

The Oxhill News

Colour pic of Chapel

June 2003

Quotations of the month

Midsummer Day is another of the Quarter Days (we had Lady Day in March), and is 24th June.

The world's first operational stored-program computer ran its first program in June 1948, at Manchester University.

The Battle of the Little Bighorn was fought on 25th June, 1876 on the South bank of the Little Bighorn River. General Custer and his men were massacred by Sioux Indians led by Sitting Bull.

You may scold a carpenter who has made you a bad table, though you cannot make a table. It is not your trade to make tables.

Samuel Johnson, Of literary criticism. p. 409. 25th June 1763

All free men, wherever they may live, are citizens of Berlin. And therefore, as a free man, I take pride in the words Ich bin ein Berliner.

John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Speech at City Hall, West Berlin, 26th June 1963

(I understand that, in Berlin, a Berliner is a small sticky cake – Ed.)

We know no spectacle so ridiculous as the British public in one of its periodical fits of morality.

Lord Macaulay, Moore's 'Life Of Lord Byron' (June 1830)

We can believe what we choose. We are answerable for what we choose to believe.

Cardinal Newman, Letter to Mrs William Froude, 27th June 1841

He would, wouldn't he?

Mandy Rice-Davies, When told that Lord Astor had denied her allegations. Trial of Stephen Ward, 29th June 1963

I have seen, and heard, much of Cockney impudence before now; but never expected to hear a coxcomb ask two hundred guineas for flinging a pot of paint in the public's face.

John Ruskin, [On Whistler's 'Nocturne in Black and Gold'], letter, 18th June 1877

If you believe the doctors, nothing is wholesome: if you believe the theologians, nothing is innocent: if you believe the soldiers, nothing is safe.

Lord Salisbury, Letter to Lord Lytton. 15th June 1877

The Constitution does not provide for first and second class citizens.

Wendell Willkie, New York Herald Tribune, 13th June 1944

June issue

The deadline for the June issue is Wednesday, 25th June. If you normally prepare your material using a computer, it would make my life easier if you could submit your offering in electronic form, though paper is, of course, fine.

My 'official' e-mail address is: **news-editor@oxhill.org.uk** if you wish to send me stuff that way.

George Adams, 680286

Poetry Corner

June is bustin' out all over

June is bustin' out all over,
All over the meader and the hill.
Flowers bustin' out on bushes
And the roughen river pushes
Ev'ry little wheel that wheels beside the mill.
June is bustin' out all over.
The ocean is full of Jacks and Jills,
With the little tail is swishing'
Ev'ry lady fish is wishin'
That a male would come and grab 'er by the gills.
Because it's June... June, June, June.
Just because it's June, June, June!

June is bustin' out all over.
The branches are bustin' out with sap.
Love has found my brother Junior
And my sister's even loonier
And my Ma is gettin' kittenish with Pap!
June is bustin' out all over
The sheep aren't sleepin' anymore.
All the rams are chasin' ewe-sheep
All determined there'll be new sheep
And the ewe-sheep aren't even keepin' score.
Because it's June... June, June, June.
Just because it's June, June, June!
It's June...It's June, June, June
Just because it's June, June...

June is bustin' out all over.
The ladies and men are payin' court.
Lots of ships are keepin' anchor
Just because the captains hanker
For the comfort they can only get in port.
June is bustin' out all over.
The moonlight is shining on the shore
And the girls who were contrary
With the boys in January
Aren't nearly so contrary anymore!
Because it's June... June, June, June
Just because it's June, June, June!

Oscar Hammerstein (from Carousel, and somewhat abridged)

Church Services in June

Church of St. Lawrence, Oxhill

Sunday, June 1 st	Ascension I	9.30	Holy Communion
Sunday, June 8 th	Whitsunday	9.30	Holy Communion - dedication of altar kneeler in memory of Mrs. Clark
Sunday, June 15 th	Trinity Sunday	10.30	in St. Mary's, Tysoe - a united service for the 50th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood of the Ven. Donald Smith
Sunday, June 22 nd	Trinity I	9.30	Holy Communion
Sunday, June 29 th	St. Peter & St. Paul	10.30	in Whatcote Church

Oxhill Methodist Church

Sunday, June 1 st	Ascension	3.00	Rev. Alec Roberts - Holy Communion
Sunday, June 8 th	Pentecost	3.00	No service
Sunday, June 15 th	Trinity	3.00	Mr. David Gill
Sunday, June 22 nd	12th Ordinary	3.00	Mr. R. Lewis Mr. W. Boneham
Sunday, June 29 th	13th ordinary	3.00	Rev. B. Rolfe

Some statistics

For those of you who watch what you eat, here are a few points to mull over.

