

THE OXHILL NEWS

July 2024 No. 596



Beacon lit for the 80th Anniversary of D-Day

Vanessa Druce, editor & Grenville Moore, consulting editor

Email: oxhill.news.editor@gmail.com Website: oxhillcommunity.co.uk

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ARTICLE	PAGE
Una Hill	3
D-Day 80 Beacon Supper & Beacon Lighting	5
100 Yr Old Auction Slips for Houses in Oxhill	8
Hollywood Comes to Oxhill	10
Defibrillator Training	12
Oxhill Garden Club : Falcutt House Visit	14
Oxhill Village Hall	16
Townsend Hall Annual General Meeting	18
Oxhill Garage Sale	19
Oxhill Cooks : Lumberjack Cake	20
St Lawrence Church for July	22
Music at the Manor	24
Wot2Grow Community Orchard	27

CLUB & GROUP CONTACT DETAILS

St Lawrence Church,	Priest-in Charge Rev. George Heighton, 01295 680201 Associate Minister Rev. Heather Parbury, 01608 685575
Carers4carers:	kcarers4carers@gmail.com or tel: 07947 893504
Oxhill Village Hall:	Derek Harbour - Chair Ali Sayer - Hall Hire - 07970 922352 email: oxhillvh@gmail.com
The Peacock Pub	01295 675019
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
talkdementia.uk Carer Support Service	Paul & Heather Dowler Tysoe 688376 email: talkdementia@mail.com Website: talkdementia.uk Tysoe Village Hall every Friday from 10am

**If you would like to list your club or group in the Oxhill News
please send details to oxhill.news.editor@gmail.com**

UNA HILL

Many of you will have heard by now that long-term Oxhill resident Una Hill died recently. Una was our great friend and next-door neighbour for 40 years. She moved to Meadow Cottage in Gilks Lane – which her father Jack Bishop previously owned - with her husband David 50 years ago, and died there peacefully with her daughter Laura and son-in-law Francois by her bedside. Meadow Cottage bears a sundial inscribed with ‘This is the house that Jack built, David cared for and we loved’.

Prior to marrying, she had been an art teacher and book illustrator, and most notably designed the cover for Lynne Reid Banks’s seminal novel ‘The L-shaped Room’. Her skills and energy were put to good use in Oxhill, as she produced village postcards, made curtains for the village hall and as a long-standing Village Hall Committee member brought fun and flair to village events. In those days, dressing-up was *de rigueur*!

Una was renowned for her hospitality – we were frequent beneficiaries of it – and had a wide circle of friends who she would entertain with great generosity and frequency! On summer days she and David - often with Laura, Francois and her grandson Guillaume - would set up a fulsome lunch under the trees in their garden, and as soon as we heard the popping of a cork we would make our presence felt, knowing it would result in an invitation to join them.....In later years we had a habit of holding Sunday evening ‘salons’ where discussions ranged far and wide, majoring on literature and poetry. Una was well able to hold her own with her polymath husband, and we’ll miss her intellect and sharp sense of humour.

Gardening was another of Una’s passions, and combining it with her artistic eye resulted in a classical English cottage setting. With a nod to her maiden name Bishop, she majored on purple plants to reference the colour of bishops’ robes. She was highly delighted to be complimented by ‘Gardeners’ Question Time’ panellist Matthew Wilson, on the occasion of Laura’s and Francois’ wedding reception.

Away from the village she loved travelling and acted as David’s navigator on their many trips to France. They made frequent visits to the US where they had several friends, and latterly an extended family when Laura married Francois.



All who knew her will agree that she was unfailingly kind to both people and animals, and many waifs and strays of the four-legged kind were given succour at Meadow Cottage!

She was a gentle and warm-hearted person, we were lucky to have had her as a neighbour...

At her request there will be no funeral.

