

THE OXHILL NEWS

July 2022 No. 572



Belle, an alpaca baby, daughter of Hoff and Echo, was born June 25th

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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**



WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT

Our daughter Charlotte married Dr Branagh Crealock-Ashurst on Saturday 28th May at Our Lady and St Michael's Church in Shipston, followed by a reception at Cider Mill Barns in Long Marston. It was a truly wonderful day! We were waved off on our way to church by many friends in the village which was a very special start to the day.

*Geof and Rachel Beesley
Orchard Close*





Oxhill Celebrated on June 2nd, 3rd and 4th, 2022!

by Ruth Mercer

Wow, what a party we had in Oxhill to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, actually more like three parties! It was absolutely fantastic to see so many of Oxhill's residents joining in with the celebrations, whether they had lived in the village for most of the Queen's reign or moved in a fortnight beforehand.

A small team of people started planning the event in August last year but, with great foresight, Mike Collins had provisionally booked a marquee back in the first lockdown in 2020. During the early planning meetings, we realised we needed to know if the village wanted to celebrate the Jubilee, so we sent out a questionnaire. Thank you to all the questionnaire collectors who later became ticket money collectors. Fortunately, the response was positive, although numbers were low but the Parish Council offered support once we submitted a budget and outline plan. Thank you, Parish Council!

Janet and Nick Gardner very kindly agreed to the marquee being placed on their field and Colin and Jill Tucker let us use the Old Chapel and its services at no charge. Without these facilities there would have been no event, so a massive thank you is sent to Jill, Colin, Janet and Nick.

When the team first discussed having a beacon, Kirby Farm was the natural position for it, within easy walking distance of Oxhill and high enough to be visible from other beacons. Not only did Thomas Fox agree to the plan but he arranged the beacon building and necessary safety measures. Thank you for all your help and support, Thomas! We were also treated to



a last-minute piper and the choir singing the Song of the Commonwealth. Thank you to William Morris for piping and Jill Tucker for organising the choir.

Feeding 300 people requires a huge quantity of food which needs to be kept chilled so we hired a refrigerated trailer. Hugh Rowse happily and kindly accommodated the trailer and also powered it at his own expense. Thank you, Hugh! We needed someone to take on the organisation of the Big Lunch, a huge undertaking as we wanted 300 people to sit down and eat at the same time. Luckily, Joanna Griffiths was persuaded to take on the task. The number of people who prepared food for the Big Lunch totalled 34; thank you to each and every one of you for helping to prepare an excellent lunch. We couldn't have done it without you and it wouldn't have happened without Joanna's excellent management. Thank you, Joanna! We will all miss the cheese-tasting meetings.

We also needed a Decorating Team, which Lynsey Cleaver took on willingly, until she heard the budget we thought we could give her. However, necessity is the mother of invention, and Lynsey and her team created an amazing spectacle of beauty out of things begged and borrowed and some gold paint. Special thanks go to Lynsey and Lisa as main masterminds for all the decorations, and thank you to all their hardworking minions.



*Joe Costa giving a sheep shearing demonstration at the Jubilee.
See more sheep shearing on page 11.*

Before we all entered the marquee for the Big Lunch, everyone gathered for the official Oxhill Celebrates photo. Thanks go to Simon Sinclair for taking the photo with his drone.

Part of our original plan was to hold the Second Oxhill Hobby Horse Grand National and Showjumping. Ed Bracher had organised it 10 years ago and agreed to run the races again. Now it must become an official Oxhill event! Thank you to Ed for taking on the organisation again, and to Sarah for helping him. Don't delete your spreadsheets this time, Ed!

Water Volleyball has been played in Oxhill since 1995 and featured again with this celebration. Thank you to Andy Buchanan for organising it yet again. Ali Sayer organised some excellent games for children of all ages and Lis Stuart ran some lovely crafts for children in the marquee. Jane Ellis face-painted children with great skill too. Thank you, Ali, Lis and Jane!

While all these games and hobby horse antics were going on, afternoon tea was served in the Old Chapel. Thank you to the 40+ bakers who provided some delicious cakes, scones and biscuits and to all the tea makers, cake servers, clearer-uppers and strawberry hullers. Many hands definitely make light work of providing tea for 350 people.

Just before eating our Happy Herefords burgers / hotdogs, Shaun Groves and Joe Costa brought along a trailer of sheep so that they could stage a demonstration of sheep shearing. The assembled crowd enjoyed watching Joe shear the sheep. Thank you to Shaun and Joe for bringing the sheep and their expertise.

