

# THE OXHILL NEWS

January 2022 No. 566



A Christmas Advent window evening with (left to right) Ginny, Sam, Lottie, Will and Poppy. See more photos starting from page 22.

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## THE OXHILL NEWS HAS A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

All email sent to our old email address will be forwarded to our new one, but I am not sure for how long. So please take note our new email address:

**[oxhill.news.editor@gmail.com](mailto:oxhill.news.editor@gmail.com)**

# The Way We Were



## **BILTON COTTAGE**

*by Carol Clark*

Bilton Cottage, at the end of Church Lane, is one of last two remaining thatched properties in Oxhill (the other being Porthkerry).

According to Charles Ivins' researches, land comprising 1/4 acre was sold by John Nicols to William Bradford, carpenter, in 1648. A dwelling was erected, which William lived in until 1660 when he sold to Thomas Walton (who had married his daughter Elizabeth).

The property then passed through several generations of the Walton family. In 1766 Daniel Walton sold it to his son-in-law, James Allen, who was probably the tenant. It then seems to have remained in the Allen family for a while, although they may have encountered financial problems, since in 1832 the property was transferred to Miss Sarah Gardner, daughter of William Gardner of Burlands. Presumably the Allens remained as tenants, rather than as owners.

In 1836 it's documented that there were now two houses on the site. The old maps I've managed to find suggest the second property was built onto the western end of the first, rather than as a totally separate building. All through the nineteenth century censuses, there are three households identifiable in this corner of the village (two Bilton Cottage properties, and the cottage now known as Sanroy) but it's never clear exactly which house is which, since they weren't given names until much later.



The Allen surname continues to feature in one of the Bilton Cottage properties throughout the 19th century, although I haven't yet definitively connected all the family branches together. A William Allen married Mary Mullis in 1837, and over the course of the next 20 years, she bore him 10 children. Two died young, the remainder grew to adulthood. In 1862, sons William and Joseph decided seek a better life in Australia.

They weren't the only ones. Eldest daughter Mary Ann married a blacksmith in 1860 and lived in Wellesbourne for a while. Sometime between 1863 and 1865, the family, now including two daughters, emigrated to New Zealand. In due course, another of the Allen siblings also travelled to New Zealand, and two of the others followed William and Joseph to Australia. At this time, agricultural workers were experiencing low wages and hardship in England, so they were probably heading for a better life, but imagine how hard it was for the remaining family members with most of the family so far away.

William Allen eventually settled near Bundaberg in Queensland, and named his property "Oxhill" out of respect for his home village. When I visited it in 2008, it was being developed into a residential settlement.

Moving forward to the twentieth century, the censuses now indicate Bilton Cottage had been converted to a single property. In 1945 the Coventry Standard reports the death of Frederick Price, an engineer of Bilton Cottage, who had moved to Oxhill from Coventry after the air raids earlier in the war.



*Picture taken in 2008 at Oxhill, Queensland. The street sign was the only visible reminder of the origin of the property.*

Possibly after Price's death, Tom Furman and his wife moved in to Bilton Cottage; they were certainly there in the early 1950's. Mr Furman kept a large number of poultry and in 1961 they were found to be the source of an outbreak of fowl pest, meaning all poultry in the immediate area had to be culled. We kept five hens in a run at the bottom of the garden at Blackford House, and I still remember the sight of the empty pen on my return from school that day.



*The east side of Bilton Cottage shortly after it was rebuilt in c1990*



*Tom Furman lived in Bilton Cottage from the late sixties through to the early seventies. When I first knew him he was still married, his wife was a formidable tweedy headmistress of a private girls' school, quite scary! I remember she left him shortly after we came to the village.*

*Tom was every inch the country squire, ex army, military moustache and always smoking a cigar ( had to be a Romeo and Juliet the best ) he had a line of attractive ladies whom he 'entertained' on a regular basis ! He bred chickens and ducks which he supplied to local restaurants. He was a very keen shooting man and shot several days a week through the shooting season; he had been an enthusiastic wildfowler/punt gunner and for many years shot on The Wash with Peter Scott, who later became a conservationist and artist and founded Slimbridge. He took me under his wing and taught me to shoot and a lot about wildlife, and strangely, like Peter Scott, after years of shooting I too became a conservationist. He was old school and hung his pheasants for several weeks until they started to go green and only then were they ready for the oven! I remember going for supper one night and he served up three roast pheasants and the guests all agreed they were the best they had eaten, he later confessed to me that he had forgotten to gut them !*