The Japanese eat very little fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or Americans.

The Mexicans eat a lot of fat and also suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or Americans.

The Japanese drink very little red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or Americans.

The Italians drink excessive amounts of red wine and also suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or Americans.

The Germans drink a lot of beer and eat lots of sausages and fats and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or Americans.

Conclusion: Eat and drink what you like. It's speaking English that kills you.

Anon.

First Aid in Oxhill

Dear Editor

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am Mick Shepard of 3 The Leys Oxhill. I came here to live with Barbara Peach last July.

For many years Barbara and I have been involved in Motor Sport, which is where we have acquired our First Aid experience. We currently have the same qualifications, which are First Aid at Work, Emergency Aid, Appointed Persons, NHS Oxygen and Entonox. We also are trained in extricating injured persons from cars and the use of spinal extrication devices eg, collars and Keds.

We have recently completed a Defribulator course and, in association with Warwickshire Ambulance Service, hope to be able to offer a First Responder Service at some time in the future.

The First Responder Service is set up to try to improve the chance of survival if someone suffers a Heart Attack, by getting a trained person with a Defribulator to them as quickly as possible. In rural areas like this it could take an Ambulance 30 to 40 minutes to arrive. This is where the First Responder would be able to attend more quickly and provide life saving treatment and care until the ambulance arrives. This is particularly important as when a person has suffered a heart attack and they have stopped breathing there is only a matter of a few minutes in which it is possible to try restarting the heart before oxygen starvation to the brain has taken place. Although we have a lot of First Aid Kit we do not yet have a defribulator, which costs about £2500 plus.

I will be writing to you when I have further information.

Should anyone like to contact me they can ring me, email or even come and visit me in the evenings.

Telephone: 07976298228

email: viper@viperrecovery.co.uk

If anyone is in need of general First Aid help and we are available then we would certainly do our best to oblige.

Mick Shepard

Oxhill Gardens Open

Just a gentle reminder that the Oxhill gardens will be open on the weekend of 14th and 15th June.

I will be finalising the tea arrangements soon, and trust that all the bakers are gearing themselves up in readiness.

Lilian Welsby

Oxhill Village Hall

Minutes of the AGM held on 14th May 2003 in the Village Hall at 8pm

Present: Ray Dagg, Lisa Roebuck, Ian Broderick, Julie Seabridge, Keith Seabridge, Linda Dagg,

Apologies: Judy Kingston, David Knight, Elin Montague, Marcus Robertson

Attendees: T. Hackett, G. Van Dyke

Minutes of AGM 12/06/02: Were read and agreed.

Chairman's Report

We successfully raised £2,600 to trigger the anonymous £10,000 donation. Our grateful thanks to all who contributed and especially our anonymous donor for their support, which is much appreciated. Work on the hall is nearly complete and the hall is available again for lettings. Much has been done and we hope people will come along and see the improvements. The outside has been re-pointed and the gable ends repaired to prevent further erosion and damage. Improvements to the kitchen and toilets, a new rear roof and the creation of a bar have been supplemented by new plumbing and sink in the kitchen plus extensive installation of new cupboards in the bar and kitchen area. Our thanks to Brian Badger for his diligent work. The floor has been waxed and re-polished by Keith and Julie Seabridge. Our thanks to them. The final part of this refurbishment is the painting of the interior, which needs to be done. See later note. In order to maintain our momentum, David Knight and I have secured £5,000 from the District Council for new windows. Further donations from Lloyds TSB of £500 (well done Lisa) and the Parish Council £500 (many thanks) has made it possible to gain quotes for this task. Lettings were obviously down due to the closure of the hall, but we are confident more events will be held in the hall following its makeover. Events held last year included a very successful Senior Citizens Xmas Lunch.

