

# THE OXHILL NEWS

August 2021 No. 561



The Oxhill Laaaadicees on the Gower Peninsula Mighty Hike for Macmillan

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## CLUB & GROUP CONTACT DETAILS

Carers4carers:	kcarers4carers@gmail.com or tel: 07947 893504
Oxhill Village Hall:	Jo Collings - Chair - 01295 680215 Ali Sayer - Hall Hire - 01295 680451 email: village-hall@oxhill.org.uk
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

**If you would like to list your club or group in the Oxhill News  
please send details to [oxhill@btinternet.com](mailto:oxhill@btinternet.com)**

# GUESS WHO!



Did you guess the villagers in last month's Guess Who?

The young girl with the hula hoop is **Carol Clark**, who grew up in Oxhill and now lives in Tysoe. Carol has generously picked up the mantle of local historian, after the passing of Anne Hale. Since then Carol has submitted numerous articles and historical photos of Oxhill to the magazine, giving us an even greater appreciation of our village.

The young man lying up against his backpack is **Michael Druce**. The photo was taken during on a hiking trip through Chile. After this photo was taken, Mike passed through the Atacama desert.

Can you guess the name of the young villager above, looking splendid in his blue coat?

# THE OXHILL LAAAAADIEEES

## GOWER PENINSULA MIGHTY HIKE FOR MACMILLAN



Further to last month's Oxhill news, on the 10th July 2021 Catherine Kimmins, Sarah Finley and Katy Dowding, successfully completed the 26.2 mile Macmillan Mighty Hike around the stunning Gower Peninsula. The weather was hot, but the scenery was stunning and I'm happy to report all members of the team completed it intact.

We were well motivated by some very generous sponsorship from the fabulous people of Oxill, raising over £1,100 so far for this fantastic cause. Thank you all so very very much, if anyone else would like to donate, it's not too late and the links are below. Thank you all very much once again.

*Catherine, Sarah and Katy x*

<https://www.justgiving.com/team/oxhilllaaaadieees>

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/katy-dowding1>





**I'M DOING THE  
GOWER PENINSULA MIGHTY HIKE**  
#mightyhike @macmillanhikingevents

**MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT**  
A registered charity



# OXHILL GARDEN CLUB

## SUMMER PARTY

The annual Oxhill Garden Club Summer Party was held on July 14th.

The weather was kind to us and some 30 folks enjoyed a very convivial atmosphere. The evening was hosted by Peter and Margaret Rivers Fletcher in their garden.

Barbara and John Bicknell managed the catering and bar assisted by a good number of helpers. They provided a fine spread including ham, chicken, quiche and salads followed by strawberries and cream.

Many thanks to the organisers and helpers for a most enjoyable evening.

*Roger Goodman*







# OXHILL GARDEN CLUB

## AFTERNOON VISIT TO UPTON WOLD GARDEN, NEAR BLOCKLEY.

**TUESDAY 10TH AUGUST – 3PM**

We have secured a private visit to this special local garden on the above date and time., and would like to extend this invitation to the village as a whole. You don't have to be a member to be welcome on this visit.

Please take a look at the website – [uptonwold.co.uk](http://uptonwold.co.uk) for full details.

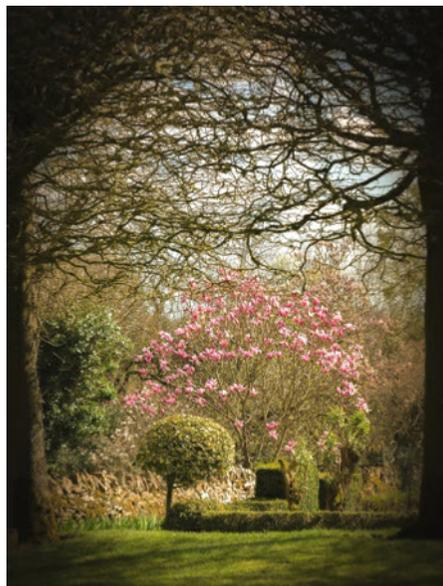
In years past many of us have met up for lunch at a nearby pub before going on to the garden visit, and this time we are booking at the Great Western Arms in Blockley.

The cost of the garden visit is £17 per head which includes afternoon tea..

Please let us know as soon as possible if you will be coming and if you will be joining us (not obligatory) for lunch.

Confirmation and final details to follow.

