Worship, Brailes
	11.00 am	Holy Communion & Baptism, Tysoe, George Heighton
	6.30 pm	Evensong, Oxhill, George Heighton

Every blessing, Jill

SWANS VISIT

Mid June saw members of OWLS hosting a wild life/nature walk to a group called SWANS, South Warwickshire Area Nature Society, which was established by Rosemary Collier and Shirley Cherry from Tysoe, the basic intention being to bring together all the Parishes in South Warwickshire to help preserve and enhance wildlife and nature in this area. It is hoped that all the Parish Councils will also sign up to support the group and as I write this I believe enthusiasts from nine parishes have joined. One of the main points is to try and put pressure on District Councils to make it compulsory and enforceable that wildlife habitat and planting by developers in planning applications together with roadside verges is adhered to.

We started the walk at the churchyard and walked down Beech Road, taking in the wonderful verge, and then a tour of the Manor ponds and wildlife area courtesy of Alastair and Debbie whose generosity ended the evening with wine and nibbles.

I was thrilled to read a couple of days later in one of the circulating emails; “It was a glorious evening and an epic visit to see the wildflowers in Oxhill churchyard and the nature reserve at The Manor. Excellent hosts! It has set the bar very high for future wildlife outings.” S.C.

Grenville Moore



THE TYSOE FLOWER SHOW MATCH

ANNUAL CRICKET EVENT AT TYSOE

Sunday 20 August 2023 at 1pm

At the Playing Fields, Main Street, Tysoe, CV35 0SR.
Triangular tournament: Tysoe, Oxhill and Balscote.

Call for volunteers: Help with teas and refreshments,
setting up on the day.

Contacts:

frederickprice@gmail.com / 07956 397850 – Tysoe

Jonathan Sivyer – 07930 946075 – Balscote

Adam Jordan – 07590 960992 - Oxhill



HAVE YOU SPOTTED THIS UNUSUAL BIRD?

A pair of Oxhill's resident magpies have successfully fledged three offspring this month, one of which is leucistic. So where a normal magpie is coloured black - legs, beak, and plumage - this unusual bird is a pale coffee colour. Leucism is inherited, (as is albinism). Countrywide, this genetic phenomenon is really rare - said to occur in less than one bird in six million!

Mick Groves

Photographs by Jemima Merriman



50 YEARS

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OXHILL NEWS

This month we are republishing an insightful poem from villager Graham Harper first published in April 1977.

I'M FINE THANKS!

There is nothing the matter with me,
I'm as healthy as can be
I have arthritis in both my knees,
And when I talk - I talk with a wheeze,
My pulse is weak, my blood is thin,
But I'm awfully good for the shape I'm in.

Arch supports I have for my feet
Or I wouldn't be able to be on the street,
Sleep is denied me every night,
But every morning I find I'm alright,
My memory is failing, my heads in a spin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

The moral is this, as this tale I unfold,
That for you and me who are growing old,
It's better to say 'I'm fine' with a grin,
Than to let folks know the shape we are in.

How do I know that my youth is all spent?
My 'Get up and go' has got up and went,
But I don't really mind when I think, with a grin,
Of all the good places my 'Get up' has been.
Old Age is golden I have heard it said,
But sometimes I wonder as I get into bed,
With my ears in a drawer, my teeth in a cup,
My eyes on the table for when I wake up
As sleep comes to me, I say to myself
Is there anything else I should lay on the shelf?

When I was young, my slippers were red,
I could kick my heels right over my head,
When I grew older, my slippers were blue,
But still I could dance the whole night through.
Now I'm old, my slippers are black,
I walk to the store and puff my way back,
I get up each morning, and dust off my wits,
Pick up the paper, and read the 'Obits'
If my name is still missing,
I'm in the land of the living,
Not too bad for the shape I'm in,
And so starts another round with a grin!

Graham Harper.

MYRTLE KNIGHT

Well-known & well-loved villager Myrtle Knight celebrated her 95th birthday in June. Sadly Myrtle left the village and moved into a care home to be close to her children. Myrtle was very active in the village. She started the Oxhill Garden Club many years ago, babysat village children, now all grown, and was an enthusiastic participant in village parties & activities. Myrtle will always be in our hearts and we wish her the very best in her new home.

Vanessa Druce





Tysoe Tennis Club
www.tysoetennisclub.co.uk

GREAT NEWS FOR YOUNG BUDDING TENNIS PLAYERS!

As part of our commitment to ensure tennis is accessible for all, Tysoe Tennis Club is once again able to offer 4 x FREE junior coaching sessions for **any** primary school aged children from **3:30 pm to 4:30 pm** on the following dates.