Iain Macpherson ran an enjoyable children's disco before dinner. After dinner, he set a very entertaining quiz, and then hosted an evening of "Has Oxhill got Talent". When we first spoke to Iain about organising locally grown entertainment, he had grave doubts, but I think he was persuaded in the end that Oxhill definitely had got Talent, he just hadn't seen it! A massive thank you goes to Iain for accepting the challenge despite his better judgement. Mind you, I don't think he'll be casting any Oxhill talent in his pantomime any time soon.

During the celebration period, many people helped move furniture and food. We also had a rota of Road Closure Marshals, lead by Chief Road Closure Marshal Reuben Connolly; thank you to all of you. The most amazing thing was how many people turned up to help with the clear-up. Four people had signed up to help but over 50 arrived and most of the clearing had been done by the time it was supposed to start! Thank you, and an even bigger thank you to the bacon butty brigade!

In addition to all that went on in the marquee and field, Carol Clark curated a very interesting exhibition in the Church entitled "Oxhill: Then and Now". The Church was beautifully decorated with floral displays thanks to the hard work of Jude MacDonald, Fiona Franklin, Rachel Beesley and team. Grenville Moore arranged an Art Competition in the Old Chapel with the title of "A Right Royal Corgi". Thank you to Carol, Grenville and all the flower ladies.

Ian Broderick provided and installed all the electrics to the marquee, with assistance from Mike Collins. This was a massive undertaking without which we would have been sitting in the dark. He also installed two PA systems (thank you to Iain Macpherson and Barney Porter for lending them to us). Due to family circumstances, Ian and Sally were unable to join in with the celebrations but Ian was still there, every morning and evening, making sure everything was safe and secure. A huge thank you goes to Ian for all his hard work and commitment.

We were very fortunate to be supported by an excellent team of First Aiders, Clare Essex, Celia Fawcus and Maria Robertson. Thank you to all three for being on call throughout the event and thank you to Mick Shepard for advising and procuring the necessary equipment.

As I think back to the celebrations, I think of the huge number of people who helped and supported in some way and the trust that the residents of Oxhill put in us to organise an event that they would enjoy. A fair number paid a deposit back in November and the majority bought their tickets in March, giving us the financial support that we needed to continue. Thank you to the village for believing that we could do it and thank you for all the lovely messages I have received since the event.

Finally, I want to thank the core team of Geof and Rachel Beesley, Gaynor Fila, Grenville Moore, Patrick and Verity O'Donnell, with support from Lis Stuart, for being persuaded that such an event was a good idea and putting up with me. Thank you also to Mike Collins for all his support and experience and telling me to organise it in the first place!

I'm sure that there must be someone I've forgotten to thank. If that is you, please accept my sincere apologies and of course my grateful thanks.

A BIG THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to all you cake bakers who supplied the Jubilee Afternoon Tea!

You are a fabulous band who supply delicious cakes for everyone to enjoy!

Your efforts are very much appreciated.

What a fantastic weekend we had!
Oxhill at its best!

Thank you again. We couldn't do these events without you!

From Gaynor and all involved in the organising the Jubilee! In fact from all the village!!



The Way We Were

Carol Clark created a beautiful display for the Queen's Jubilee of village photos comparing areas of the village from yesteryear to today. Among the photos was one of the Pram Race from the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977. Here are a few more photos of the Pram Race, collected and published by Ann Hale and now shared by Carol Clark.

Jubilee Celebrations 1977

In 1977 the Queen's Silver Jubilee brought a day of village family entertainment. The programme included a pram race, sports, Morris Dancing, children's tea, cricket and a pig roast, and thus involved a few quick costume changes for the participants as they switched from racing Mothers and Babies to cricketers to Morris Men.



Pram Race.

The race started at the Peacock, went along Main Street and Back Lane, and finished at the Village Hall.



The victors were David Hill (baby) and David Leeson (mother) (below). The chequered flag was waved by the Rector, Douglas Jephson (above).



OXHILL VILLAGE HALL

We've had some very good news from the National Lottery Community Fund but more of that in next month's Oxhill News.....

Join us this month for a **Paella evening** on **Friday 8th July at 7 pm**. We hope to be outside weather permitting but either way you are sure of good food and Sangria in addition to our normal bar selection. Book your tickets by 3rd July please with Ali on 07970922352 or ali.sayer@btinternet.com

Don't forget the **Village Fete** at Newborough House on **3rd September at 2pm**.