*Peter Rivers Fletcher 01295 680396 07730 800729*



*Upton Wold Garden*

## **ADVANCE WARNING**

Restrictions permitting, we are hosting our son's wedding at Burlands on August 7th, involving music late into the evening and, of more concern to our neighbours with livestock and pets, a fireworks display, lasting approximately 8 minutes at 10.30 p.m. We thank you for your tolerance and apologise for any disturbance.

*Percy & Louise Sewell*

## **BRASS POLISHER**

Needed to shine up the church brasses. Present person wishes to stand down. Only a few items which need doing once a month. We would be most grateful if someone could volunteer to do this. Is there an Oxhillian who would like to take this task on?

Please call Carol Fox. 680223

*Thank you*

## **ANONYMOUS COMPLAINTS**

Last month we published a complaint about a barking dog. The author of the complaint asked to remain anonymous, so we did not publish the author's name. However, the complaint sparked distress amongst many villagers, not knowing if their dog was to blame. We received questions and complaints.

Therefore, from now on, we will no longer accept anonymous contributions. Every villager has a right to gripe, but you must sign your name.

*Thank you, Editors*



## ST LAWRENCE CHURCH



Very slowly we are beginning to open up a little bit, but we are still very mindful of the risks our actions pose to each other, and of the need to protect one another. So we are doing things little by little, and we will do our best to keep you informed.

But our churches are now open – for services, and also during the day, every day, for visiting and for prayer (unless other events are taking place). So please do feel able to pop in any time. Our buildings are precious, sacred places, which I know mean a lot to everyone – and they now stand there able to welcome you once again.

### Services in St Lawrence' Church in August

<b>Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>
<b>Sunday August 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>6 .30 pm</b>	<b>Evening Worship</b>
<b>Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>There is a United Service at Brailes at 11.00 am</b>	

**Morning Prayer and Coffee, via Zoom,  
Wednesday at 10.00 am, opening at 9.45 am.**

Each Wednesday you are invited to join us for Morning Prayer, a simple form of worship, reflection and prayer. Come with coffee, cake or breakfast, and use this as a chance to catch up.



**Zoom link for Services.** The link is:

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82658959633?pwd=Ymo0WHFjMytJSmJaWis2WEZ6YXA2Zz09>**

Meeting ID: 826 5895 9633 Password: 702257

0203 481 5240 0131 460 1196 0203 051 2874 0203 481 5237

And, as noted above, all the churches in our group are now open for individual prayer daily unless services are taking place.

We ask everyone to scan the QR code or complete a test and trace consent form and follow the current guidelines on hygiene and social distancing when they come into church.

Welcome back, and have a wonderful summer!

*Blessings, Jill*

## OXHILL VILLAGE HALL

We were blessed with a warm & dry day for our Family BBQ in July and a record attendance all Covid compliant due to the two sessions. It made for a very busy day for the team who worked hard to ensure everyone had a good time. The children played happily on the lawn in the afternoon & we were delighted to welcome new village residents to the event.

We hope to arrange another event in September, after the school holidays.

**WATCH THIS SPACE!**

*(Wonderful photos of the BBQ by Barbara Bicknell.)*









# NATURE NOTES FOR AUGUST

*by Grenville Moore*

August the 5<sup>th</sup>, St James's Day, Old Style; traditionally the beginning of the oyster eating season.

Greengrocers rise at dawn of sun  
August the fifth – come haste away  
To Billingsgate the thousand run  
Tis Oyster Day ! Tis Oyster Day !  
*Hone Every-day book 1829*

I used to love oysters [ Jonathan Swift said 'He was a bold man that first ate an oyster' ] but then I was poisoned by one and was very ill for a couple of weeks, consequently I've never risked one again!



*The Hobby Falcon*

I recently posted on OWLS FB page, how Jane and I had stood and watched for quite some minutes a rare falcon, the Hobby, hunting over Manor pond. The hobby, *Falco subbuteo*, is one of our most beautiful falcons. It is our second smallest falcon [the Merlin being the smallest] and in flight can look like a large and languid swift, its wings long and scythe shaped flickering before each strong, graceful wing beat. The name Hobby comes from the old French 'hobereau' meaning 'to stir' which it certainly does, it will often stir up swallows going to roost; it will fly about in a casual manner and then like an Exocet missile it will whirlwind into the richness of swallows and pick one off. They will also take swifts and house martins.