Wednesday - 02nd/ 09th/ 16th /23rd August

These are open to members and non-members and places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Non-members should be from Tysoe or attend Tysoe Primary School. All equipment provided - just tennis shoes or plimsolls and suitable sports kits are required.

Booking is essential - contact elainethorne@btinternet.com for the booking form

For more information, visit www.tysoetennisclub.co.uk or contact Elaine on 07842 185701

In addition, we will be running **Tennis Summer Camps** through our partnership with Tennisolutions.

These will also operate on the above dates, and include multi skill fun, games and tennis based skills. The timings for these sessions will be from 10:00 - 15:00

Again, full details and prices are on the Tysoe Tennis Club Website.

Website: www.tysoetennisclub.co.uk

Email: Carol.spencer234@hotmail.co.uk

HAPPY SUMMER HOLIDAY TENNIS !!!

DRYAD'S SADDLE

by Grenville Moore

Someone asked me the other day if I knew what the strange growth on the base of a tree in Main Street was...indeed I do, it's a bracket fungus *Ceriporus (polyporus) squamosus*, but commonly known as Dryad's Saddle other colloquial names are Pheasant's Back and Hawk's Wing, it is often saddle shaped and the other two names describe the brown patterning on its surface. It grows in tiers and often becomes so large and heavy that it falls off the tree stump before it rots down, it is the largest bracket fungus in the UK, and was first discovered in Britain in 1778 by the botanist William Hudson.

Interestingly the name comes from Greek Mythology where a Dryad was a nymph or nature spirit that lived in trees and took the form of a beautiful young woman, who had tremendous powers in the plant world and called on the energy within the wood even dead wood. They are an integral part of their tree such that if the tree died they also died. The Greek Gods and other Dryads would punish any mortal who harmed trees without first propitiating with the tree spirits.....you have been warned !



TYSOE HERITAGE RESEARCH GROUP

by Carol Clark

Readers may be aware that there's been a history group in various guises in Tysoe, on and off for many years. When I moved back to this area in 2019, I joined the current incarnation, who were then occupied with a detailed survey of the memorials in the churchyard, church and cemetery. Then, while the church tower was being repaired in late 2021, we were allowed to make use of the scaffolding to record its structure and materials. After that was finished, work started on documenting all the listed buildings in the parish, and researching local field name changes over the centuries.

At the same time, we discussed how to preserve and present our work, and a website was tentatively suggested as one option. We were put in touch with someone who set up a very basic site for us, and with a few false starts, we began building a more comprehensive "user-friendly" website in earnest about six months ago. After a fair amount of trial and error, we finally had it in a state we felt we could launch, which we did on June 17.

The website is not going to be static; the content will be tweaked and added to, but we're very pleased with the first incarnation. As well as coverage of the projects already mentioned, there's also a sample of our collection of old photographs (my winter task is to add the rest, all 250+ of them!), a copy of Kevin Wyles'

"Thatch to Fire" book, and interviews with old Tysoe-ians (which includes two former Oxhill residents with a Tysoe connection, Bert Bloxham and Lottie Gardner) recorded in the late 1990s. Future pages will include coverage of The Red Horse, The Civil War and the New Zealand diaspora in 1872 so there's still plenty of work to do!

Tysoe Heritage Research Group (THRG)

<https://tysoehistory.org.uk/>





Battle of Edgehill 23rd October 1642 in the English Civil War: by Palamedes Palamedesz

OXHILL IN THE CIVIL WAR

by Ann Hale, with recent additions from Murray Duke

During the Civil War, Oxhill in company with much of South Warwickshire would seem to have had mainly Parliamentary sympathies. There were some noteworthy exceptions, however, including Matthew Clarke, who held the main manor, and his son Walwyn, who became Oxhill Rector in 1643. Daniel Blackford was another prominent Royalist: he was the third son of yeoman John Blackford and Elizabeth Bishop, whose brother Anthony owned the Grange manor.

