

THE OXHILL NEWS



November 2006

NOVEMBER 4

Is the Feast day of Saints Vitalis and Agricola, Birstan or Brynstan of Winchester, Pierius, John Zedazneli, Charles Borromeo, Joannicus, and Clarus.

It was the day in 1605 when a guy named Guy (Fawkes), a Roman Catholic convert and conspirator in the Gunpowder Plot, was arrested in the cellar of the Houses of Parliament. Why do we have bonfires on November 5th then? In 1862 Richard Gatling patented the rapid-fire, or machine, gun, and in 1914 the first fashion show was organized by Edna Woodman Chase of *Vogue* magazine, and held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, New York. I think that means it was the first fashion show, rather than just the first one organised by Edna Woodman Chase, but you can never tell with these reference books. Howard Carter discovered the tomb of the Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamen in 1922. Lord Carnarvon died fairly soon afterwards, but not because he was cursed. Ronald Reagan was elected 40th US president in 1980, without any arguments about chads, or chavs, or whatever they were.

William III was born in 1650, and Augustus Montague Toplady in 1740. Lovely name. Will Rogers was born in 1879, and Art Carney, whoever he was, in 1918. I've heard of most of the others. Not Augustus Montague Toplady, of course. Lovely name.

Mendelssohn died in 1847, Joseph Rowntree, philanthropist and cocoa manufacturer, in 1859 and Wilfred Owen in 1918.

Editor

DECEMBER ISSUE

Please could I have all copy for the December issue by Midnight on Sunday, 26th November? 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. If you do use electronic form, the best would be a Word file with the page size set to A5 and margins of 1.5 cm all round. The News is currently set in Garamond 10 pt, with headings in Lucida Sans Unicode 14 pt bold. This may, of course, change, possibly without warning.

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

George Adams, 680286

COVER PICTURE

As autumn seems to be on its way at last, I thought this shot of autumn colours, from Joyce McKail, would be suitable.

The photos of the football tournament on the back cover came to me from Linda and Ray Dagg.

Editor

INDUCTION AND LICENSING SERVICE

The Induction and Licensing Service for our new ministers, Rev. Martin Leaton and Canon Nicholas Morgan, was held in St. Mary's Church, Tysoe on October 8th. It was conducted by the Right Rev. Colin Bennett, Bishop of Coventry, and the Venerable Michael Paget Wilkes, Archdeacon of Warwick.

The church was full of supporters, some of whom had travelled a considerable distance from the Nottinghamshire/Lincolnshire borders to support Martin, and others who were members of Nicholas' Brailes parish. Also present were a considerable number of clergy of the diocese, another bishop and his wife (from Kenya) and the regular congregation from our three parishes.

The Archdeacon welcomed us, the new ministers were led down the church and the Bishop did the rededication. Then the Archdeacon declared that the necessary formal oaths and declarations had been duly made and the Bishop presented the Licences. After that the Archdeacon presented Martin and Nicholas to the congregation and various local dignitaries welcomed them.

After a blessing by the Bishop we all went to the school hall for a much needed cup of tea and bite to eat. The quality of the refreshments was superb, only to be outdone by the quantity. Surely no-one went away needing supper that night. Well done all the providers.

Diane Harper

KINETON OIL CONSORTIUM

Oil will be ordered on Monday November 20th. Please will you telephone in your oil needs not later than 6 p.m. on Sunday 19th November.

I assure you that the best price per litre will be found. This does take time, contacting all the oil delivery companies, and as there are now so many people in the consortium the maths can also be time consuming!

Di Harper, 01295 680529

ST LAWRENCE CHURCH, OXHILL

CHURCH SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER

Sunday 5th	9.30	Holy Communion	Rev. Leaton
Sunday 12th	9.30	Remembrance Sunday	Rev. Leaton
Sunday 19th	9.30	Holy Communion	Rev. Leaton
Sunday 26th	9.30	Family Service	Rev Morgan/Rev. Leaton

STRATFORD OPERATIC SOCIETY

OXHILL CHURCH

Saturday 25th November

7.30 p.m.

A wonderful programme of songs from the shows

Tickets are now available at £7.50

(including supper)

from Lilian on 680468

or Rosemary on 680260

VICKY'S BUS

Vicky's Bus has had a refurb! The bus is only six years old but the plastic backing on the passenger seats was chipped and broken as a result of poor design. Through further support from the Warwickshire Youth Bank, an original donor to the project, and a generous donation from the 2006 Tysoe Flower Show & Fete we have been able to replace all fourteen passenger seats with "jazzy" new ones – woe betide anyone who dirties them!

