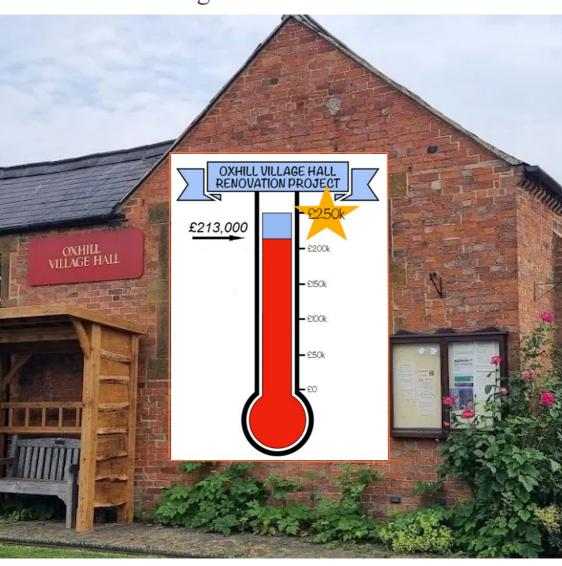
THE OXHILL NEWS August 2022 No. 573



Great fundraising news for the Oxhill Village Hall Renovation Project. See more on page 4.

Vanessa Druce, editor & Grenville Moore, consulting editor Email: oxhill.news.editor@gmail.com Website: oxhillcommunity.co.uk

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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 - 07970 922352 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

We are pleased to announce the new monthly column by villager Steve MacRae, a superb amateur photographer. $\sim ed$.



by Steve MacRae



6th May 2012: a Little Ringed Plover taken at Ruislip Lido, Middlesex.

This is one of the first, good, photos that I took with my new, grown up digital SLR and zoom lens. I was heading back to the car after a long walk with our golden retriever Jasmine when I spotted something at the side of the lake. Binoculars to the ready, poor Jasmine was soon tied to a fence while I stalked this shy, skittish bird up and down the water's edge. Hoping that the many dog walkers, joggers, cyclists and family outings going past would scare it towards me, I laid down in the wet sand, finger poised on the trigger. The endless strange looks were worth it - I got several dozen pictures and Jasmine got petted by pretty much every passerby.

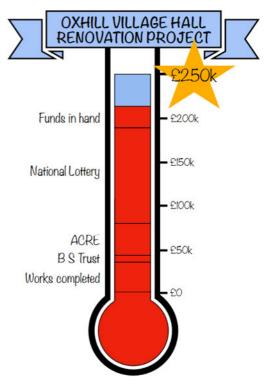
OXHILL VILLAGE HALL

FUNDRAISING MAKES REAL PROGRESS

After the fabulous Jubilee events, it's great to be able to report that our very own asset, the Village Hall, is well on the road to a brighter future which will benefit the whole community.

You'll see from the fundraising thermometer on the front cover that our goal is very much in sight. With the latest pledge from The National Lottery of £98,000 we can now go on to complete the extension and do the structural work necessary to make the hall bigger and better.

However, we do have a wish list and we need more funds to refit the kitchen and add interior upgrades like up-to-date technology, underfloor heating and acoustic panels to ensure the hall is truly ready to meet the needs of twenty-first century Oxhill.



As always, the village hall committee and friends will be working hard to turn wishes into reality. With your support, we are sure to get there

VILLAGE FETE AND DOG SHOW

The next opportunity to get closer to our goal and for you to show your support, is the Village Fete and Dog Show on Saturday 3rd September at Newborough House.

There will be a bouncy castle, face painting, classic cars, lots of games for the children plus the usual stalls, cakes, plants, toys, brick-a-brac, tombola, books and many others. Add to this music by the Shipston Town Band and a chance to win one of dozens of raffle prizes, bid in a silent auction and enjoy home made cake & tea and it promises to be an afternoon not to be missed.

Please join us at **Newborough House on 3rd September at 2pm** (entrance either from Noland's Road or Kineton Road with plenty of space to park). Don't forget to bring your four legged friends to compete in the fun dog show and enjoy a family afternoon out.

Are you able to help with the Fete?