Matthew Clarke and Daniel Blackford both served with the Earl of Northampton's Regiment of Horse, raised in 1642 by the 2nd Earl, Spencer Compton. The regiment saw extensive action during the war, until its surrender in 1646. Captain Clarke commanded one of the regiment's six troops and Blackford was his Quartermaster. With Compton's battlefield death in March 1643, his eldest son James became 3rd Earl and regimental Colonel. His fourth son Spencer became governor of Compton Wynyates, the family seat and a Royalist Garrison, and as the boy was barely 15 years old, Matthew Clarke was appointed as his advisor. Parliamentary forces captured Compton Wynyates in June 1644 and held off the Royalist



St Lawrence Church Oxhill circa 1880s, after the restoration of 1877.

assault in January 1645 aimed at taking it back. Daniel Blackford was taken prisoner in the latter engagement. Daniel survived and resided in Burmington for at least a dozen years following the Restoration. He returned to Oxhill where he served as churchwarden in 1679-80. At the time of his death in 1681, he was described in his will as a yeoman and was survived by a wife and four sons. He is among Oxhill's better-known historical figures, mainly by virtue of the inscription on his monument inside St. Lawrence Church:

When I was young I ventur'd Life and Bloode
Both for my Kinge and for my countrie's Goode
In elder years my care was chief to bee
Soldier for him that shed his Bloode for me

Rector Walwyn Clarke was a fervent and outspoken loyalist. Well known for hurling insults at Parliamentary soldiers, he was sanctioned in 1646 and frequently harassed and taxed. Surprisingly, he managed to keep his post until well after the Restoration, and inherited the manor upon the death of his father Matthew in 1559.

On 25th June 1644, General Sir William Waller learned that the Royalist army had marched into Buckingham on the previous Saturday. That night (Tuesday) Waller's cavalry quartered in and around the village of Oxhill after an eighteen-mile ride, and the infantry lay down at Shipston on Stour, five miles away. To refresh the men, Waller commanded that the Wednesday fast be observed. Whilst they lay at Oxhill, they were joined by seven troops of Horse, 600 Foot and eleven pieces of ordnance from garrisons at Warwick and Coventry.

On 26th June, General Waller wrote to London:- "I am come to Oxhill near Keynton field." (By Kinton field he doubtless meant the site of the battle of Edgehill.) Waller explains that he left the Foot at Shipston, and complains of the extreme hot weather, which his much-diminished forces found very trying, so that they could not manage long marches without pause for rest. He purposed to march in the cool of the evening. Waller begs that the promised one month's pay be sent down as it will be a means of preventing this army from dissolving.

According to the Calendar Of State Papers (Domestic) by Order of Parliament, the money was sent down for Waller's army on 28th June, above twenty horses laden with dorsers (panniers) being the easiest way of carriage, there being a man appointed to every horse with his sword and pistol, besides a Great Guard.

During the Fast in Oxhill on Wednesday, an officer in Waller's own Regiment wrote to a friend in London and his letter illustrated the high morale of the army at that time.

"Sir. We have again taken divers prisoners and doe chase the King's forces every day they run from us, and indeed be too light of foot for us: I should not have believed they could have run so well had I not seen it so, some few days since they drew up their forces into Battalia and made the Countryfolk believe they would fight saying now let the Roundheads come that dare not march out of the Lanes and Hedges; but we appeared since They ran from us and we took some of them."

Waller resumed his march on Thursday, halting that night at Hanwell Castle. Waller's forces were defeated by Royalist forces at the Battle of Cropredy Bridge on June 28th, 1644.

There is a story on record that during the Civil War, Parliamentarian troopers, led by Lord Essex, galloped up to Oxhill Church, and thundered on the door during divine service. The Parish Clerk, quite forgetting his responses in his excitement, rushed out to see what was going on. He received a blow from a heavy cavalry sword for his pains, from which it is said that he later died. This story appears in several old books on Warwickshire, but it has been unable to be verified from authentic sources. It makes a good story, nevertheless. The Rector of Oxhill, Rev. V. H. Macy, writing to the Banbury Guardian at the end of the nineteenth century, quotes "Those who in quarrels interpose, will oftentimes get a bloody nose", and he would appear to have been right.

COMMUNITY CHOIR OF OXHILL, TYSOE AND SHENINGTON

The villages of Oxhill, Tysoe and Shenington have got together and are now meeting every week (in term-time). We're singing in The CCOTS Choir, (Community Choir of Oxhill, Tysoe and Shenington). It was set up by Tysoe resident Anna Harcourt in September 2022. There are just over 40 people who are registered, with the largest contingent from Shenington, (Go Shenington!). We meet in Oxhill on Wednesdays at the rather beautiful Oxhill Manor Barn, with Anna conducting the choir and her friend Elsa playing the keyboard.

Various people have helped to do some of the time-consuming and fiddly tasks to help the choir. Someone manages the communications, another helps with the accounts, and we now have a music librarian. The paper music already stacks up to several feet high. (There is also a small committee). As a community choir, sometimes various grants are available if these things are in place. Choir members pay £5 per session, or you can pay half-termly which allows quite a big reduction. We use the Spond app on mobile phones for the communications. It was originally designed for sports teams.