Peter & Carol Taylor



St Lawrence Church, Chesham

CHURCH FUNDRAISING TEAM

D-DAY 80 BEACON SUPPER AND BEACON LIGHTING

Oxhill joined in with the National commemorations of the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings with a delicious two course supper at the Old Chapel, decorated appropriately, followed by a walk up to Kirby Farm for the lighting of the Beacon and the reading of the official tribute. The whole event was well supported by villagers, with more joining for the Beacon lighting. The meal was planned to include both French and English food, prepared and served by the excellent cooks of the Church Fundraising Committee. Before we set off to walk to the Beacon, Julia Stirman spoke about how her father took part in the D-Day landings but it affected him such that he said little about it for the rest of his life. As he had farmed at Kirby Farm, the beacon location was an appropriate place to remember his efforts and all those involved in the D-Day landings.



We couldn't have lit a beacon without the permission and beacon-building expertise of Thomas and Bertie Fox and John Rouse - thank you all for your sterling efforts. Thank you also for gathering water and fire marshalls. Please don't forget that you said we can do it again for VE Day 80 next year! Thank you to Patrick and Verity O'Donnell for arranging the beacon and risk assessment. Thank you also to Mick and Barbara Shepard for their presence in case of First Aid needs. Thank you to Julia Stirman for sharing memories of her father and thank you to Iain Macpherson for reading the official tribute with such feeling. The words brought home the sacrifice of all those who were part of D-Day.



The event wouldn't have happened without the Chapel decorating, cooking, serving, clearing away and general hard work of Carol Fox, Carol

Beasley, Lis Stuart, Jon Mercer, Jerry and Gaida Webb, Linda and James Syngé. Thank you also to Alice Mercer for the great poster design. Thank you all for your ongoing support!

Ruth Mercer
07400 615999 or email ruthc.mercer@btinternet.com

Autumn Quiz: Saturday 19th October

Made in Oxhill: Friday 29th and Saturday 30th November





100 YR OLD AUCTION SLIPS FOR HOUSES IN OXHILL

Robert Harper has kindly shared with us two auction slips for houses in Oxhill in 1921 & 1934. Robert's grandfather was the auctioneer of these houses and Robert has many historical auction documents from his grandfather. Though the houses are not named on the auction slips, the house below is The Bakehouse. However does anyone know which house is described on the opposite page? Please send us your thoughts to oxhill.news.editor@gmail.com

TO BAKERS AND OTHERS.

OXHILL,

3 miles from Kineton.

FREEHOLD PROPERTY.

BOSLEY & HARPER

(Late FRANK PARSONS & Co.)

have received instructions from Mr. W. G. SUMMER-
TON, who is giving up the Baker's Business,
to SELL BY AUCTION, on the Premises,

On Monday, April 4th, 1921,

at 3 o'clock precisely, and subject to Conditions
of Sale to be then produced:—

ALL THAT BRICK-AND-STONE BUILT AND THATCHED

Dwelling House

with COTTAGE adjoining, Large GARDEN at rear,
also capital timber-built and galvanised TRAP SHED
and Coal Hovel, brick-built and slated 2-stall Stable
with Loft over, 2 Pigsties, and Outbuildings, in the
occupation of Mr. W. G. Summertton.

The House contains:—Capital BAKEHOUSE with
Oven, Sitting Room, Pantry, Wash-house with Boiler,
and 4 Bedrooms.

A Successful Bakery Business has been carried on
for the past 60 years, and the GOOD WILL of the
Business, also 2 Elm Dough Kivers in Bakehouse, will
be included in the purchase.

POSSESSION may be had on Completion.

*Further particulars may be obtained of the
Auctioneers, Shipston-on-Stour; or of the
Vendor's Solicitor,*

F. B. HANCOCK, Esq., Shipston-on-Stour.

C. G. Coleman, Printer, Shipston-on-Stour.—2353

OXHILL.

Warwickshire.

3 miles from Kineton and 10 from
Stratford-on-Avon.

BOSLEY & HARPER

have received instructions from the Executors of
Mr. JOHN TAYLOR, deceased, to SELL BY AUCTION,
on the premises,

ON MONDAY, MARCH 19th, 1934,

at **FOUR** o'clock precisely (immediately after the Sale
of Furniture, etc.), and subject to Conditions of Sale to
be then produced,

The Excellent Detached Brick-built and Slated

Dwelling House

containing :—

Entrance Hall, with cupboard.

Kitchen, with cupboards.

Pump Room, with soft water pump and well.