To make contributions to the stalls please contact:

Cake stall - Jo Collings 07860418811 <u>itsjocollings@gmail.com</u> or Kim Fowler 07968554996 <u>kim.fowler@mac.com</u>

Cakes for teas - Sue Philpott 07890112219 suephilpott96@yahoo.co.uk or Rachel Beesley 07833141011 <u>rachel.b@zen.co.uk</u>

Tombola bottles - Derek Harbour 07768775584 dandt@laurelhardy.co.uk

Plants - Jude McDonald 01295680150 judemac07@btinternet.com

Toys & Lucky Dip - Celia Fawcus 07715270692 celiafawcus@gmail.com

Bric-a-Brac - Steve McCrae 07914221151 stevemacrae21@gmail.com

Books - Gill Stewart 07836375161 gill@northside.me.uk

Classic Cars - Peter Rivers Fletcher 01295 680396 rfn364@btinternet.com

If you are able to help on the day please contact Jo.

Donations

If you would like to make a cash donation to help us reach our target please contact us. You can "buy a brick" or make a contribution and have your name recorded on the supporters plaque in the newly renovated hall. This is your chance to be part of the 2022 renovation.

WONDERFUL INSECTS IN OXHILL

by Grenville Moore

We have had several of these extremely noisy, louder than a bee, fearsome looking insects flying round our house recently but fear not they are a Hornet Mimic Hoverfly (Volucella zonaria) and are completely harmless, do not sting, and are an essential pollinator. This is a rare insect in this area but they are common from the Mediterranean upto Northern Europe, quite large at 2cm about the same size as a hornet. Quiet interestingly records show since 2015 that only 734 have visited UK shores and most sightings are usually in the south east and London. They lay their eggs in wasps nests and the hatching larvae eat all the debris and waste from the wasps. They are a beautiful insect and essential to our biodiversity so please don't kill them.





Another quite rare visitor to our garden this summer has been the magnificent Dragonfly Emperor (Anax imperator); this is the largest British dragonfly and belongs to what is known as the hawker family. It has a wingspan of 106mm and the male is bright blue and the female green, a very noticeable insect. They are usually found in the southern counties but with the hotter weather some are moving northwards. They are usually seen flying over large ponds or canals and are a tireless flyer. You may see them hawking round the reed-beds and edges and may settle on a reed or soar to the treetops. The Manor pond is an

excellent place to watch them and I am in high hopes that they will hopefully lay eggs there and breed. A friend recently inquired of me "which is the dragonfly that stings?" I had to reassure them that none of our British dragonflies sting...or bite...unless of course you're a very small insect !

Treasure all our insects, yes even the wasp...they all have a purpose.

PASSIVE REWILDING



Acknowledging the growing interest in eco-diversity, the organisers of Tysoe Show have introduced a new category in their horticultural competition this year. Entitled 'Passive Rewilding' the category is sponsored by local high-rise building specialists Whattle & Dorb - well known for their tall storeys - who show above what can be achieved with little - or indeed no - effort or imagination. Entries are open to all children up to 5 years old with access to a full-size builders' skip, and all submissions must be presented to the show tent by the entrant before midday on the appointed date.

Whattle & Dorb's inspiring piece will be on display in Phil & Heather Brennan's drive for an unlimited period only.

Ivor Bucket CEO Whattle & Dorb









NEWBOROUGH HOUSE VISIT

On the 6th of July a group of mainly Garden Club members enjoyed an afternoon visit to the recently redeveloped estate of Newborough House on the outskirts of the village.

With 54 acres, and more than 20,000 trees, a new 2 acre lake, together with wildlife galore and a redesigned garden, there was much to explore.

Mike and Karen Perry were superb and generous hosts allowing us to roam the estate at will, and providing a wonderful tea for all.

The views from the terrace were spectacular and even the weather turned out well!

Peter Rivers Fletcher



CLASSIC CARS AT THE OXHILL FETE

SATURDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER AT NEWBOROUGH HOUSE 2PM ONWARDS

One of the many attractions at the Oxhill village fete is planned to be a selection of classic and 'interesting' cars. I have been asked to arrange this and would like to hear from any of you who would like to take part.