For readers who don't know about Vicky's Bus, it was purchased in 2003 from funds raised by a bequest from Vicky Hopkins to provide a transport facility for the youth of the Parishes of Tysoe, Whatcote and Oxhill. The bus is also available to residents of the Parishes and, in addition, to children's organisation and charities outside the Parishes. Running costs are covered by donations from the users of the bus and local supporters help to maintain this community benefit.

For further details contact:

Jan Rumke on 01295 680587 or

Graham Hicks on 01295 680164

VICARAGE NOTES

Thanks

On behalf of Martin Leaton and myself, may I thank everyone for their welcome to the parishes of Oxhill, Tysoe and Whatcote. The service last month was a great occasion and we both look forward to developing our ministry in the benefice.

Forthcoming Services

Services this month include the Remembrance service on the 12th at the usual time of 9.30a.m., and I hope that as many as possible can come to this special occasion at which we support the Poppy Appeal. The Carol Service this year is on Wednesday December 20th at 7.30 p.m. Please put that in your diaries. There will also be a Blessing of the Crib at 11a.m. on Christmas Eve as well as the Christmas Day service at 10a.m.

From the Parish Registers

Baptisms - welcomed into the Lord's Family

October 7th Matthew Chick

October 15th Isaac Checkley

Wedding

October 21st Congratulations and best wishes to Emma Tucker and her husband James

Funerals - we remember with thanksgiving

September 28th Robin Hutsby

October 17th Ann White

Nicholas Morgan, 01608 685230

TO THE EDITOR

George,

Could you put this in the November News?

I've just learnt that Joy has decided to give up distributing newspapers in the village.

Immediately we came to Oxhill in '94 Joy contacted us to offer newspaper deliveries and ever since then we have appreciated her reliable and efficient team: Bert, Heather and Joe Costa (on Sundays) and of course Joy herself. Never once did they let us down!

Jill and I wish them all the best and hope they have a happy 'retirement',

Tony and Jill Eastaugh

NATURE NOTES FOR NOVEMBER

The month of blood and bonfires! In Gaelic: Ant-Samhuinn, the month of the Samhain festival. Meaning “summer’s end” and pronounced “sarwin”, this is the Irish name for 1 November, the beginning of winter. The word was then “highjacked” by witches and neo-Pagans in England who use it in reference to All Saints Day and Halloween.

Here we are at the beginning of November and in the past few days I have seen Red Admiral and Peacock butterflies still in flight and only last week I watched a wood pigeon sitting on the fence busily feeding its juvenile offspring. Wood pigeons are one of the latest breeding birds, laying eggs well into September. The squab takes 25 to 30 days to leave the nest. This particular squab looked as fat as butter and quite a while after the parent had left, it sat on the fence like an oversized football unable to take off. November was the month for fattening up livestock ready for slaughter. William Cobbett in 1822 wrote *“Make your pig quite fat by all means. The last bushel, even if he sit as he eat, is the most profitable. If he can walk two hundred yards at a time, he is not well fattened. Lean bacon is the most wasteful thing that any family can use ...the man that cannot live on solid fat bacon wants the sweet sauce of labour, or is fit for the hospital”*!! How things change.

In the sixteenth century a “pigeon” was a person easily duped or swindled, especially in gaming. The American “stool pigeon” has the same kind of meaning referring metaphorically to someone employed (again usually in gambling) as a decoy. In its literal meaning, a pigeon would be fastened to a stool as a decoy for birds of prey.

November 13 – unlucky for bulls? This was formerly the date of the Stamford bull-running, a tradition that apparently originated in the early 13th century, when a runaway bull was pursued through the streets of that Lincolnshire town by local butchers and their dogs. The chase had continued across the river and the fields beyond until all were exhausted. It ended with the slaughter of the bull and a roast beef celebration. The Lord of Stamford Castle, from whose field the bull had escaped, joined in the chase and had such a good time that he decided to make it an annual public event. This event obtained its celebrity by inspiring one of the first successful campaigns by the Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act in 1835. The local people had been fighting hard to keep their custom since 1788 when the first attempt to ban it had taken place, but the bull running was finally suppressed in 1839.