Some years ago I watched a piece of cine film, taken in Warwickshire, where for eight minutes a hobby pursued a swift, the pair performing the most incredible aerobatics, the swift continually trying to evade the hobby, until the hobby came powering up from beneath the swift and...BAM ! They will also take small birds, insects and unusually dragonflies. I suspect the one we watched was doing just this. The dragonfly is the fastest flying insect, apparently its initial acceleration is faster than a formula one racing car, but the Hobby is faster! A couple of years ago one flew low and fast just skimming the ground across our garden and took a male blackbird which was easily as big as the falcon, but he still managed to land with it and get off the ground and take flight with it.

They are summer visitors and every year I catch sight of one or two and I think there are a pair that take this area with the vale of Whatcote as their territory. I have recently read that there could be up to 2000 now overwintering in the UK mainly down to global warming.

Other colloquial names include Van-winged Hawk, Tree Falcon, Riphook and Robin. This last one is rather strange; it comes from the word robinet a slender type of seventeenth century one-pounder cannon, and other sizes of cannons were also named after birds of prey; there were sakers, falcons and falconets and the firearm known as a musket was also named after a male sparrowhawk, all fast [speed of shot] and lethal !

I'm sure many of you will have noticed the Latin scientific name and will remember the table top football game called Subbuteo which was created by Peter Adolph. He wanted to call the game Hobby, but the trademark was denied, and so he went for the Latin!

August 13th, The Feast of St Cassian, a severe Christian schoolmaster disliked by his pagan pupils, who stabbed him to death with their iron pen-nibs: he is the patron saint of schoolteachers! I hear pupils are much better behaved these days !



*St. Cassian being killed by his pupils.  
From the Dutch Martyrs Mirror*

# OXHILL COOKS

Summer holidays are upon us so the recipe this month is definitely one for children (of all ages) to make with some help. Mars Bar Crispy cakes have been a holiday journey picnic staple for the Mercer family for many years, purchased at Shipston Bakery, along with Coronation Chicken baguettes, on our way to the M5. How pleased were we when one daughter went to Plymouth University as that meant more trips on the M5! So ingrained is this tradition that all my daughters make their own for parties and special occasions. As I write, my granddaughter has just taken a freshly-made tray of Mars Bar Crispy cakes to share on her last day at Preschool.



The recipe below has been produced after a long text discussion with my daughters: one makes a 23cm square tin quantity and the other a 20cm square tin quantity. The recipe below is for a 20cm square tin but feel free to multiply all the ingredients to fit different tins. I tend to work on tin areas as quite often I don't have the correct size or shape tin for recipes; this recipe will make 400 square cm.

# MARS BAR CRISPY CAKE

5 Mars Bars (51g size)  
150g butter  
1 dessert spoon golden syrup  
100g Rice Krispies  
200g milk chocolate

1. Line a 20cm (8”) square tin with baking parchment. Part fill a saucepan with water and find a heatproof bowl that will sit over the saucepan, not touching the water.
2. Chop up the Mars Bars and place in the heatproof bowl with the butter and syrup. Put the bowl over the saucepan and place on a hob. Bring the water to boiling point and simmer very gently.
3. As the Mars Bars, butter and syrup start to melt, stir constantly until it combines to form a uniform liquid. (Lucy’s tip: the Mars bars and butter take FOREVER to bind but wait until it is silky and smooth and not looking separated).
4. Take the bowl off the saucepan and stir in the Rice Krispies. Pour into the prepared tin and press to level.
5. Melt the chocolate. (I would use a microwave but you can melt it over the saucepan again, if you prefer. Whatever you do, don’t overheat it!) Pour chocolate over the Rice Krispie mixture, bang the tin firmly on the worktop to level the surface, then allow to set in the fridge before cutting into squares.

If you want a marbled effect as shown in the photo below, chill the mixture after step 4, then melt 100g milk or dark chocolate and 100g white chocolate separately. Dot the chocolates over the surface of the crispy base in a rough chessboard pattern. Take a knife and drag the tip diagonally through the two chocolates until you get a marbled effect that you are happy with. Alternatively, use a cocktail stick to make swirly patterns. Bang the tin firmly on the worktop to level the surface.





## WOT2GROW COMMUNITY ORCHARD

Pruning has continued unabated despite the weather and the majority of the stone fruit trees have been trimmed back and reduced in height. The apples are also getting attention especially the ones with a heavy crop, which is not all of them, by trimming back branches which have grown too much since the winter pruning and continuing to thin out the apples.



*The Pyramid Orchid in July*

The fruit cage has been put up over the red and white currants which have pretty heavy crops again this year and the blackbirds just love them!! Gooseberries, logans and tayberries are all starting to be picked and yet again the summer raspberries had their first picking in the week around July 6th, this date seems to be constant no matter what the weather has been doing.