The venue is Newborough House which is on the outskirts of the village and has a spectacular setting.

I may have already contacted some of you, but there must be others who have friends with such type of cars and it would be good to hear from anyone who can add to the group. Please get in touch if you can help us with this.

Peter Rivers Fletcher 01295 680396 07730 800729 rfn364@btinternet.com



A RECENT ARRIVAL IN THE VILLAGE



Bonnie with mum Esmeralda, born July 12th.

ST LAWRENCE CHURCH

Despite the fact that one of my favourite books of prayers refers to August as autumn, for most of us it is very much summer, perhaps morphing into autumn later on. School is out, and holidays and time away from work is very much the order of the day. As the prayer below says, may your summer be a time of rest and rejoicing, of relaxation and renewal, of rediscovery and the sheer enjoyment of time in each other's company.

Services in August and into September.

Sunday, August 7 th	9.30 am Holy Communion (Heather Parbury)
Sunday, August 14 th	9.30 am Morning Worship (Jenny Rake)
Sunday, August 21 st	9.30 am Holy Communion (George Heighton)
Sunday, August 28 th	6.30 pm Evening Worship (Jill Tucker)
Sunday, September 4 th	9.30 am Holy Communion (George Heighton)

We thank you Creator God, we praise you for the birth of summer. warmth and light, brightness and colour. May we rejoice in your rainbow world.

Redeeming Son, we thank you for sunshine and showers, rest and relaxation, recreation and holidays. May we be refreshed with energy and hope.

Guiding Spirit, we bless you for family and friends, fellowship and company, free to worship and pray. May we be renewed with your love and grace. *Ruth Bowen, Summer, ed Ruth Burgess.*

Jill Tucker <u>revjill.tucker@btinternet.com</u>

PARISH GIVING

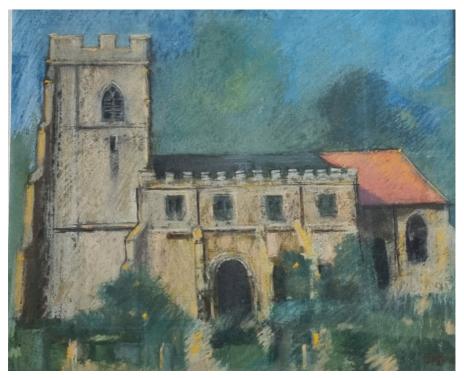
As a follow-up to the article 'A Village Institution' in last month's Oxhill News, please find in the centrefold of this month's issue the Parish Giving form for completion should you wish to donate.



It is lovely to see St Lawrence full of friendly faces 4elp Support Our Village Church and to experience the joyous singing at Christmas and the other Church festivals. Obviously the

Parochial Church Council (PCC) would welcome attendance at the varied services offered each Sunday at other times of the year but realises that there are competing demands on a family's time at weekends. Nevertheless, the upkeep of this village asset is very much in the hands of the whole community. A small monthly donation from supporters of this green, spiritual, landmark space will ensure the continued maintenance of the fabric of the building and churchyard for the benefit of future generations. Thank you.

Douglas Nethercleft PCC Member



Painting of Oxhill Church, south elevation, by Jill Jeffery, courtesy of Marcus Robertson.

YES I wish to give a regular donation for my church	I wish my donation to be used solely for the benefit of: Church / Parish name All Saints	PGS Parish code Houghton Regis	In the Diocese of Diocese of ST ALBANS	I wish to support my parish in the	inflationary increase on my gift.	letter 30 days prior to the gift donation date. I have the right to opt out of this arrangement at any boint in the future by communicating	my wishes by letter, ernail or phone to the Parish Giving Scheme.	I wish to Gift Aid my donation aiftaid it	Gift Ald makes every £1 worth £1.25 J f Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying gifts of money made from the date of my first sift on this declaration and in the future.	I am a UK tax payer and understand that if I pay less income Tax and!	or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p for every £1 that I give.	Signature Trile:
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The Way We Were



ELMVILLE

by Carol Clark

Elmville (on the corner of Beech Road and Main Street) is a relative newcomer to the village. I don't have an exact construction date, but we do know it was built by a Charles Parker, who's in the 1881 census with his family, at "Elm View". He was a cattle dealer.