*Tom's favourite tippie was brandy and together with his cigars probably led to a small heart attack which he survived. The doctors told him he must give up the drink and cigars, so on his way home he stopped off at the Peacock sat himself at the bar and ordered a large brandy and the biggest cigar! Some months later he died of an heart attack whilst in the company of his favourite lady !*

*Grenville Moore*



# OXHILL GARDEN CLUB

**NEXT MEETING  
19TH JANUARY 7 PM  
VILLAGE HALL**

Continuing with our 'local' flavour, our next meeting is an illustrated talk by:

**ALASTAIR AND DEBBIE WELFORD ON THEIR EXPERIENCES IN  
DEVELOPING THEIR OXHILL MANOR ESTATE**

Many of us will have seen the great changes in the Manor landscape over the past few years, but these have not been without their problems. These and future aspirations will be revealed.

**PLEASE PUT THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARY**

Doors open 6.30pm, £2, refreshments included (but you pay for wine!).

*Peter Rivers Fletcher*



## VILLAGE HALL

We are planning to hold a Burns Night celebration on Saturday, 22 January, 2022 and as this is always a popular event, please keep that date free in your diaries. We are aware that the Government may introduce new restrictions for January so we will separately need to confirm details after Christmas. Please let Ali Sayer ([ali.sayer@btinternet.com](mailto:ali.sayer@btinternet.com)) know if you wish to attend.

On December 7th the Village Hall hosted the Christmas Lunch. It was the traditional turkey meal with all the trimmings in a very festive atmosphere. After lunch the entertainment was again kindly provided by Jim Henry & gave everyone a good start to the Christmas season.



*My thanks to John, Paul, Geoff and Derek for helping to put the tree up. and a special thank you to Robin for the loan of the trailer.  
~ Richard Collings*

*Jo Collings*



*Thank you to the Village Hall committee & friends did all the work decorating the hall, shopping, cooking and of course the washing up!*





## ST LAWRENCE CHURCH



The beginning of January sees Epiphany, when the Wise Men came searching for a King, and found him in the most humble of places, where they might least have expected to see him. They bought precious gifts to lay at his feet, symbols of the Kingship that he would demonstrate, and they left the richer for having seen him.

At the end of the month we have Candlemas, or ‘The Presentation of Christ in the Temple’, when Simeon in the Temple recognised this tiny child as the King that he was. It is the time when we turn, from having celebrated the birth of Jesus, God come to live among us, to his death – God come to die for us. We turn from the crib to the cross.

In January, as the New Year unfolds, the ramifications of Christmas begin to set in!

As I write this, Covid is getting rapidly more serious again; these are the services that we plan, with all the usual safety measures around them. If anything changes, we will let you know.

**Sunday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Epiphany**

9.30 am Holy Communion (Glyn Evans)

**Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Baptism of Christ**

9.30 am Holy Communion (George Heighton)

**Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup>**

9.30 am Holy Communion (George Heighton)

**Sunday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>**

6.30 pm Evening Service (Jill Tucker)

**Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Candlemas**

9.30 am Holy Communion (Heather Parbury)

Throughout the month there will continue to be a service of Morning Prayer available on Zoom on Wednesday mornings at 10.00 am, which is obviously open as well to all those who might not feel able to join us in person. Zoom joining details are in the Grapevine, or contact Jill or George.

Have a wonderful New Year,

*Jill Tucker*

01295 680663



*Singing Christmas Carols outside St Lawrence church.*

# Babysitter Available!

**I am available evenings and  
weekends.**

**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**

# I was the 19-year-old PC who silenced the Beatles

A surprise star of a new film about the fab four's final gig explains why he couldn't let it be

Liam Kelly Arts Correspondent

Ray Dagg is not a name associated with iconic cultural moments, but it ought to be. As a Metropolitan Police constable he curtailed the Beatles' final live performance, on a London roof.

Now he is the unlikely star of a new wave of Beatlemania, powered by a documentary of the band working on *Let It Be*, their last studio album to be released.

Dagg's walk-on role on the roof at 3 Saville Row, as a polite but exasperated 19-year-old police officer trying to restore tranquility to a London street known more for its tailoring than its tunes, has turned him into a cult figure. He has been inundated with friend requests on Facebook, interviewers from Brazil want to speak to him and an American Reddit member painted him in watercolour.

"It was just work, and it's blown up into all this," Dagg, 72, said. "It's ridiculous, I just don't understand it."

Speaking publicly for the first time since the concert on January 30, 1969,

said. "At least there's something on a film somewhere that will for ever show that PC Ray Dagg shut down the Beatles."