Election of officers

Judy Kingston has requested to stand down this year after many years of sterling service. She has expressed her continued support of events as and when she can. We are extremely grateful for all her work and enthusiasm in the past. All other committee members remain with Lisa Roebuck taking over responsibility as Lettings Officer

Treasurers Report

A written report was provided. We will be auditing the accounts this year due to the large amount of money spent on behalf of the village.

AOB

The Committee discussed future events, the main one to note is:

Sunday 8th June 2003 commencing at 10am - the repainting of the hall.

Meeting Closed

Village Hall Committee List 2003

Ray Dagg	Chairman	2 The Sett	680850
Linda Dagg	Secretary	2 The Sett	680850
Ian Broderick	Treasurer	Kisdon, Main St.	688167
Lisa Roebuck	Lettings Officer	Barnside, Main St.	680967
Elin Montague		The Granary, Rouse Lane	680681
David Knight	Advisor	The Vicarage, Tysoe	680201
Marcus Robertson	Youth Advisor	Hawthorns, Whatcote Rd	680408
Keith Seabridge		April Corner, Rouse Lane	680654
Julie Seabridge		April Corner, Rouse Lane	680654
Linda Dagg, Secretary			

W.I. News

May 7th saw our Spring Show and Resolution evening bringing together nearly a full membership.

We heard Marie Coleman, County Representative, tell us that Warwickshire W.I. celebrates its 85th birthday this year. She also advised us of the Resolutions for the National Triennial Conference, on which we voted unanimously. They were:

- 1 To encourage children to eat more wholesome and less fattening foods, and take more exercise.
- 2 To reintroduce apprenticeship schemes for young people.
- 3 To take action against further closure of old peoples' homes.

These proposals will be put before H.M. Government as soon as possible.

Mary Greenway and Ann Beeny are to be thanked for organising our Spring Show. There were 116 entries, with cups won by Ann Evans, Angela Gethin, Philippa Robinson and Lilian Welsby. The overall winner was our President, Philippa Robinson, with Kath Silman a close second.

Our annual plant, coffee and cake morning was the usual success, raising £133 for our funds, even if the raffle was so "fixed" that prizes were mostly won by the Committee and helpers!

I would like to give a reminder about our outing to the Alternative Hampton Court, near Leominster, on Thursday 26th June. There are still a few places available. If you would like to go, please contact Lyn Hicks on 680164.

Myrtle Knight

Closure of Oxhill Methodist Church

I was sorry to hear of the closure of Oxhill Methodist Church due to happen this month, and people may perhaps like to know a little of its long history.

For over 200 years Methodism has played an important part in Oxhill life, from the first meeting which was held at Oxhill House the home of John Ward, in 1769, at which the preacher was Rev. John Pawson, a leading Wesleyan later to become Conference President. The movement in Oxhill was founded by William Geden, a tailor from Tysoe, where there was already a similar small Society. For thirty years, (and latterly when he was over seventy) Mr. Geden walked, stout stick in one hand, lantern in the other, across the open fields to Oxhill to hold Sunday evening services and again to a class meeting during the week.

The Ward family of Oxhill House, where the meetings were first held, were affluent fanners - like the Archers of Ambridge they seemed to own half the village and several of the larger houses! However unlike the Archers - (are there any Methodists in Ambridge?) - they were devout Methodists, and great benefactors to the movement in Oxhill. In 1814 John Ward donated the land for a chapel, which was built at a cost of £287.19s.2½d. The congregation grew, and in 1839 the building was enlarged, and a gallery added.

In 1877 there were said to be "100 regular hearers", but the chapel building itself was becoming dilapidated, and there were complaints of damp and draughts. In 1878 considerable improvements took place, the gallery was removed, and a transept added, together with a schoolroom for the flourishing Sunday School. At the reopening services there were six preachers!