Bouncy castle, face painting & games for the children, cake stall, plants, bottle stall, books, Bric a Brac, ice cream, Classic cars and of course delicious cream teas.

Paella Evening



FRIDAY 8TH JULY
7 PM
VILLAGE HALL

Party in the Park

Sunday 17th July - 1-5pm
Alscot Park CV37 8BL



For more details and to buy tickets, visit:
www.shipstohomenursing.co.uk/events

Fosseway Garden Centre cream teas * face painting * dog show * classic cars * Barney Porter music * Calypso Kids * Monsoon Estate coffee * Cheeky Chimps * open gardens * car boot sale * Shipston Beekeepers Honey * ice cream * cocktail bar * bottle stall * lucky dip * Good with Custard * Granary Oils * Twisted Kitchen wood-fired pizza... and plenty more





A SHEEP SHEARING STORY

Villager Joe Costa gave a wonderful sheep shearing demonstration at the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration.

Joe told me a story of a recent sheep shearing demonstration. A woman facing a terminal illness had come to learn how to shear a sheep. She said it was on her bucket list. Joe showed her how and she tried it herself. Joe said she was 'chuffed to bits' and that 'it made her day.'

Joe also told me that Tim Groves taught his two sons and Joe the traditional sheep shearing method which helps to keep the tradition alive.

Here are photos of a sheep shearing demonstration attended by Lisa, with photos taken by her husband Reuben.



CUBS VISIT OXHILL CHURCH

They were a very enthusiastic bunch. Lots of questions and interested in the structure of the church, Myrtillas grave and the grisly death of Saint Lawrence.

Carol Fox



ST LAWRENCE CHURCH NEWS

Summer is finally with us (at least it is as I write this!). Writing in the Celtic Tradition, of very simple, rhythmic prayers that would be recited throughout the day, the poet Joyce Denham captures it thus:

Summer

Now Sun's arms
Stretch long, unfold;
More of God-light to behold

Short the night,
Twice long the day;
Father, Son and Spirit, stay.

Languid hours,
Sweet, peaceful rest;
All of nature is God's guest.

Warm as earth,
Souls take God's ease;
Fall in worship on our knees.
Joyce Denham, Circle of Prayer.



Forthcoming Services in July in St Lawrence Church unless otherwise stated.

Sunday, 3 rd July	9.30 am	Holy Communion (GH)
Sunday, 10 th July	9.30 am	Morning Worship (JR)
Sunday, 17 th July	9.30 am	Holy Communion (GH)
Sunday, 24 th July	6.30 pm	Evening Service (JT)
Sunday, 31 st July	11.00 am	United Service in Tysoe, St Mary's (For which we are hopefully assembling the Benefice Choir)

The Zoomed Morning Prayer which usually happens on a Wednesday morning will be suspended during July and August, and resume in September.

Have a lovely, languid, summer, enjoying God's treasure store!

Blessings, Jill

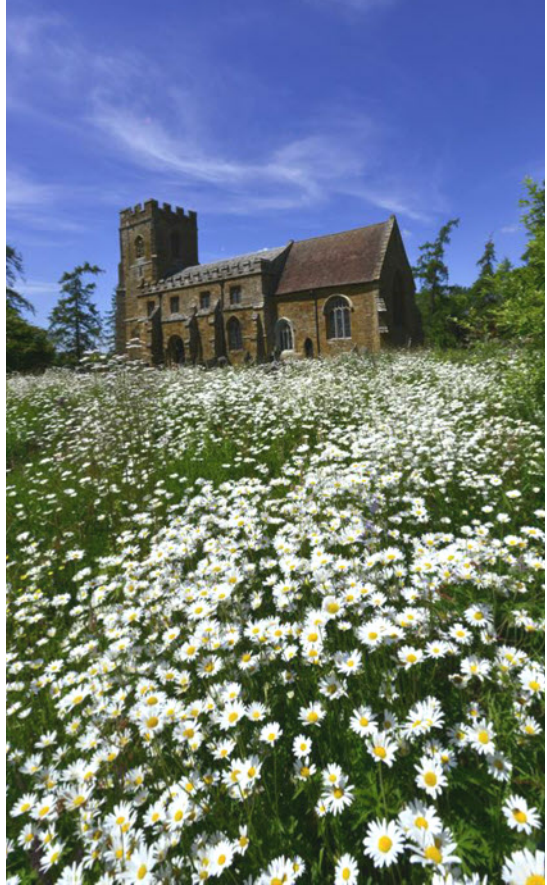
A Village Institution

At the 2022 Annual Parish Meeting, the St Lawrence Electoral Roll was declared as comprising some fifty persons – not a large number considering the general regard in which the Church is held by those residing in the village.