"If that's my lasting image of life, if that's what people remember me for, that's not bad. Thousands, millions of people don't get remembered at all."

After clocking on at West End Central police station in Saville Row at lunchtime, Dagg was sent to stop the gig that had caused gridlock in the West End. He entered the building, headquarters of the Beatles' Apple record label, with a colleague, PC Ray Shaylor.

Lindsay Hogg's team hid a camera behind a two-way mirror in the lobby of the building to film the consequences of the disturbance but Dagg insisted that he was not fooled by the ruse – especially when he saw a microphone hidden in a flowerpot. "I thought there's something going on here," he said. "I said to Shaylor that we had both better be on our best behaviour because we're being filmed."

The police constables were stalled by Apple staff as the band continued to play and it took almost ten minutes for Evans

We've had 30 complaints at West End Central within minutes. It's got to go down, otherwise there will be some arrests. I'm not threatening you, I'm telling you what's going to happen."

Dagg now says that while the "phone was going bonkers" at the station, "I don't know where I got 30 from. I probably made it up."

Evans returned ten minutes later and took the officers to the roof. Paul McCartney, 26 at the time, turned around, saw the constables behind him and whooped as he broke into a gleeful grin.

Dagg had an animated discussion with the band manager that is inaudible over the sound of the band. However, he revealed that out of microphone range he was more forthright after being messaged about for half an hour.

The PC threatened to have Evans and the band arrested for highway obstruction and obstructing a police officer executing his duties. It appeared to have the desired effect: Evans unplugged George Harrison's guitar amplifier during *Get Back* and the gig soon ended.

are not applicable on private premises," he said. "The gamble was that they didn't know that. Probably because I was so young and stupid I was running a bluff on it." He did not recall speaking to any members of the band, but said: "It was 52 years ago."

Though his life was back to "normal" the next day, Dagg had to revisit the incident about eight months later, when his commander told him that they had to go and watch a preview of *Let It Be*, as the makers had asked for the force's permission to retain the shots of Dagg.

His commander told him that he was pleased with how the officer conducted himself – and that the film-makers wanted to pay him £3,000, about double his annual salary at the time. However, Dagg was told that he could not accept the cash as a serving police officer, and that it would go to a police widows and orphans fund.

"If I knew then what I know now I'd have resigned, taken the money and rejoined the police," Dagg said.

After the film's release, some cinema-

## OXHILL'S 'LEGEND'

The Sunday Times, 12 December 2021, published the article (above) about Oxhill villager Ray Dagg, famous for having stopped the last live performance the Beatles ever played. Ray is being called a 'Legend' online.

Ray Dagg is not a name associated with iconic cultural moments, but it ought to be. As Metropolitan police constable he ended the Beatles' final live performance, on a London roof.

Now he is the unlikely star of a new wave of Beatlemania, powered by the release of a documentary by Peter Jackson [Lord of the Rings movie director] of the band working on 'Let It Be', their last studio album to be released.

Dagg's walk-on role on the roof at 3 Saville Row, as a polite but exasperated 19-year-old police officer trying to restore tranquility to a London street known more for its tailoring than its tunes, has turned him into a cult figure. He has been inundated with friend requests on Facebook, interviewers from Brazil [Uruguay, America, Australia and Europe] want to speak to him and an American Reddit member painted him in watercolour.

Responding to complaints from neighbours about the noise, Dagg convinced the Beatles' road manager, Mal Evans, to stop the gig. How does it feel to be known as the man who forced the Beatles to pull the plug for the last time?

"Well, at that time, I didn't know that they would never play together again," he said. ...



After clocking on at West End Central police station in Saville Row at lunchtime, Dagg was sent to stop the gig that had caused gridlock in the West End. He entered the building headquarters of the Beatles' Apple record label, with a colleague, PC Ray Shayler.

The filming team hid a camera behind a two-way mirror in the lobby of the building to film the consequences of the disturbance but Dagg insisted that he was not fooled by the ruse – especially when he saw a microphone hidden in a flowerpot. “I thought there’s something going on here,” he said. “I said to Shalyer that we had both better be on our best behaviour because we’re being filmed.”...

Ray told the Oxhill News that Peter Jackson saw the footage of the policeman shutting down the concert and wanted to interview him, but didn't know who the policeman was or where to find him. In Jackson's search many people came forward pretending to be PC Dagg. Ray says that Jackson would take one look at the imposters and know they were lying. How? Ray Dagg has a distinctive gap between his two front teeth. Ray was eventually found and when he walked onto the roof in Saville Row to reconstruct the event, Jackson took one look at him and said, “That's him. I would recognise him anywhere.”