The Chapel Centenary in 1914 was marked with special services held over two days, when the congregations were large. In 1989 the 175th anniversary was also celebrated, but by now the regular congregation was dwindling. Mr. Harold Law, to whose research in the 1980s I am indebted, noted that the village had changed, its population was lower than in the 1880s, and few of the old families, whose parents and grandparents had connections with Oxhill Chapel, now remained. Rev Dr. David F. Clarke, Superintendent of the Kineton Circuit writing in 1990, commented that nevertheless, in the years between John Pawson's visit to Oxhill in 1769 and that of a later Conference President in the 1980s, "Methodism has done a great thing nationally; and it is as well to remember that the national effect is only a product of the witness of the Oxhills of this life"

We shall miss the presence of Oxhill Methodist Church, and the contribution it has made over many years to the life of our village.

Ann Hale

Methodist Church Closure

For some years now we have been concerned about the condition of the Methodist Church Building in the village, and have done our best to investigate the causes in the hope that we could rectify the problems. The structural condition makes this difficult in terms of cost, and the members and friends of the Chapel recognise that closure is the only option. We are glad to think of the history of the Chapel, and the contribution it has made both to the village itself and the wider Circuit of Methodist Churches. We are grateful to God for that history and contribution.

We would also like to acknowledge publicly the offers over the years from the Revd. David Knight of the possibility of Services at St. Lawrence Church.

Oxhill will not be forgotten by the Circuit, and we hope that ecumenical links will continue to assure the people of Oxhill of our prayers, interest and, where possible, involvement in village life.

Revd. Alec M. Roberts, Superintendent Minister, Kineton Methodist Circuit

Pictures

This month's cover picture shows the Methodist Chapel as it is now. The picture on the back page is a copy of an old postcard.

George Adams

We still like it here

In reply to the question posed in "25 years ago" last month, yes we **do** still like living here in Oxhill - wonderful friends and a good pub next door. What more could one want? Here's to the next 25 years. We wouldn't change it for the world.

Rachel and Joe Costa

We are delighted to hear Rachel's response, and wholeheartedly agree with her - we like it here too.

Editor

An Oxhill Childhood

Evelyn Collier, who was born in Oxhill and attended school in what is now our Village Hall, is coming to talk about her childhood here, and about all the houses in which her relatives lived. One of these houses could be yours, so why not come along and hear this sprightly nonagenarian, who informs me she does not know what being tired means.

Join the W.I. in the Village Hall on Wednesday 4th June at 7.30.

All are welcome, but remember that the Village Hall only holds 80, so come early!

To cover costs, there will be a nominal entry charge of £1.

Myrtle Knight

Broadband Internet access

Internet access into Oxhill is, by modern standards, diabolically slow. BT will not uprate the Tysoe exchange to permit Broadband until there is evidence of “sufficient interest”, which means two or three hundred people registering an interest in Broadband on their website (www.bt.com) . So far only 39 have done so. Can I encourage other users to register – if we could get the whole of Tysoe, Oxhill and Whatcote to do so we might stand a chance.

George Adams

Shipston Home Nursing

Firstly I would like to apologise to Col. Bird, Deputy Chairman of The Stour Singers and to the members of the Singers who performed at St. Edmund’s Church, Shipston on Stour on Saturday 14th December 2002 for a charity concert. I was presented with a cheque on the 19th December at the Ellen Badger Hospital for the fantastic sum of £350, but unfortunately omitted to announce this donation in the March Newsletter. May I take this opportunity of thanking all the Stour Singers for generously giving their time, and for their continued support of the charity and of the Ellen Badger Hospital.

“Notorious Villains” Ball

Saturday 20th September

Will all 15 – 17 year olds who would like a ticket for the ball please contact Deborah Williams on 01608 682007 or 01608 682375

Information from Tysoe

Used mobile phones

Redundant mobile phones can be turned into a £30 donation to the charity WATERAID – improving access to clean water in the world's most deprived communities. So far, 41 phones have been received making a total donation of £1230. If you'd like to help, please drop your old phone off at the Vicarage in Tysoe. Thanks.

Confirmation 2003

To become a full member of the Church of England, and all the Anglican provinces around the world, you need to be confirmed. The next Confirmation Service is on November 15th. There will be a short course leading up to it. The minimum age is 11 (although exceptions have been known) and there is no maximum! Just by way of information, people confirmed in Tysoe in recent years have been equally divided between adults and under 16s – all ages are, therefore, very welcome. Ring 680201 to register interest.