As an architectural feature and landmark the church is an integral part of Oxhill – indeed the activities that take place there, be they the weekly services or less frequent christenings, weddings, and funerals, are part of village life. Occasional secular / fund raising events such as the Platinum Jubilee, Made in Oxhill (Saturday 23rd / Sunday 24th November this year), scarecrow weekends and lamb and curry lunches bring villagers together to enjoy one another's company. Oxhill is particularly known for its bakers of cakes and cooks who rise to every occasion and help give Oxhill its unique character.

If you've not been inside St Lawrence's recently, drop in and enjoy a few moments' tranquillity in this special place. Admire the beautiful flower arrangements therein and delight in the wildflowers to the rear of the church. So many more people play a part in keeping the church and the grounds in good order – from maintaining the flowerbeds by the porch, polishing the brass, to winding the clock. The Parochial Church Council feels itself so lucky to have the involvement of so many people who are not necessarily regular church goers but who are willing to give of their time to support its activities.

There are plans afoot and, indeed, already drawn up to make St Lawrence even more of a community hub by developing the rear of the church as an activity space with kitchen and loo. Any offers of help to be clerk of works or otherwise oversee this project would be most welcome. The fabric of the church is in relatively good order by virtue of planned maintenance over the years, but, as with every other aspect of life at present, this comes at a cost. This article is written to promote the concept of *Parish Giving* whereby villagers who perhaps cannot spare time but by means of a regular monthly monetary donation can



support in a material sense the ongoing life of the building's fabric and its place in the community.



Please would you help? No amount is too small! The easiest and quickest way, if you have Internet, is to set up the direct debit online: just go to www.parishgiving.org.uk and follow the menu item 'Give Now'. The instructions are easy to follow.

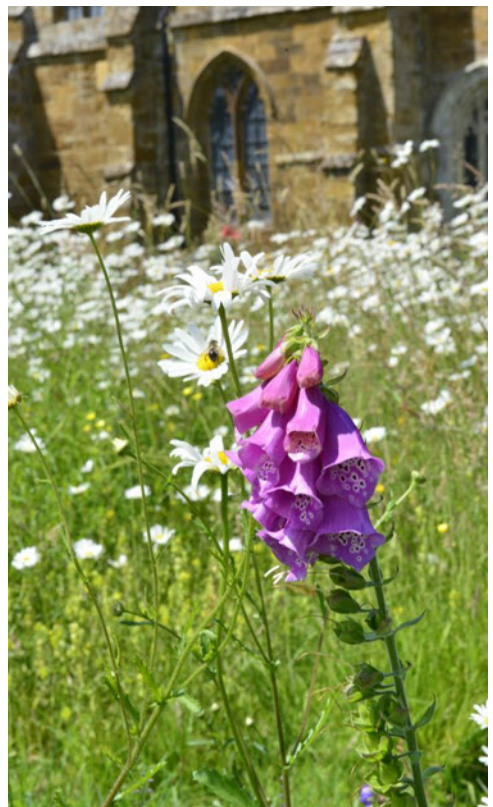
Help Support Our Village Church

Or, telephone 0333 002 1271 to speak to the PGS team and sign up verbally.

Also there are forms at the back of the church for completion or, otherwise, contact the Treasurer James Synge (jamesynge@icloud.com) who would be happy to assist you to enrol on the scheme.

Please give it some thought – a few pounds a month would make a real difference to the future of this village institution.

Douglas Nethercleft
PCC Member



St Lawrence church & wildflowers photographed by Steve MacRae.

NEWS FROM TYSOE CHILDRENS GROUP

The children and staff at Tysoe Children's Group got into the party spirit to celebrate the Jubilee. The children made lots of crafts, there were flags and bunting, corgis and guards, crowns and cakes. We finished the week with a tea party and presented each of the children with a commemorative medal, it was wonderful to see the children dressed in red, white and blue, wearing their crowns and medals with pride.

We've enjoyed being back at Forest School. The children have been finding trees to climb and looking for flowers. We've used magnifying glasses and bug pots to take an up closer look at insects, and we took art outside and made bunting by hitting different leaves and flowers with rocks to make patterns on flags. The children always really enjoy the campfire and eagerly collect sticks.