This year we have a first new wild flower. In all of the 0.8ha (two acres in old terms) we have one pyramid orchid!!! Very pretty and a joy to behold as the orchard is a community space for growing fruit trees and soft fruits and not a wild flower meadow.

Plenty of work to do going forward so why not get involved and help out with various tasks at your orchard. Contact one of us to find out more.

The Community Orchard is just 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](http://www.wot2grow.co.uk)



# Carers4Carers

Finding support through supporting each other

Carers4Carers are back!! An outdoor meeting, supported by Compton Verney, took place in July and members were able to see each other for the first time in over a year. The weather was kind to us and another outdoor meeting has been arranged for August. While we plan a return to Kinton Village Hall in September, we continue to hold our virtual coffee morning on the 4th Friday of the month, support our members by phone and send out our monthly newsletter.

For more information about our self-help support group for unpaid carers, please take a look at our website [www.carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk](http://www.carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk), email us at [kcarers4carers@gmail.com](mailto:kcarers4carers@gmail.com) or phone Gillian on 07947 893504.

*Lisa Barnett – Assistant Coordinator*



## SNARE

I recently posted on Oxhill Facebook about an incident where a much loved family cat had been caught in a snare trap and had very severe damage to her leg which could have resulted in amputation. I'd like to report that she has made a good recovery but may still have permanent nerve damage only time will tell.

Several months ago I removed a amateur snare trap from a fence within the village, whilst they are not illegal they are a very cruel method of trapping an animal (usually rabbits) and certainly should not be set up within the village boundaries, I suspect this may youngsters but please, whoever you are, please desist from this cruel practice.

*Grenville Moore*



# SPEEDING AND TRAFFIC CALMING IN OXHILL

– latest situation

The Parish Council has been organising ‘random anonymous speed sampling’ recordings at various times of the day , between 2th April and 10th June using a hand held mini radar speed camera located half way along the straight part of Whatcote Rd.

During a total of 185 minutes, a total of 118 cars and other vehicles were logged, 40.5 % of which were measured at 35 mph and above. 9.3% were above 40mph. The fastest recorded was 55 mph. Both uphill and downhill numbers and percentages speeding were similar.

The Safety Engineering Team, Traffic and Road Safety group, Warwickshire County Council has indicated that if our speed checking showed that more than 30% of traffic was over 35 mph, than we had a good case for better police action to control this. So we have every indication that we may be able to approach the police with a good case.



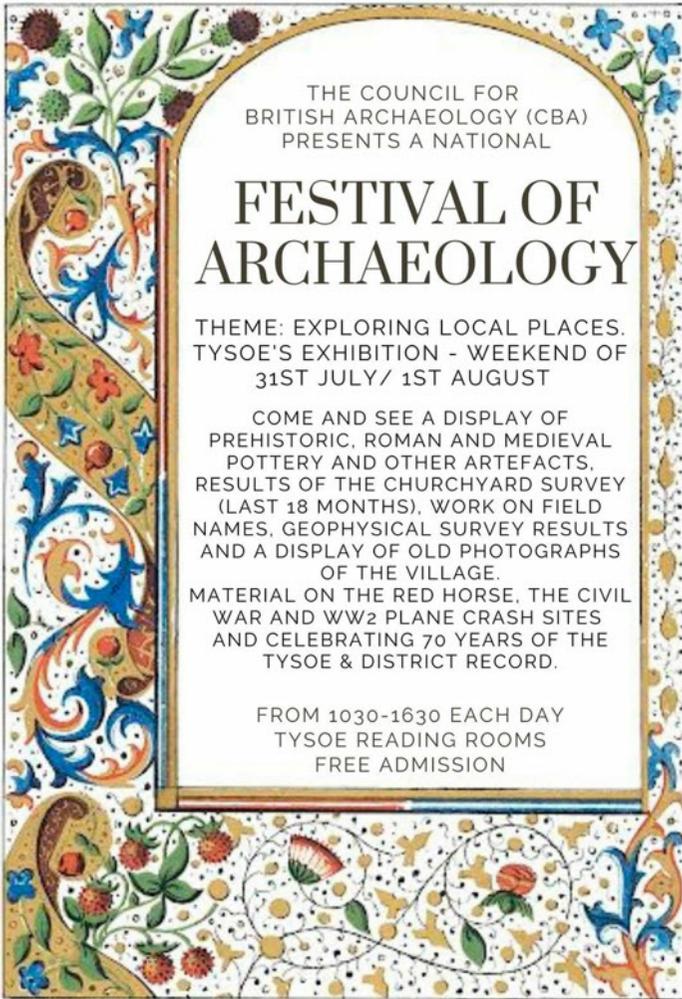
Whilst there are no changes in the attitude of the various bodies (Police, Highways and County Council) that control what we can do or they are prepared to do, there is a new community package being introduced during August to try to help with these local concerns. Whilst we do not yet know the details of this package, we have been promised priority in receiving this.