*Ray Dagg with the Beatles road manager, Mal Evans on the roof in 1969 and Ray today.*

*Read more on the Sunday Times website.*

These biscuits are very simple to make, especially if you have a food processor. They have been very popular at a couple of Advent window openings, especially with Editor Vanessa, hence the inclusion of the recipe in time for Christmas. The original recipe uses just Gruyère cheese, but when I've been short of Gruyère, I have made them with a mix of Gruyère, Parmesan and cheddar. They are just the perfect thing to serve with a glass of bubbly!

## GRUYÈRE BISCUITS

75 g plain flour  
75 g cold butter, cut into cubes  
75 g Gruyère, grated or chopped in a food processor  
Sea salt, freshly ground pepper  
Cayenne pepper (optional)

Place flour and a large pinch of salt into a bowl. Add the butter and rub in with fingertips, or blitz in a food processor, until the mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs.

Add the cheese and continue to mix until it forms a soft dough. (If using a food processor, don't over process it – stop when it just comes together as a dough). Wrap the dough in cling film and chill for at least 30 minutes.

Once chilled, turn oven to 200 C and line or grease 2 baking sheets.

Roll out the dough to 5mm thick on a floured surface. Cut out rounds with a 5mm straight edged cutter, or whatever shape you want your biscuits. Place on the prepared baking sheets, leaving some space between biscuits for spreading. Sprinkle some with a little cayenne pepper if you like.



*Delicious gruyere Biscuits at an Christmas Advent window display evening.*

Bake for 10 minutes until spread out and lightly browned at the edges. Keep an eye on them as they can brown too much very quickly! As soon as they are out of the oven, grind some salt and pepper over the biscuits. Leave them on the baking sheets for a few minutes to firm up before placing them on a wire rack to cool completely. Store in an airtight container.

## **OXHILL COOKS INDEX**

**The Oxhill News is available online on the Oxhill website so I thought that providing an index of recipes featured to date might be helpful.**

Pear, walnut and ginger traybake September 2020  
Old Dowerhouse chutney October 2020  
Verity's carrot cake October 2020  
Celery and Stilton Soup November 2020  
Ginger cake with lemon icing November 2020  
Mincemeat Streusel January 2021  
Cheesy pancakes with leeks and ham February 2021  
Curried Parsnip soup March 2021  
Chocolate nest cake April 2021  
Bacon, cheese and apple plait May 2021  
Rhubarb and Orange Pile-it-high Meringue Pie June 2021  
Bara Brith July 2021  
Mars Bar Rice Crispie cake August 2021  
Pickled Plums September 2021  
Plum and Blackberry Slump September 2021  
Roasted Salmon with courgette, chickpeas and red pepper October 2021  
Pear, pecan and chocolate crumble October 2021  
Apple and Apricot Crumble Cake November 2021  
Terrys Chocolate Orange Millionaires Shortbread December 2021  
Gruyère biscuits January 2022

To find Oxhill Cooks recipes and more go to the Oxhill Community website at:  
**[www.oxhillcommunity.co.uk](http://www.oxhillcommunity.co.uk)**

## **SLEEPING OUT TO HELP HOMELESS AND ADDICTION CHARITIES**

On Monday 6th December, I braved the cold temperatures to sleep rough with two of my colleagues from Warwick Business School (WBS). This was part of the CEO Sleepout, a national initiative to raise money to help combat the impact of addiction and homelessness. WBS has a longstanding relationship with Changes UK, a charity for tackling addiction, who joined forces with Birmingham City FC Community Trust and CEO Sleepout to hold the fundraising event.



For me this has been a truly humbling, thought-provoking and inspiring experience. Homelessness is nearly always the outcome of a tragic set of circumstances, and frequently associated with addiction and poor mental health. Before taking to our sleeping bags, we heard testimonies from people who themselves had experienced addiction and homelessness. We were told, the worst thing about being homeless is that people treat you as if you are invisible, a lesser person or not even a person. We heard harrowing stories of childhood abuse that lead to a life of addiction, and how a difficult childhood can manifest in challenging ways that can subsequently lead to them being labeled as ‘a problem’ and ‘not worth the effort’. Often, these children were never asked ‘what’s gone wrong for you, and the real reason behind challenging behaviours in young people gets missed and untreated.