We are also very pleased to say that we have received another 5-star food hygiene rating after our inspection from Stratford District Council this month.

We have kicked off our summer fundraising by taking part in the Jumble Trail and Windmill Run where we raised just over £360 from the sale of jumble, cakes and refreshments, a big thank you for all your purchases and generous donations.



We have our next bag2school collection on Monday 11th July, any bags can be dropped off at the Old Fire Station over the next couple of weeks.

Finally, very excitingly our application to the Tesco's Grant Scheme has been successful and our outdoor learning project will be put to a customer vote in three

Banbury Tesco stores from the beginning of July to the end of September. The large Tesco's, Middleton Road and High Street. So, if you are instore please remember to get your tokens and vote for us, our children will greatly benefit day to day from an improved outdoor learning and play experience.

Shipston Rotary presents



COTSWOLD TOUR d'ILMINGTON

A GREAT DAY OF CYCLING FOR THE FAMILY AND ENTHUSIASTS

SUNDAY 3rd JULY 2022

START & FINISH AT
NEWBOLD ON STOUR VILLAGE HALL CV37 8TU

STEVE EDWARDS MEMORIAL
10 MILE FAMILY RIDE STARTS 10AM

DAVID LOCKWOOD MEMORIAL
30 MILE HILLY RIDE STARTS 10AM

100KM CLASSIC RIDE STARTS 8.30AM

REGISTRATION Card payments only on the day
On-Line www.shipstonrotary.co.uk/tour
Adults £18 Juniors (12 - 16 years) £6.00
On the day £22 Juniors (12 - 16 years) £8.00

Enquiries: tour@shipstonrotary.co.uk

Supporting Good Causes

Refreshments

Free Parking



Working with Shipston Home Nursing



OXHILL COOKS

by Ruth Mercer

Oxhill Cooks has been rather absent for the last couple of months due to time constraints caused by all the Jubilee planning, cooking and baking. As we are currently on holiday recovering from the Jubilee Celebrations, this month I bring you a recipe that we sampled at the weekend while visiting France for three of my nephews' confirmations – a very long church service but my French sister-in-law provided excellent food afterwards, including this cake. It is a delicious moist cake and very easy to make, she tells me. She served it without icing but I'm sure you could add some if you prefer. She uses a tin of chestnut purée that you can buy in most supermarkets.



GATEAU À LA CRÈME DE MARRON (CHESTNUT CAKE)

Ingredients

5 eggs
160 g caster sugar
200 g softened butter
200 g plain flour
2 tsp baking powder
500 g chestnut purée
10 ml rum

1. Preheat the oven to 170 C and grease and base line a deep 8” round tin, or a 10-12” ring tin.

2. Separate the eggs and whisk the whites until stiff (as meringue, test by carefully turning the bowl upside down. They are stiff enough if they don't fall).
3. In a separate bowl, cream the egg yolks, sugar and softened butter until the mixture is soft and light. Using a mixer is best.
4. Add the flour, baking powder, chestnut purée and rum and mix well.
5. Finally, gently fold the egg whites into the mixture using a metal spoon until all incorporated.
6. Put the mixture into the prepared tin and bake for 20 minutes or until cooked. (Test to make sure that the mixture springs back when pressed lightly or a cocktail stick inserted into the middle of the cake comes out clean).



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

Freya O'Donnell



WOT2GROW COMMUNITY ORCHARD

They trees are all looking good but with a much reduced crop, the birds have not had all the cherries and some are now ripening. A positive to the reduced crop of apples is that there is no need to supplement the natural June Drop. There will be pears, plums, greengages and damsons too so hope we have good ripening weather from now on.

The fruit cage is up protecting the red and white currants which get stripped very rapidly if the blackbirds have their way! The rest of the soft fruit is coming on well but like the trees with reduced crops compared to last year.

Last year we did have a pyramid orchid bloom in early July but to date it has not put in an appearance but there are large areas of grass with wild flowers.

There is always lots to do so if you would like to help then do get in touch – 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.