The Enclosure map of 1797 seem to indicate a large open area just along from the Peacock, with nothing showing on the sites of Elmville or the two Peacock Cottages next door. More recently, a lane ran behind these properties and also behind Merrilees, connecting Beech Road and Gilks Lane. There was a row of five small cottages behind Elmville, facing onto the lane at the junction with Blackford Way.

A newspaper report dated 2 September 1897 describes a fire gutting two of these cottages. The fire started in the end cottage by "some live embers being placed in a lean-to, the thatch of which soon caught fire" then spreading to the next-door cottage. A Mr and Mrs Harper were renting both properties. Mrs Harper was ill in bed, and with Mr Harper away from home, she had to be rescued, not without difficulty, and transferred to a neighbour's house.

The destroyed properties were, apparently, owned by Mrs Charles Parker (of Elmville), but the report doesn't say whether she also owned the rest of the row.

Evelyn Colyer nee Gilks (1909-2010) retained fond memories of her childhood which was mostly spent with her grandparents at Elmville. Evelyn later visited village historian Ann Hale, who fortunately kept detailed notes of their conversations.

Evelyn's grandparents, William & Bertha Gilks moved into Elmville in about 1910. William was the village blacksmith, the father of Albert "Charlie" Gilks who carried on his father's trade right into the 1960's. Their smithy was in Gilks Lane, now replaced by the property aptly named "The Old Forge".

About Elmville, Evelyn recalled:

"When I was small, you came out of the kitchen, and there was a redbrick area, and then there was a small lawn, which was very private because Granny grew trees round, but people in Barn Row (now Beech Road) could see her, and so she had a tremendously high wall built there, so that people couldn't overlook her when she was having her tea in the garden."



A family celebration – the Golden Wedding of William and Bertha Gilks (seated, centre) in 1936. Evelyn Colyer nee Gilks is thought to be third from the left on the back row.



The forge in Gilks Lane, before demolition

Evelyn also said:

"One day in early summer 1915, I was playing alone on Granny Gilks's front lawn, when a motor-cycle driven by a soldier, with an officer in the sidecar, stopped at the gates; the officer alighted and walked up the drive to find my granny, then returned and spoke to the soldier, who hung a large Union Jack from a lower branch of the chestnut tree. They then drove back the way they had come, but returned shortly afterwards followed by a large contingent of 'other ranks' and two more officers. "Small tables were set on the lawn, also chairs for the officers, who produced maps and papers which they studied whilst the soldiers wandered around. Half-an-hour or so later they all left. Granny said that they were "on manoeuvres", which left me none the wiser. I remember how the village children came and peered through the railings, and how important I felt because I was on the inside!"

According to another family member, there was also an army post office in a tent on the lawn, for the distribution of army mail.

Coincidentally, anyone on the Oxhill Facebook group may well have observed the recent enquiry posted by Philip Cooper, about the Gilks family of Elmville. I subsequently corresponded with Philip, who turned out to be a nephew of Evelyn's, and I was able to send him copies of her notes and memories.

QUIET SUNDAY AFTERNOONS

Village residents are respectfully asked, where possible, to avoid the use of loud machinery (Motor Driven Lawn Mowers, Chainsaws, Strimmers, etc) after 13.00 on Sundays to allow all village residents to enjoy a quiet period in the afternoon. We understand that inclement weather and other reasons may well make this unachievable for villagers who work Monday to Friday but every effort to work within these guidelines will be appreciated.

The Parish Council

For many years the good folk of Oxhill have enjoyed their 'quiet Sunday' a self imposed day when we would not mow, strim, hedge cut or generally use any noisy motor driven equipment, unless absolutely necessary. Recently this agreement seems to have been ignored... please can we all make an effort to have at least one peaceful day a week.

Tranquil of Oxhill

ROADSIDE VERGE OBSTRUCTIONS

We have been asked to remind villagers that the first metre in from the road of the Roadside Verge is a 'Service strip' and may need to be accessed by the Council or Facility providers like the Water or Electricity companies.