The problem of addiction and homelessness needs to be tackled from both sides: helping adults into recovery from addiction (a service led by Changes UK) and supporting children’s emotional, physical and behavioural development (through schemes such as the Birmingham City FC Community Trust) so that they have the means to make their own choices about their future (rather than victim of circumstance), hopefully preventing them from ‘falling through the cracks’ into a cycle of addiction, homelessness and poor mental health.

One night sleeping under the stars will never replicate the horror of being homeless, but it was a small gesture that we hope will go some way to help people recover from their addictions and rebuild their lives. Collectively, we have raised over £3,300 and I would like to thank everyone in the village who donated and provided kind words of encouragement. Your generosity will help some of the most marginalised people across Birmingham get their lives back on track. These are brilliant charities influencing and facilitating very real and important societal change. Your support means the world to me, thank you.

*Karen Barker*

Team WBS fundraising for CEO Sleepout on JustGiving:

**[www.justgiving.com/team/WBS](http://www.justgiving.com/team/WBS)**

## *A Shakespearean Sonnet About Doors*

by Ian McMillan

It's not much to ask. Just a door to lock.  
A door that won't break when someone kicks it.  
Door with a keyhole. Respond to that knock  
Or not. My choice. It's broke so let's fix it:  
The world, I mean. Not the door. That's ok.  
It's my door, to my room. Look: here's the key.  
The world, though. That's different. Somewhere to stay  
Is what we all need. Somewhere to be me  
And not just someone you blithely ignore  
When you see me sleeping on the street.  
Let's begin with this. A door. Just a door  
To start with. A door. Food. Then light and heat.  
The world must respond to this simple truth:  
Let's all have a door. Let's all have a roof



# NATURE NOTES FOR JANUARY

by Grenville Moore

The midwinter month named after the double-faced Roman God Janus, who looks back towards the old and forward to the New Year. New Year's Day: the Seventh Day of Christmas: everything you do today will influence your luck in the coming year. Nothing should be taken out of the house today- not even rubbish- and especially do not lend fuel or matches, or pay bills, lest you lack fire and money during the coming year. If it is absolutely necessary to carry something out, be sure to bring something in first- preferably a coin, concealed outside on the previous night.

Many of you might have noticed that we are seeing and indeed hearing (that wonderful rauk rauk) more Ravens (Corvus corax) in and around Oxhill lately. This is a mighty bird, the largest of the corvids and one of the most powerful beasts in mythology and antiquity, they have been on these islands from time immemorial. Many believe they are indestructible. They pair for life, and when one of the pair dies, a younger bird immediately steps in to fill the gap. Several mornings ago, I saw six on the ground at the



*Noah releases a raven from the ark to see how far the flood has receded.  
This mosaic is from Venice's Basilica of San Marco.*

back of Whitehill House, they were chattering away, maybe a meeting, a discussion; crows hold parliaments, but when Ravens get together it's referred to as a treachery or an unkindness. Who knows what this group were discussing. The word Raven has remained virtually unchanged since Anglo-Saxon times when it was Hrafin. The Norse god Odin was also the Hrafnagud, the Raven God, for he had two Ravens who used to fly all over the world and would return to perch one on each shoulder to whisper to him everything that was happening. Supposedly the Raven is the bird that Noah sent out from the Ark during the flood, which went back and forth until the waters were dried up. The Norsemen had great esteem for the Raven, a bird who was ominously familiar to their armies, feeding on the carrion of the battlefields. This large forbidding black bird, sometimes almost purple in sunlight, so closely associated with death, took on an ominous character and, later was credited with the powers of prediction. This superstition still holds sway even today. Some stories say that



the souls of the unbaptized go into Ravens. In Denmark the appearance of a Raven foretells the death of a pastor and in the Languedoc, wicked priests became Ravens when they died. Myself, I adore these birds; they are inquisitive, highly intelligent, larger than a buzzard and afraid of nothing and I am pleased to see them in and around Oxhill. One flew over the garden quite low the other morning and I greeted him with "good morning Mr Raven" and believe it or not he immediately did a forward roll and went "rauk rauk" make of that what you will !

A note to all you young folk: at the first appearance of the New Moon after New Year's Day, go out in the evening and stand astride the bars of a gate or stile looking to the Moon, and say:

All Hail to the Moon, all Hail to thee  
I prithee good Moon reveal to me  
This Night who my Husband (or wife) must be.

*You must presently after to bed. I knew two Gentlewomen that did thus when they were young Maids, and they had Dreams of those that afterwards Married them.*

John Aubrey Miscellanies 1695

## SPEEDING AND BIN STICKERS

Whilst efforts are still being made to get permission for a moveable ‘light up’ speed sign for the village, the Parish Council has now purchased wheely bin stickers showing the 30mph sign and also one with a camera sign included. These will be distributed to all houses on Whatcote Rd and Green Lane where speeding is most prolific, with recommendations for their use.