History Society

Tuesday, June 10th, depart Tysoe Reading Room 7 p.m..

The popular annual visit to HOOK NORTON BREWERY.

Places must be booked in advance – maximum of 18. Cost £7.50

Bookings - Kevin Wyles 680679.

Tysoe Vicarage Phonenumber

Tel. no. 680201 may be interrupted for a while this month while tree surgery is undertaken. Sorry for any inconvenience that might be caused.

Shipston Town Band

A concert in St. Mary's Tysoe on Saturday, June 7th at 7.30 p.m.

Brass Band music to suit all tastes.

Organised by Concerts in Rural Churches. Tickets available on the door.

Church Fete at the Manor

By kind permission of Mr & Mrs Weild

On Saturday, June 14th 2 p.m. onwards

Stalls, games, rides and races, ice creams and teas

A traditional English village fete in the beautiful gardens of Tysoe Manor.

(Sorry, no dogs admitted.)

For the Benefit of St. Mary's Church.

David Knight

Nature notes for June

June: The midsummer month named after Juno, the great Roman goddess of the moon, of women, and of childbirth.

Summer is well and truly here and the countryside is an exuberant carpet of green. Wildflowers are springing up and fledglings abound. I mentioned some months ago the small flock of long-tailed tits visiting our nut-hanger, but the other morning as I was crossing the footbridge to the long meadow behind the church, I became aware of boisterous bird chitter-chatter and realised I was in the middle of a small flock of these delightful birds feeding their first flight of fledglings. I counted five fledglings and approximately eight to ten adults, who ignored me as they dashed backwards and forwards feeding their young. They were so close that I could have touched them, and one fledgling was not more than 12 inches from my head. They are the daintiest of the tit family, the adults being no more than the size of a golf ball, but the fledglings were no larger than a spherical ten pence piece with a long tail sprouting from the back. They build a beautiful nest of a globe of feathers, moss, fur and any other soft material with a tiny entrance hole, all bound together with cobwebs and covered with lichen. In Warwickshire in the 1920s and 30s these were known as Bum Barrel's nests, the Bum Barrel being a local name for this pretty little bird, along with Buttermilk Can!

June is probably the best month for wildflowers and one of my passions is for orchids. Unfortunately this part of Warwickshire is not a good spot for orchids, so I sometimes go to Oxfordshire and Berkshire to see them. However, if you go up Lady Elizabeth's hill out of Tysoe towards Epwell, half way up on the left-hand bend there is a large piece of verge (with the road salt barrel on it) and by mid June you can see a large group of Common Spotted Orchids. As the name suggests, it is the commonest of the wild orchids, but nevertheless a real treat to see.

June 21st is the Summer Solstice and the longest day of the year. Seek out St John's Wort against Midsummer Eve (June 23rd) whose night is one of the most uncanny and dangerous of the year! "The virtue of St John's Wort is this, if it be put in a man's house, there shall come no wicked spirite therein" – Bauckes Herbal, 1525.

Grenville Moore

The Dolphin

Behold the ocean's gadabout—
The frisky, friendly dolphin;
His head displays a smiling snout;
His backside sports a tall fin;
Content to frolic in the sea,
He's never fierce or warlike;
How happier our world would be
If dolphins we were more like.

Frank Jacobs

Dangerous bales

I have been asked by one of our local farmers to post a warning about the dangers of children playing on bales, in fields or in farmyards. Don't do it, children. You could so easily have a nasty accident. Parents – please warn your children.

Editor

An email correspondence

This is the first opportunity that I have had to look at the site. Fantastic. Does this mean I can forget my subscription to the Oxhill News!!!!

Oxhill Resident

Thanks for the kind comments.

WRT the subscription I must confess that we had not spotted the potential for the loss of revenue to the Oxhill News, so I would hope you would like to continue to support its paper production! Also there are no guarantees that the electronic version will continue to be published so you might miss out on all the important village news.