Back Kitchen, with bread oven and furnace,
and loft over.

Pantry, with double corner cupboard, meat
safe, dresser and shelves.

Dining Room and

Sitting Room, each 14ft. 2in. x 13ft. 10in. into
recess.

Staircase and Landing leading to

Five Bedrooms and Dressing Room.

Underground Cellar

Together with the brick-built Wood and Coal Houses
and E.C., brick and timber-built Trap or Motor House with
slated roof, stone-built and thatched two-stall Stable with
loft over, Yard with motor entrance, Court Yard leading to
road, large productive walled-in

GARDEN and ORCHARD,

the whole comprising an area of **1r. 33p.** (more or less), and
in the occupation of Mr. Willoughby Gardner at a rental of
£20 per annum, payable half-yearly, Tenant paying rates.

Land Tax, as assessed.

TO VIEW apply to Mr. WILLOUGHBY GARDNER, Oxhill.

Further particulars, and Catalogues of Furniture Sale, may
be obtained at the place of Sale ; the Auctioneers,
Shipston-on-Stour ; or the Vendors' Solicitors,

Messrs. FAIRFAX, BARFIELD & Co.,
BANBURY.



HOLLYWOOD COMES TO OXHILL

by Derek Harbour

On Saturday 1st June, people walking in Alastair's field, past our house must have wondered what on earth was going on as shouts of 'Action', 'That's a wrap' and Silence, please' were heard coming from our garden. If they looked across, they would have seen Morna in a pretty summer's dress, shivering in the cold wind, whilst talking about Hanging Baskets to a young man holding a camera with lights to make up for the grey day.

What were they doing? They were making a film about (Dr.) Hugh Rowse's invention that is a device for automatically watering Hanging Baskets without any electronics or timers. It is such a good idea that we have applied for a Patent and formed a company, called Autohydrate Ltd, on the strength of it. I say we and mean, Hugh, of course, plus Mike Sanderson from Tysoe and myself. Hugh has a few Patents in his name from his days with HRI (Horticultural Research Institute) in Wellesbourne, now part of Warwick University and Mike has been involved with a few successful start-ups, like 'What Three Words' and is an avid gardener.

Hugh started work on his idea during Covid as a way of passing time whilst completely aware that keeping Hanging Baskets watered



during weeks away and fortnights on holiday is a real challenge. He equipped his garden shed with a few simple tools and produced his first attempts, all of which worked to a greater or lesser degree and the modifications and improvements soon followed. About 10 were deployed in various people's gardens last year and they all worked and lasted the summer. We were all impressed with the reliability and positive feedback that we had from our gardening guinea pigs and we started the Patent Application process and formed the company.

Mike felt that the most effective way to try to interest some manufacturers would be to make a short film and send it to some of the prominent social media 'Influencers' and get them to promote the product. Well in Oxhill we are fortunate in having the king of Pantomimes, Iain Macpherson, who has a lot of film making experience and his lovely Daughter, Morna, who is a prominent designer and producer of animated creatures for the film industry and some useful acting experience. We mentioned the idea to Iain & Morna and they know camera operators, video editors and the like and so what we originally envisaged we would do using an I-Phone rapidly became a high-tech film set.

Despite the chilly wind and the noisy aircraft that were flying overhead (thank you Tony Wilde for delaying the mowing of your grass) we had a most enjoyable day with many a laugh to keep our spirits up. Morna joked that as a 'film-star' she had certain requirements that we had to meet. She told us that she only ate the left-hand half of halved yellow M&M's to keep her going and these were dutifully supplied, to much amusement of all concerned.

Our thanks go to Iain, Morna and all of their technicians for their very professional assistance with our film, I'll let you all know when it goes 'live' as us luvvies say.





DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

On Saturdays 8th and 15th June, the Parish Council held defibrillator training sessions, the sessions were well attended with 31 villagers taking part. The sessions were informative, reassuring and enjoyable including clear instructions on CPR and how to use the defibrillator. With the opportunity to practice both and become familiar with both the procedures and how to use the equipment in the event of an emergency.