It is a choir with no auditions, so the idea is that everybody is welcome. You can of course come along and check if it is right for you-everyone can come along twice without paying-and if you want to continue, you are invited to pay.

It helps if you can read music, but it is far from essential. Enthusiasm is good, as is the ability to sing. (Everyone can sing.) We sing on Wednesdays from around 7.45 until 9.15pm, and choir members are encouraged to come a little earlier and enjoy some drinks, (and even cakes if you are lucky).

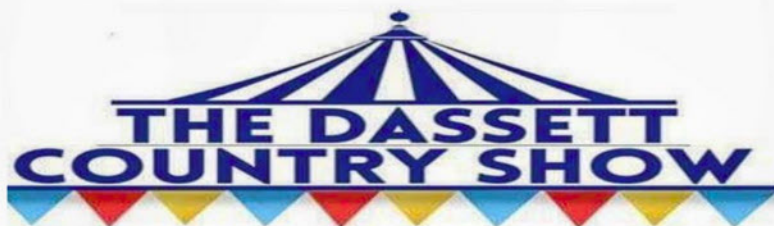
Anna, the choir leader, is a classically trained singer, and studied Music at Bristol University. Her first big gig was conducting the University Chamber Choir. She has three young children, and is married to Matt who is currently studying in Oxford with a view to becoming a priest or army chaplain. Matt was previously a primary school teacher employed by The Ministry of Defence, and the family was based in Cyprus. It was here that Anna had her second big gig, conducting 3 Military Wives' Choirs, with a full military band. This was to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and there were around 100 musicians and more than 1000 in the audience. It was held outdoors.

Her teaching style with the choir is described as 'fun, relaxed and inclusive'. She wants to involve everyone regardless of musical ability. She plays the flute and teaches the clarinet, saxophone, fife, recorder and ukulele as well. This term the choir have been learning a real range of music ...well known pieces from the 1970s, show tunes and soulful spirituals.

So why a community choir? Anna explains that she loves how the choir draws people from every corner of the community. 'As we sing together there is a vulnerability - which gives space for a deeper connection with others. It is something that is fairly unique to singing and very precious,' she adds.

Anna also comments that, 'At the moment when the choir sing 'Down the River to Pray' and everyone remembers to give it some welly in the chorus, it makes the hairs on the backs of my arms stand up. I get the best seat in the house and that will be something I feel forever grateful for!'. Anna's only regret is that she wishes she had more time to donate to the choir. Things have started very well so far, and she thinks a choir size of around 60 would be about perfect.

If you want the choir to come and support your charity event, she would be the best person to talk to. If you are thinking of joining the choir, you can also contact **Anna on ccotswild@hotmail.com**.



SATURDAY 5 AUGUST, 2023

STARTING AT 12:00 NOON

In the field beside the Children's Playground in Avon Dasset, CV47 2AX
FREE ENTRY AND FREE PARKING, DONATIONS KINDLY ACCEPTED FOR
OUR CHOSEN CHARITIES, DOGS FOR GOOD UK AND TOMMY'S

MAIN RING SCHEDULE:

12:00 – 12:30: Dance Troupe Performance

12:30 – 12:45: Avonside Scentwork

12:45 – 13:45 Ceilidh Band & Dancing

13:45 – 14:45: Fun Dog Show

14:45 – 15:00: Sheep Shearing Demo

15:15 – 15:30: Warwickshire Hounds Parade

15:30 – 15:45: Alpacas Parade

15:45 – Finish: Ceilidh Band & Dancing

- TIMES & CONTENT SUBJECT TO CHANGE -

Main Ring, Fun Dog Show, Classic & Vintage Cars,
Licensed Bar, Stalls, Tea Tent, Burger Van,
Grow & Show Competition and so much more!!



YOUNG ALPACA IN OXHILL

Introducing the baby alpacas (cria) that have joined the Stuart family this year.