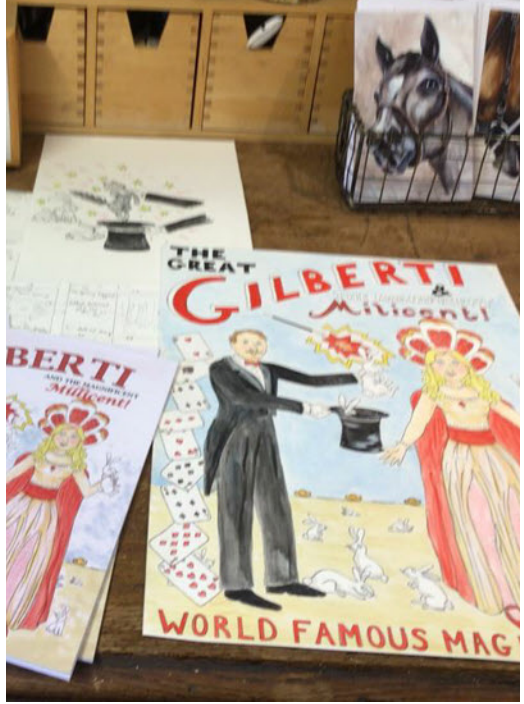
Liz Atkinson (680045), Paul Sayer (680451), Sue and Mike Sanderson (688080)
website www.wot2grow.co.uk



Jefferson Greengage

WARWICKSHIRE OPEN STUDIOS ART EXHIBITION

Local artists Lynsey Cleaver and Grenville Moore along with Jill Jefferies exhibited their artwork in the village in June 2022.





Live Music in Oxhill

Saturday Evening 2nd July
7.30 - 9.30pm at Oxhill Village Hall

"Blue of a Kind"

The Jazz59 Quintet will play
music from Miles Davis Album
"Kind of Blue" together with
other popular Jazz Standards

**All Proceeds to help Tysoe Dementia
Cafe & "Dementia Carers Count" Charity**

Contact Paul Dowler on 01295 688376
for tickets - £12 Pre-booked only

WASTE COLLECTION

The Stratford upon Avon waste collection schedule is changing as of August 1st. You may have noticed a food waste bin delivered to your property. Below is information concerning the changes.



GARDEN WASTE UPDATE

We have sold over 39,000 permits (as at 13/04/2022) and are on target to reach last year's level of 49,000 permits sold which would raise around £2m and is used to subsidise and offset the increased waste collection costs that we are facing now and, in the future, plus improve existing waste services. **From the 1st August food waste must not be put in the green bin, please use the food caddies.** This will allow the garden waste to be treated at lower temperatures, saving energy.

MRF (MATERIAL RECYCLING FACILITY)

The new material recycling centre, currently under construction just outside Coventry City Centre) will be fully operational by October of next year, three months later than planned due to delays in supplies of cement and other materials. It will be the most advanced facility in Europe, if not the world, and is a joint venture between eight local authorities (the five Warwickshire district councils, Coventry, Solihull, and Walsall. It will be able to process, amongst other things, the plastic film that no one else can deal with plus all the usual waste you put in your blue bin such as card, paper, glass etc. We already have companies wanting to take the recycle when the facility opens as they recognise that the materials will be cleaner and can therefore be used without additional sorting and cleaning costs associated with other facilities. All "takers" of the recycle will be UK based companies. Finally, the roof of the MRF is covered in photo voltaic cells and will be able to put electricity back into the grid at times whilst all the forklifts and vehicles that run around the site will be electric.

WASTE CONTRACT GENERALLY (THE 123+ SYSTEM)

The 123+ waste collection service is due to commence on 1 August 2022. You may wonder why we are changing the waste collection service and what 123+ stands for.

- 1 – Weekly collection of food waste
- 2 – Blue bin (recycled waste) every two weeks
- 3 – Grey Bin (residual waste) every three weeks
- + - A garden waste (green bin) subscription service

All green bin and food waste will be sent to a bio digester plant Northwick Power,

WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND OXHILL

JULY

Sat 2nd	19:30-21:30	'Blue of a Kind' Jazz, Village Hall
Sun 3rd		Cotswold Tour d'Illmington Cycle Ride
Fri 8th	19:00	Paella Evening, Village Hall
Sun 17th	13:00-17:00	Party in the Park, Alscot Park, Shipston-on-Stour
Thurs 21st	14:00-14:30	Mobile Library, outside Village Hall
Every Thursday	11:45ish	Awesome Coffee Van, outside Peacock Pub

PC MEETINGS

The date of the next PC Meeting is **Tuesday, 12 July, 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 the Notice Board by the Peacock 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.

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.

Please email: oxhill.news.editor@gmail.com

BIN COLLECTION CALENDAR



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



July						
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