Oxhill Webmaster

Please continue to support the News by paying your subscription. It runs on a shoestring as it is, and is certainly never going to make a profit – not in my editorship, anyway.

Editor

25 years ago

It was announced that the Oxhill Jumping Show and Gymkhana had raised over £200 for the Village Hall improvements, and that Roy Markham had raised £110 single-handed for the same cause.

A large part of the News was taken up by information on the Village Fete, and the Barn Dance that followed it in the barn at Whitehill Cottage. This included a plea for information on how to construct and ignite a simple barbeque.

The Women's Circle announced the date for their Garden Party, and there was a lengthy plea for villagers to attend church.

Several paragraphs were devoted to the De Havilland DH4 wings found at The Stores (now Karibu), and the excitement caused by them at the RAF Museum, Hendon.

George Adams

Oxhill Garden Club

Thank you to everyone who supported our Plant Sale outside the Village Hall on 15th May. The enthusiasm of both sellers and buyers, and cups of hot coffee, easily compensated for the rather cool weather. We were inundated with a wonderful array of plants, seeds and produce. Buyers seemed to come from far and near and were soon on their way with boxes and bags full of 'goodies'.

Have you planted up your container, ready for the competition (open to non members)? We are hoping to top last year's bumper entry. Don't forget to return your entry form to either Rosemary Brown or Lilian Welsby.

We still have a few seats available on the coach trip to Savill Gardens, Surrey, on Tuesday 17th June. Cost will be £13 approx. (depending on numbers), to include the cost of the coach and entry to the gardens. Guests and friends are very welcome to join us. Please ring Lilian (01295 680468) to book your place.

Sheila Osgood, Secretary

Village Hall Repainting

Sunday 8th June 2003.....

Starting at 10 a.m.

Please will all those of you who have already volunteered, and anyone else who wishes to support the Village Hall, come along and help repaint the walls and skirting boards.

**Free lunch for all the helpers!
Please come and support this event.**

YOUR VILLAGE HALL NEEDS YOU.....

Linda Dagg, Secretary

What's On

June

Wednesday 4 th	7.30	Village Hall - Evelyn Collier talks to the W.I. and friends about her early life in Oxhill
Friday 6 th		Little Hill Farm, Wellesbourne - Barn Dance for Shipston Home Nursing
	7.30	The Old House – Choir Rehearsal
Sunday 8 th	10.00	Village Hall - Repainting
Saturday 14 th		Open Gardens
Sunday 15 th		Open Gardens
Tuesday 17 th		Savill Gardens – Garden Club Outing
Thursday 26 th		W.I. Summer Outing

July

Saturday 11 th		Oxhill Manor - Village Fete
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August

Thursday 7 th		Garden Club Outing to Ball Colgrave
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September

Saturday 20 th		Notorious Villains Ball in aid of Shipston Home Nursing
Sunday 21 st	6.30	St. Lawrence's Church – Harvest Festival

December

Wednesday 17 th	7.30	St. Lawrence's Church – Carol Service
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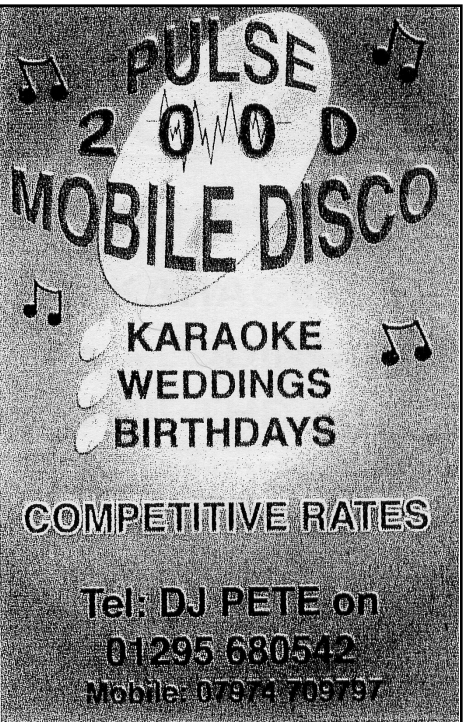
Sepia pic of chapel

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07710 987657



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