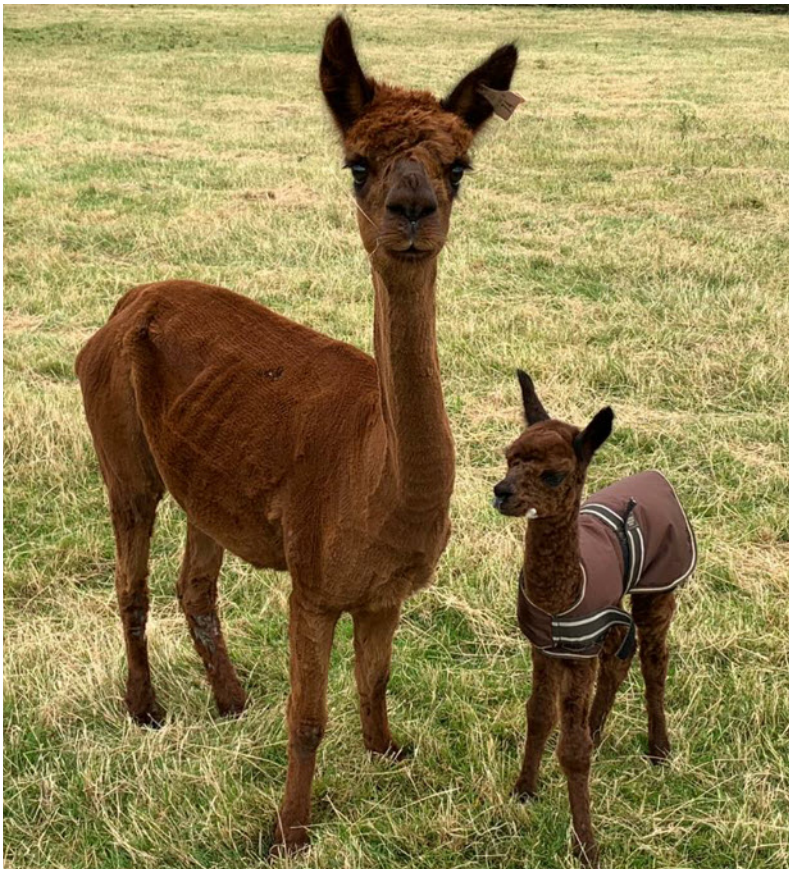
First cria of the year, Cara with mum Jasmine.



Meet second cria of the year Cassie with mum Echo.



Third cria of the year Celeste and mum Flo.



Cria number four. Meet Charlie and mum Esmeralda



GOLF DAY AT FELDON VALLEY

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 15TH 2023

Feldon Valley Golf Club, Brailes, OX15 5BB
8am - 3pm

Get together a team of four in support of Shipston Home Nursing. The day includes:

- Coffee & bacon rolls on arrival
- 18 hole 'Texas Scramble' at 9am
- On-course refreshments
- On-course and off-course prizes
- Two-course lunch & presentations

Find out more



Feldon Valley Members: £40 per person
Non-members: £65 per person

Please contact SHN Fundraising on **01608 664850** or email fundraising@shipstonhomenursing.co.uk to register your team

Registered Charity No 1162586

Sweet Sensations

Name the well-known Goodies.

1. Wobbly Infants? _____
2. Wise Guys? _____
3. Edible Fasteners? _____
4. Alien Pub? _____
5. Pirates Loot? _____
6. 100% Precious Metal? _____
7. Say It Quietly? _____
8. Royal Herb? _____
9. Teddy Bears Snack? _____
10. Sport for Princes? _____
11. Stars & Planets? _____
12. Ten Cents Chocolate? _____
13. Belly Dancer Perhaps? _____
14. Almost Cat Food? _____
15. 9, 10, 11, 12? _____
16. Seen At The Races? _____
17. Home For "Tipsy" Teeth _____
18. Eating Flowers? _____
19. Various Girls? _____
20. Big Bus? _____
21. Dark Mysterious Spell? _____
22. Dating Agency Sticks? _____

WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND OXHILL

AUGUST

Sat 5th	12:00	Dassett Country Show, Children's Playground
Thurs 10th	14:00-14:30	Mobile Library, outside Village Hall
Sat 19th	15:00-21:00	Music at the Manor, Oxhill Manor
Sun 20th	13:00	Annual Cricket Event at Tysoe Playing Fields
Thurs 31st	14:00-14:30	Mobile Library, outside Village Hall

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE OXHILL NEWS

The editors welcome any pictures, photographs, drawings, poems, puzzles, recipes, announcements or items of local news for possible inclusion in The Oxhill News. Submissions must be received by the 15th of each month for publication in the following month.

Please email: oxhill.news.editor@gmail.com

BIN COLLECTION CALENDAR

Check the date on the calendar to identify which bins go out for collection.



Sweet Sensations Answers

1. Jelly Babies
2. Smarties
3. Chocolate Buttons
4. Mars Bar
5. Bounty Bar
6. Golden Nuggets
7. Whispers
8. Mint Imperials
9. Picnic Bar
10. Polo Mints
11. Galaxy
12. Dimes
13. Turkish Delight
14. Kit Kat
15. After Eight Mints
16. Tic Tacs
17. Wine Gums
18. Roses
19. Dolly Mix
20. Double Decker
21. Black Magic
22. Matchmakers

Food waste Recycling

General refuse Garden waste