November 27 – Eels now in season for baked eel pies. *“To take Eels in winter, make a long bottle or tube of hay, wrapped about with willow boughs, and having guts or garbage in the middle. Which being soaked in the deep water by the river side, after two or three days the eels will be in it, and you may tread them out with your feet.”* Markham *The English Husbandman*, 1635.

WI NEWS

Iain Willox made sure we were awake by playing Amazing Grace on the bagpipes. He continued to entertain us with his talk.

As he fastened the lowland pipes to play he commented that 'as you get older, leather seems to shrink.'

He passed round tartan swatches to show how they changed as dyes improved, and illustrated the history of Highland dress using a volunteer model.

Sue Price briefly described the day she attended a Buckingham Palace garden party.

June Wreford reported back on the 90th anniversary celebration plans.

Lyn Hicks showed us the proposed Spring Show schedule.

Kath Silman's nosegay took 2nd prize at the group meeting.

Philippa Robinson won the Oxhill Cup for the best plant cutting.

B.Keep

CHRISTMAS PUDDINGS

Just a little reminder:

If you haven't yet made or bought your Christmas Pudding, Whatcote Christmas Puddings are available again this year from June Wreford, Church Cottage, Whatcote.

An order form was in last month's News or give June a ring on 01295 680294.

Sue Price

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

THE BILL GARDNER MEMORIAL CUP

This was supported by several teams who played a 'round robin' tournament to decide who would play in the final, which was eventually won by Oxhill United, captained by Sam Robertson.

The event was well supported and will be repeated annually with the Gardner's support.

We would also like to apologise for moving the Casino night until February. However it would appear this was the right decision as many of you were not able to attend the original planned evening.

The next event is the Senior Citizens' Christmas lunch, which will be held on Monday 11th December.

Linda Dagg

[Let's hope for a less exciting event than last year. Ed.]

REFUSE COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS

There are Bank Holidays coming up at the end of the month, as well as certain other festivities. This means changes to the arrangements for our refuse and recycling collections.

Collections in Oxhill over the Christmas/New Year period will be:

Thursday 28th December	Refuse, paper, glass, metal, garden waste
Thursday 4th January	Refuse only
Wednesday 10th January	Refuse, paper, glass, metal, garden waste

Editor

POTS OF MONEY

Whichford Pottery have designed and made some splendid garden pots, each one carrying Whichford's ten-year frost-proof guarantee and Shipston Home Nursing's logo.

The pots, which will be available in plenty of time to make magnificent Christmas presents, cost £39.95; a significant portion of which goes to swell the funds of Shipston Home Nursing.

Pots can be bought direct from Whichford Pottery (which, should any of you not know, is in Whichford) or ordered from Rebecca Mawle on 01608 674929.

Editor



COLLIE PUPPIES

£150 each

Ready for collection at the end
of November

Contact Ann or Tom Heritage
on 680216

Everyday Computing

Tuesdays
starting
7th Nov 2006
09.30 – 11.30

In The Home

Fridays
starting
10th Nov 2006
19.30 – 21.30

Tutor: Sue Lindon

Fill in the gaps in your knowledge and brush up on skills

Get to know your own computer!

Have fun learning together
in an informal atmosphere at

The Old Fire Station, Tysoe

5 Week Course - £30 (less concessions)

Coffee and biscuits always available!!

Book your place by ringing 01295 688244

SHIPSTON HOME NURSING

On Friday 10th (12 noon till 9 p.m.) and Saturday 11th (9 a.m. till 12 noon) there will be a clearance sale of designer clothing at Darlingscott Farm, Darlingscott (by kind permission of Maggie & John Sargent).

Unbelievable prices will be asked on garments from a wide range of celebrated designers, with ten per cent of all the takings donated to Shipston Home Nursing and Hospice at Home.

And just in time for that new evening gown, ready for the party season.

The Christmas Gift Fair will be held again in Ettington Community Centre, this year on Thursday 16th November between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

SPACE IN YOUR GARDEN?

We have Bergenias, two sorts of Hellebores, Euphorbias and Primroses which desperately need new homes.