When an emergency occurs and you are faced with an unresponsive casualty, ring 999 the ambulance service will inform you of the code for the nearest defibrillator cabinet. CPR should be started immediately on finding the casualty and continued until the defibrillator is ready to use.

The defibrillator device will give you clear instructions on to use it and what to do. Once emergency services have arrived, they will take over any medical attention needed.

The village defibrillator is located outside the Peacock Inn.





OXHILL GARDEN CLUB



FALCUTT HOUSE VISIT

After a busy lunch at the New Inn in Middleton Cheyne, on 13th June, 18 Garden Club members and friends enjoyed a conducted tour of a rarely seen garden in the countryside between Banbury and Brackley.

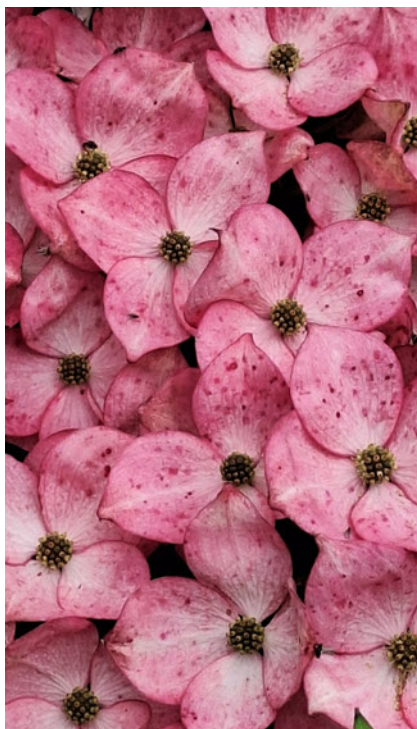
More than 40 years ago, keen gardeners Charlotte and Paul Sandilands moved from London to their dream property with five acres of gardens to enjoy and cultivate.

With the planting of many different trees, hedges, flower beds and orchards, a topiary, pond and different aspects, this was a treat to observe. With minimal help this couple have developed a garden which amazed us all.

The rain kept off until tea and cakes were served!

Peter Rivers Fletcher

Photos by Barbara Bicknell & Peter Rivers Fletcher





OXHILL VILLAGE HALL

Annual General Meeting, 30th May 2024

- Derek Harbour presented the Chair's Report and John McKail the Treasurer's Report to a busier meeting than we've seen in years.
- The village hall's bank account is in the black, but we will need to continue fundraising to complete the renovation.

- The committee is considering starting a '100 Club' monthly draw. Half of the funds raised would go to the hall and half to the winners. We are looking at an annual contribution of £60 and there would be three prizes each month. Please let our new committee member, Sally Mannerings, know if you would like to be included. You can reach her at oxhillvh@gmail.com.

- The committee has a wide variety of events in the pipeline and would love to hear your ideas too so please get in touch if you know of someone who might give a fascinating talk or you've been to a great event elsewhere that we might put on in Oxhill or you fancy running a film club or a bridge club or a bingo club or a... *All ideas welcome!* Please speak to anyone on the committee or write to oxhillvh@gmail.com.

VAL GARLAND

Get ready for a big night out with the world's leading make-up star!

Wednesday
7th August
7pm

More information from Ali
07970 922352
oxhillvh@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

(Tickets from Ali at oxhillvh@gmail.com)

Family Barbeque, 20th July, 5pm-9pm: Bring the family or just yourself to mingle with your Oxhill neighbours while you munch on burgers, sausages, salad, and ice cream. The bar will be open with a wide range of drinks for all ages. Tickets are £15 for adults and £8 for children.



An evening with Val Garland, 7th August, 7pm: Our very own world famous make-up guru has agreed to tell us about her career and show us how to get ready for a big night out. Bring your make-up and a mirror to learn how to wow your friends! Tickets £15 to include a drink on arrival. Space is limited so don't wait to book!

Summer Soirée, 17th August, 7pm: A summertime social with canapés, Pimms, Prosecco, and more. Dress up and enjoy the party!

Events planned for later in the year include Paella Night, Kan's Kitchen at the Hall, Auction of Promises, Progressive Supper, and Beer & Bubbles. Tell us if you want more!