Also if vehicles need to use these verges to avoid large vehicles, like combines, they have a right to do so and that householders may be liable for the cost of any damage that is caused to either vehicle by obstructions that are placed on the verges.

The Parish Council





PAELLA EVENING AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Over 40 people enjoyed seafood & chicken Paella prepared outside on a beautiful summers evening.













WOT2GROW COMMUNITY ORCHARD

The soft fruit harvest started this year on June 23rd with the first few raspberries!! Since then, there have been picking red, white and black currants, logan and tay berries, gooseberries, blueberries and

cherries. By using bunting in the trees along with "pillow cases" to cover branches we managed to get 2.5kg of cherries before the birds. We also managed to harvest a handful of apricots but unfortunately, they all had brown rot! Hard to control now that Bordeaux mixture is no longer permitted for use!

The pruning of the trees continues with more members leaning how to do this. Summer pruning is for shape so we are getting the trees tidied up and thinning as we go especially the Bramleys and Grenadier which have good crops. A few walnuts but the squirrels will get them before we do!

Find out more - use the contact numbers below or message us via the web site.

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 <u>www.wot2grow.co.uk</u>





Bramleys ready for thinning.

Discovery ripening well.



TENNIS NEWS FOR AUGUST

The Rusty Racquets sessions went really well and was great fun with an average of 6 people per session. Just contact Carol if you are interested for the next session.

There will be FREE junior tennis coaching lessons on Wednesdays in August on 3rd, 10th 17th and 24th.

All equipment provided – you just need tennis shoes or plimsolls.

In the Divisions, the Ladies A hope to stay in Divison 3 as they are lying third at the moment. The Ladies B are unfortunately at the bottom of Division 5 so will probably be relegated to Division 6. The Men are third in Division 5, and there are still quite a few matches to go in the Banbury Town Mixed League although Tysoe are struggling somewhat.

For more details, contact the website or contact Club Secretary Carol Spencer on 07708 412767, <u>carol.spencer234@hotmail.co.uk</u>



Walnuts

FRIDAY is our collection day

Working together to deliver Waste Services tratford.gov.uk | warwickdc.gov.uk





What is the 123+ waste collection service?



A food waste collection, every week using a food caddy (a small kitchen caddy for inside the property) and a larger food waste bin to use outside and put out for collection.



A recycling collection, every two weeks using a wheeled bin for mixed recycling. Stratford District residents will continue to use their existing recycling bins. In Warwick District, a new blue-lidded wheeled bin will be provided to replace the current red box/bag recycling containers.



A refuse collection, every three weeks using the existing grey wheeled bin.



A garden waste collection, every two weeks using the existing green wheeled bin.











The larger food waste bin is **23 litres** and has a lockable lid to deter pets and pests.

The smaller bin (caddy) is 7 litres for householders to use in the kitchen, before transferring the contents into the outdoor bin for collection



Recycling boxes, bags and food caddies can be reused (i.e. as storage in shed/garages) or they can be taken to the Household Waste Recycling Centres (Princes Drive in Learnington Spa, Cherry Orchard in Kenilworth or Burton Farm in Stratford-upon-Avon), for reuse or recycling wherever possible.



Recycling

240 litres, additional bins

will be available to purchase

once the new service is live.

Yes please

All new bins will be **180 litres.** This is for waste ONLY. Please only dispose of items that cannot be recycled.

Residents are advised to place items such as pet waste, nappies and absorbent hygiene products in a tied bag. Store bins out of direct heat to reduce smells. Bins can also be rinsed out with disinfectant after emptying.

Yes please

No thanks

Important

Information

Some street level properties not suitable for wheeled

bins, such as some terraced

houses or flats above shops,

will have a fortnightly waste

collection of two sacks. A small number of properties

Food waste

Garden waste

Soil, turf, building rubble

and any items that can be

recycled or composted

x

x

x

 Items that cannot be recycled
 Polystyrene packaging
 Plastic film
 Nappies
 Pet waste - bag and tie, store bin out of direct sunlight where possible
 Absorbent hygiene products



240 litres, additional bins can be purchased. A valid subscription and permit are required for each bin being presented for collection.