If you can help, please contact

Eve Whaley, 680224

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Over the past few years there has been a revival of interest in celtic spirituality, perhaps because it looks to the ordinary for inspiration. David Adams, the Vicar of Holy Island, is an author in that tradition, and I offer one of his prayers as a focus for this month of remembrance:

THOU ART GOD

*Thou art the peace of all things calm
Thou art the place to hide from harm
Thou art the light that shines in dark,
Thou art the heart's eternal spark
Thou art the door that's open wide
Thou art the guest who waits inside
Thou art the stranger at the door
Thou art the calling of the poor
Thou art my Lord and with me still
Thou art my love, keep me from ill
Thou art the light, the truth, the way
Thou art my Saviour this very day*

Good wishes and God bless, Nicholas Morgan

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

By Charles Dickens

Performed by storyteller Robert MacCall
With Ian Baxter on mandolin.

St Lawrence Church, Oxhill

Tuesday 12th December 2006 7.30 pm

Tickets £6 adults £4 children under 16. Suitable
for all ages from 8+

Taking his inspiration from the public readings of Dickens himself, Robert MacCall gives a costumed performance true to the original text, perfectly complimented by Ian Baxter's playing of traditional carol music on mandolin.

Prepare to be transported back into the world of Ebenezer Scrooge, Bob Cratchit and Tiny Tim, as they come vividly to life in this powerful performance of Dickens's classic tale.

It is Christmas Eve and Scrooge is in his counting house being his mean, nasty self. But things are about to change. At night he is terrified by a visit from the ghost of his former business partner, Jacob Marley, who warns him to change his ways or suffer for eternity. He is visited, in succession, by the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future who show him as he was, as he is now and as he will be, if he doesn't change.

The perfect family entertainment to get you into the real spirit of Christmas.

A heart-warming story of transformation.

"Told in a very convincing way. Not to be missed."

-



Robert is an experienced storyteller. He trained at The School of Storytelling, Emerson College, in England and has been telling stories professionally in England and Germany since 1999.



EVENTS IN COMPTON VERNEY IN NOVEMBER

Saturday 4 & 25 November, 10am–4pm Screen Printing £40
Thursday 9 November, 7pm The Illustrations of Ian Beck £5, concessions £3.50
Friday 10 November, 3pm *Vive la Parisienne* Exhibition Tour
Saturday 11 November, 10am–4pm Life Drawing £40
Saturday 11 November, 11am–4pm Flick Book Workshop £10
Sunday 12 and 26 November, 2–4pm Around Europe in a Handful of Paintings
Sunday 12 November, 10am–4pm Contemporary Life Drawing £45
Sunday 12 November, 10am–4pm Fall, River, Snow Watercolour £40
Thursday 16 November, 7pm Remembering Marco: Enid Marx £5, concessions £3.50
Friday 17 November, 3pm Zoo Exhibition Tour
Saturday 18 November, 2–5pm Women, Modernity and the New Art £8, concessions £5
Sunday 19 November, 10am–4pm Portrait **Masterclass** £40
Thursday 23 November, 7pm One thing leads to another £5, concessions £3.50
Saturday 25 November, 11am–4pm Portraits **In Print** £10
Thursday 30 November, 7pm **Fishtank** (1998) £5, concessions £3.50

COVENTRY & WARWICKSHIRE FOOD AND DRINK AWARDS

We have recently heard that Compton Verney has won *Best Café–Tearoom* in the 2006 Coventry & Warwickshire Food and Drink Awards.

Possibly another reason for going to see one of the exhibitions.

Editor



THE PIG

It was an evening in November,
As I very well remember,
I was strolling down the street in drunken pride,
But my knees were all a-flutter,
And I landed in the gutter
And a pig came up and lay down by my side.
Yes, I lay there in the gutter
Thinking thoughts I could not utter,
When a colleen passing by did softly say
'You can tell a man who boozes
By the company he chooses' —
And the pig got up and slowly walked away.

(Anon.)

WHAT'S ON IN OXHILL

November

Friday 10th & 12 – 9	Darlingscott Farm – Designer Sale, Shipston Home
Saturday 11th 9 - 12	Nursing
Tuesday 14th 8.00	Village Hall - Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 16th 10.00	Ettington Community Centre – Gift Fair
Saturday 25th 7.30	Oxhill Church – Stratford Operatic Society
Sunday 26th 23.59	Copy deadline for the News
Wednesday 29th 9.30-4	Burmington Grange – Christmas Flower Workshop

December

Monday 11th	Village Hall - Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 12th 7.30	St. Lawrence Church – ‘A Christmas Carol’
Wednesday 20th 7.30	Oxhill Church - Carol Service



**THE
BILL GARDNER
MEMORIAL CUP
2006**