The concept is that if all households display the stickers when the bins are put out once a week, the speed limit should at least be obvious to all traffic since the bins are usually out for a good length of time covering morning and afternoon periods. Effectiveness would probably be reduced if these signs were on display on a daily basis.

Householders on Main Street can request these stickers, but we know from monitoring that even though traffic through Main Street is often too fast for safety, the actual speeds are not usually over the 30 mph limit. A 20 mph limit is still being discussed at a national level.

*Oxhill Parish Council*



Challenging times still unfortunately, but we were able to honour our bookings for a fabulous weekend of live music over the first weekend of December.

We kicked off with “Jools and the Jazzaholics” – simply superb and we’ll do our best to get them back, along with getting our programme of jazz fully back on stream through next year – for those of you that haven’t thought of yourselves as jazz fans before, we urge you to give it a go – it’s a great night out! On that front, we’ve already booked “Tom ‘Spats’ Langham Hot Fingers” for Feb-22 (proceeds for hall maintenance / facilities).

The following night, we welcomed Cotswold Events back with their “Birmingham Blues Brothers” booking – safe to say, a lot of fun was had by all; and then, not done, we finished up with our very own Shipston Town Band the following night.

On the maintenance and facilities improvement front, the replacement doors for the smaller of our two halls are now installed, which will significantly improve sound proofing and better support co-existing events.

Thanks for your continuing support - numbers are still available in our “**150 club**” – **the winners in the December Christmas draw are:** £100 no. 62; £50 no. 146; £25 no. 132.

Visit us at [www.townsendhall.co.uk](http://www.townsendhall.co.uk) to find out more.



## OXHILL CHRISTMAS ADVENT WINDOWS

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Oxhill Christmas Advent windows this year. Either by producing one of the fantastic windows, braving the weather or by providing the warming mulled wine and very welcome nibbles. We had over 40 amazing windows this year with every part of the village taking part. Best wishes for all for 2022!

*Lis Stuart*















## **EDITOR'S END OF YEAR NOTE**

Thank you to all the contributors to the Oxhill News this past year. Our village magazine is only as good as its submissions. Here are a few special thank yous :

Thank you to Grenville Moore for his fascinating Nature Notes, starting the Guess Who! and My First columns and, of course, his invaluable ideas, articles, artwork and help in producing our village magazine.

Thank you to Ruth Mercer for her Oxhill Cooks recipes. They are scrumptious! Ruth is involved in so many village events that long-time resident, Myrtle Knight, has dubbed her 'St Ruth of Oxhill'. I whole heartedly agree.

Thank you to Carol Clark, who has started a much-loved series on the history of Oxhill houses. We are all learning so much about our village!

Thank you to Liz Atkinson of the Wot2Grow Community Orchard for your wonderful monthly updates and lovely photos.

Thank you to Rev. Jill Tucker of St. Lawrence Church for news of the church and your inspiring words and poems.

Thank you to Jo Collings and Ali Sayer for keeping the magazine informed of the numerous Village Hall events - before and after they take place. May next year see a return to the wonderful social evenings for which the village is famous.

Thank you to Peter Rivers Fletcher for his Garden Club contributions and road safety endeavours.

Thank you Christine Coles who submits the Parish Council Meeting minutes to inform us of important Parish Council news.

A special thank you to all the photographers in the village. Your photos make the magazine a joy to browse through. Please continue to send us your pictures!!

Thank you to the contributors whose events are outside the village but remain important to our village life, including the Tysoe Tennis Club, Carers4Carers, Tysoe W.I., Shipston Home Nursing, Townsend Hall, Murray Duke, Julian Spaul and many more.

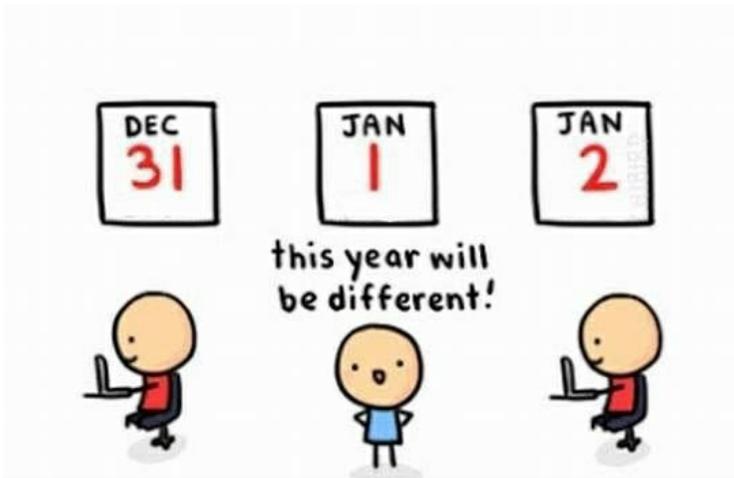
And finally, thank you to the Oxhill News couriers who deliver the magazine every month through all weathers. You've done the postman's motto proud: "*Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds.*"