Community speed camera operations were still being encouraged, but unless we can do this on a regular basis (e.g. every two weeks) it is not effective, and we already know this from previous experience.

Our priority is to have a moveable flashing speed indicator sign which shows the actual speed to the drivers , but this is not currently allowed by the ‘authorities’. If we can produce some more data, possibly from Green Lane and the Kineton Rd entry to the village, this may help in achieving our current goal. We are therefore looking for volunteers to help with this monitoring. It’s not difficult to do, but just needs people keen to help.

Please let me know if you are able help.

*Peter Rivers Fletcher.*  
07730 800729  
[rjn364@btinternet.com](mailto:rjn364@btinternet.com)



## Babysitter Available!

I'm available from the 17th May  
and through the summer  
holidays.

I live in Oxhill so I am local, please  
email me if you're interested!

[freyaod5@gmail.com](mailto:freyaod5@gmail.com)

Freya O'Donnell, age 15

# CRICKET



**Save The Date!**  
**August 29<sup>th</sup> 1pm**

TYSOE **VS** OXHILL

**Tysoe Playing Fields**



**TYSOE SOCIAL CLUB**  
MAIN STREET | TYSOE | WARWICK | CV35 0SE

JACK JEFFS' TRIBUTE TO **ELVIS** 12PM - 1PM & 5PM - 6PM

ADRIAN JAKEWAY'S TRIBUTE TO **UB40** 1.30PM - 3PM

FROM **VOICE OF JASON JONES** 3.30PM - 5PM

**TYSOE PANDEMIC**

**AFTER PARTY**  
LIVE MUSIC EVENT

NEARLY DEBTRIBUTE TO **AC/DC** 6.30PM - 7.15PM

BORN TO LIVE TRIBUTE TO **BON JOVI** 7.30PM - 8.15PM

FUNCTION BAND **RHYTHM STREET** FROM 9PM - 11PM

**SATURDAY 7 AUGUST 2021**

TICKETS £10 ON THE DOOR | UNDER 16s FREE & MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.

BURGERS, HOTDOGS & PIG ROAST AVAILABLE

# SUDOKU FOR KIDS

Cut out the pictures of the 4 vegetables. Then place a vegetable in each empty square so that every column and every row has just one of each vegetable. Good luck!



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# Sudoku

## HOW TO PLAY SUDOKU

Fill in the 9×9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3×3 subgrids that compose the grid (called ‘boxes’, ‘blocks’, or ‘regions’) contain all of the digits from 1 to 9. Find the answer on the back page.

1	5		2		9			4
	4				6			
				4			6	3
	7					8		6
6								5
2		8					1	
4	6			8				
			6				7	
8			5		1		4	9

# WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND OXHILL

## AUGUST

31st July-1st Aug	10:30-16:30	Festival of Archaeology, Tysoe Reading Rooms
Sat 7th	12:00-23:00	Tysoe Pademic After Party, Tysoe Social Club
Tues 10th	15:00	Oxhill Garden Club, visit to Upton Wold Garden
Thurs 12th	14:00-14:30	Mobile Library, outside Village Hall
Sun 29th	13:00	Cricket Tysoe V Oxhill, Tysoe Playing Fields
Every Thursday	11:45ish	Awesome Coffee Van, outside Peacock Pub

## PC MEETINGS

There is **no** PC Meeting planned for August so the date of the next PC Meeting is Tuesday, 14 September at 7.30 pm. This meeting will be held in the Village Hall. The Agenda for the meeting will be shown on the PC Website or a physical copy will be displayed on the Notice Board by the Peacock a few days before the meeting.

## 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.

## BIN COLLECTION CALENDAR



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



## Sudoku Answer

1	5	6	2	3	9	7	8	4
7	4	3	8	5	6	9	2	1
9	8	2	1	4	7	5	6	3
3	7	5	4	1	2	8	9	6
6	1	4	9	7	8	2	3	5
2	9	8	3	6	5	4	1	7
4	6	9	7	8	3	1	5	2
5	2	1	6	9	4	3	7	8
8	3	7	5	2	1	6	4	9

August						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					