These permits already operate in Stratford District, cost £42 and run from April-March. This will start in Warwick District on 1 August 2022, cost £20 and run until 31 March 2023. Please allow two weeks to receive your permit.

Yes ple	ase
	✔ Grass cuttings
۶	 Shrub/hedge cuttings
	 Plants, flowers, leaves and prunings
A	 Bedding from non-meat eating pets
4	 Twigs, branches and small logs (max 10cm diameter)
No tha	nks

¥ FOOD WASTE

- X Soil or turf
- X Stones or rubble
- X Knotweed or ragwort

in Warwick District will continue to use red boxes for their recycling.

Those living in flats with communal bin stores will have fortnightly waste and recycling collections. They will be able to opt into:

- the chargeable garden waste service, and may wish to consider sharing a bin/permit costs with their neighbours.
- the weekly food waste collection, caddies will be available for collection.

All of these properties will receive bespoke communications tailored to their collection arrangements.

TI TOWNSEND HALL

June in Shipston is a buzz!

Shipston is amazing all year round of course, but June is a buzz! From a hall perspective, we were so happy to welcome the Proms to the hall for a return of some fabulous events after too long - can you believe 2019 was the last time it could be put on?!

We dipped our toes into the water with our own event under the Proms banner this year, with a welcome return of "Jools and the Jazzaholics". It was so good to see this so well attended after too many missed out seeing them last time in Dec-21 due to covid – it was a fab evening!

Anything we make from the jazz events is targeted at a project we've had underway for a while now, to provide a stage lift, to make the stage accessible to all. This is an expensive bit of kit, but we're getting there! We're over half way there now which, thanks to your support, is amazing!

Our jazz programme will re-commence in September after a summer break – if you're not one of our many regulars already in the know, these are a musical treat – you get to see top end musicians at a very reasonable price – typically only a tenner a ticket! Don't consider yourself a jazz fan? Give it a go! If they don't get your feet tapping and singing along, we'd be very surprised!

So, our September booking is with "Sarah Spencer and her Transatlantic Band" on Friday 30th September. More details next month, but get the date in your diary and tickets are available from <u>www.ticketsource.com/townsend-hall</u> online (you can bag your own table and seat) or general availability from Clarke's in town nearer the time.

For those not in the know, the hall is not a council building (although the council is very good to us and we're very grateful for the grants we receive). It's a charity, managed by a few volunteer trustees. The hall is held in trust for our community, funded through donations, bookings, and the (hoped for!) profit from the events we put on ourselves.

So much going on, not just live music – plenty of other events, e.g. sports and clubs. Visit us at <u>www.townsendhall.co.uk</u> to find out more.



Can you spot 15 things that are wrong with this picture? Answers on back page.



WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND OXHILL

AUGUST

Thurs 11th	14:00-14:30	Mobile Library, outside Village Hall
Every Thursday	11:45ish	Awesome Coffee Van, outside Peacock Pub

SEPTEMBER

Sat 3rd

14:00

Village Fete, Newborough House

PC MEETINGS

The date of the next PC Meeting is **Tuesday**, **6 September**, **2022 at 7.30pm**. 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 one of the village Notice Boards, a few days before the meeting.

If you want any request to be included for consideration at the above meeting please send details to the Clerk (oxhillpc@btinternet.com) at least 10 days prior to the meeting to ensure that it is included on the publicly visible Agenda.

What's Wrong?

- 1. Numbers on clock are reversed
- 2. 31 days in June
- 3. Night at window, daylight at door
- 4. Curtains on the outside of window
- 5. Carrot tree
- 6. Broom in fridge
- 7. Door handle on inside of cupboard door
- 8. Books under sink
- 9. Odd shoes on man
- 10. Castor missing off armchair
- 11. No handle on far cupboard
- 12. Key in fridge door
- 13. Man's one trouser leg is turned up
- 14. She has odd sleeves
- 15. Floor polisher used on rug

FRIDAY is our collection day