To contributors and readers alike, may your 2022 be filled with love, success and a free half hour each month to read the Oxhill News.

*Vanessa, editor*

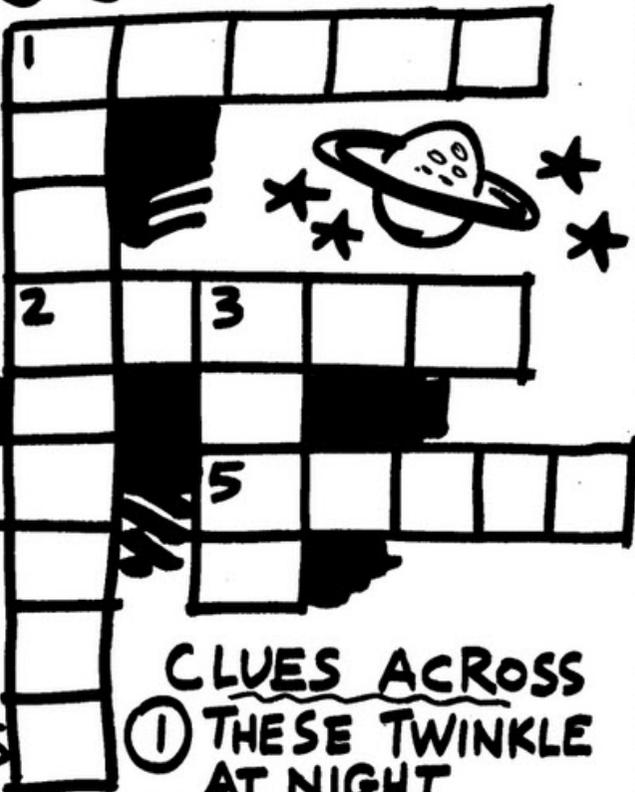


*Thank you to Lis and Adrian Stuart for organising the beautiful Christmas Advent window displays in December.*



# CROSSWORDS FOR ALL AGES

## CROSSWORD



### CLUES DOWN

① VEHICLE WHICH TRAVELS IN SPACE.

③ HEAVENLY BODY (RHYMES WITH 'SPOON')

*Alfenge.*

### CLUES ACROSS

① THESE TWINKLE AT NIGHT.

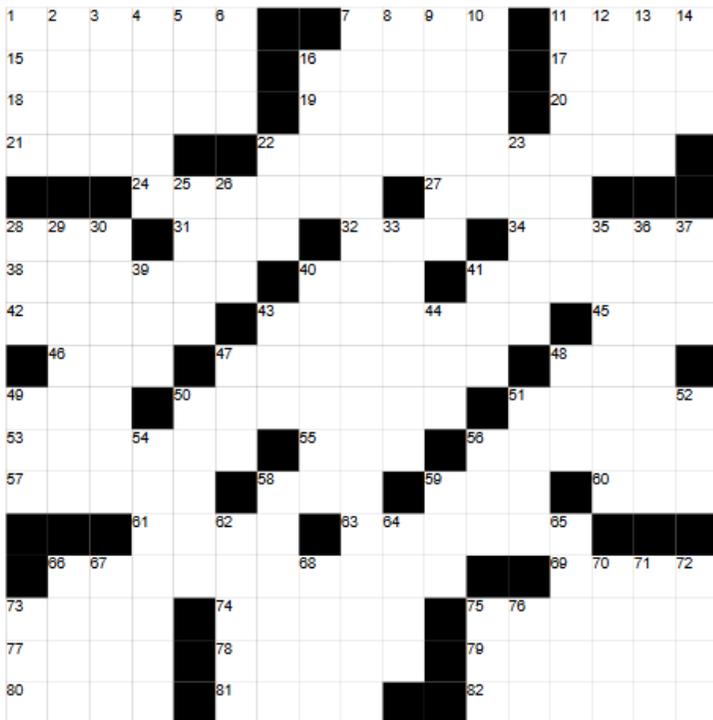
② ASTEROID WITH LONG FIERY TAIL.

④ SECOND PLANET FROM OUR SUN (V-----)

⑤ THE PLANETS MOVE IN O----- AROUND THE SUN

**ACROSS**

1. Response
7. Nickname for Francisco
11. A "Friend"
15. Rough
16. Make butter
17. Nevada city and county
18. Fluids that govern personality?
19. Fragrant flowering shrub
20. Blood vessel
21. Tied
22. Nuclear reactions in a beaker?
24. A cool treat in Italy
27. Oolong and Darjeeling
28. Hoover or Aswan
31. Title in Spain
32. Eavesdrop
34. Allowable
38. Ear infection
40. Ha ha
41. Affix
42. Barrel component
43. Homo species
45. Famous VA family
46. Fit \_\_\_\_\_ fiddle
47. Occult science?
48. Take at gunpoint
49. Phone i.d. card
50. They support the team
51. Made out
53. Tough glossy paint
55. Taxing grp.
56. Fix an electrical device
57. Benefit
58. C&EN publishing Org.
59. Industrial tub
60. Movie-making techn.
61. Military color
63. Faked
66. Fire substance?
69. "The Thin Man" dog
73. A soft cheese
74. Word group with a specific meaning
75. Heavenly substance?
77. Cal. \_\_\_\_\_ San Luis Obispo univ.
78. 50's Comedian Bruce



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79. Pilfers
80. Backs of boats
81. To be (Latin)
82. Get ready to ride, with "up"

**DOWN**

1. Hurt
2. New (Fr. abbrev.)
3. Identical
4. Possible 1 across outcome
5. Magnetic techn. used with radicals
6. \_\_\_\_\_ ipsa loquitur
7. Ultimate goal in 47 across?
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Lang Syne
9. Willy
10. At an opportune moment, with "right"
11. Consider again
12. Margarine
13. Scrape a knee
14. Boy child
16. Coagulate
22. It's called "tin", but is made of steel
23. Ionic compounds
25. Ms. Falco of "The Sopranos"

26. Spanish article
28. Windows precursor
29. Reaches a certain status
30. Vapors that influence health?
33. Tool for pulling
35. Heat substance?
36. Lettuce that might sink a ship
37. Popeye's middle name
39. Federally-owned power corp.
40. An alpha hydroxy acid
41. It doesn't matter which one
43. \_\_\_\_\_-mo
44. From gamma to radiowaves (abbrev.)
47. 90s ISP
48. Uncooked
49. Irish, Coral, or Yellow
50. Old-school
51. Celebrate
52. The Roman gods

54. Pieces with segues
56. Old garment
58. Remains with
59. Delivery vehicle
62. Quick of mind or body
64. Japanese toy maker
65. Checked the C-14 content
66. Faculty memb.
67. Sword handle
68. Misdeeds
70. Sport fish
71. William, who had his own overture
72. British slang for 75 down
73. Plastic additive of concern
75. Balaam's talking conveyance
76. Airport info.

# WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND OXHILL

## JANUARY

Thurs 13th	14:00-14:30	Mobile Library, outside Village Hall
Wed 19th	18:30	Oxhill Garden Club Talk, Village Hall
Sat 22nd		Burns Night, Village Hall
Every Thursday	11:45ish	Awesome Coffee Van, outside Peacock Pub

## PC MEETINGS

The date of the next PC Meeting is **Tuesday, 11 January 2022 at 7.30pm**. This meeting is planned to be held, socially distanced, 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.

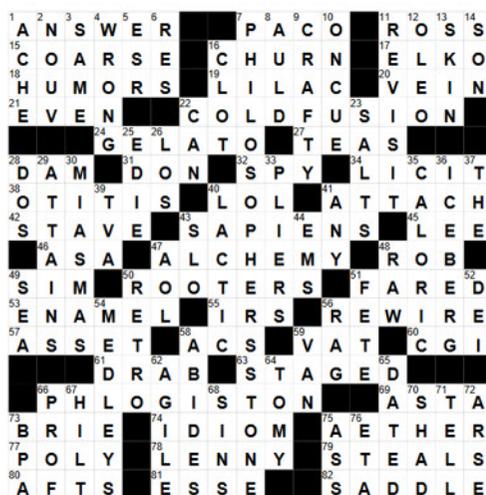
## BIN COLLECTION CALENDAR



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



## CROSSWORD ANSWER



January 2022						
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						