FAMILY BBQ

Adults
£15

Children
£8

**SAT 20TH JULY
5PM-9PM**

OXHILL VILLAGE HALL
for our community

Tickets from Ali
07970 922352
oxhillvh@gmail.com

**Burgers • Salad • Sausages
Ice Cream • Bar**



OXHILL VILLAGE HALL

As a registered charity we are always looking at ways to boost the income for the charity. As most of you are aware we still have ongoing work in progress to complete the hall renovations.

It has been suggested that our local people may be interested in a "100 Club Lottery". The way this works is for individuals to sign up to join our lottery at £60 per annum entitling you to 12 monthly draws. Each month the OVH will draw 3 numbers equating to 1st, 2nd & 3rd prizes. We are hoping that 1st prize will be in the region of £60 (so as to cover the annual subscription). Half of the fund will go to the charity and the remaining half to the 3 prize winners.

To gauge interest could you either email me sallymannerings@btinternet.com or text me on 07769348844. We are looking to commence in September.



CHARITY No 522997

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 9TH JULY AT 7PM

To help support this important community facility, come along to our AGM. The hall operates as a charity and your input on how it is run would be very welcome. It is managed by a small number of trustees, with openings for further trustees and volunteers to get involved and help support the smooth running of the hall.

In other news, our Jazz events will be returning in September after a summer break – check out our web-site for details: www.townsendhall.co.uk.

Jenny Glover
Townsend Hall Chair

OXHILL GARAGE SALE

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Garage Sale on June 23rd. We were lucky with the weather and whilst some stalls were more successful than others (I'm taking some stuff to the Charity Shop tomorrow!), it was a lovely day and we hope everyone enjoyed themselves. Thank you very much to those who made cakes and helped at the Village Hall. We do not have the final total raised for Shipston Home Nursing yet but we are very grateful to Oxhill for all your support!

Jo Sweby



by Ruth Mercer

I recently came across this cake when out with a good friend and it was so tasty that I just had to find a recipe to recreate it. In essence, it is an apple and date cake with a baked-on coconut topping. As is my wont, I used the lovely ladies of Knit and Natter as willing Guinea pigs and it seemed to go down well with them, although I wasn't happy with the topping: it didn't stick very well to the cake or taste as good as I would have liked. I have since adapted the topping recipe and it tastes much better. It is still liable to leave the cake a little on cutting but I don't think it detracts from the enjoyment. I have only made it with eating apples so far but will try it with cookers in the Autumn.



LUMBERJACK CAKE

Ingredients

Cake

2 apples weighing 350-400g, peeled, cored and finely chopped
150g dates, chopped
1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
250ml boiling water
125g butter (at room temperature)
220g caster sugar
1 egg
225g plain flour

Coconut Topping

70 g butter
60ml cream (any type, or milk)
80g dark brown sugar
80ml maple syrup or golden syrup
150g desiccated coconut



1. Place chopped apples, dates and bicarbonate of soda in a bowl and pour the boiling water over them. Leave for 10 minutes.
2. While waiting, line a deep 9" square tin with baking parchment or use the lining paste featured in May's Oxhill News. Preheat the oven to 180C / 160C fan.
3. Beat the butter, caster sugar and egg together in a mixer until light and fluffy.
4. Stir in the apple and date mixture. It will seem incredibly sloppy to start with, but persist with stirring until it forms a uniform mixture. Add the flour and stir to combine thoroughly.
5. Pour the mixture into the prepared tin and level the top.
6. Bake for 50 minutes until the cake springs back when lightly touched with a fingertip in the centre of the cake.
7. While baking, prepare the topping by placing butter, cream, sugar and syrup in a bowl and microwaving until dissolved. Then simmer for a couple of minutes. (You could use a saucepan if you prefer.) Now stir in the coconut.
8. When the cake is baked, remove from oven and spread the topping evenly over the cake. This requires a light touch with a small spatula. Return the topped cake to the oven and bake for a further 20 minutes until golden brown.
9. Remove from oven and allow cake to cool completely in its tin.



ST LAWRENCE CHURCH FOR JULY

As I write this, the sun is shining out of a clear blue sky. Hopefully the blessing of summer will soon be upon us, with warmth, sunlight, and a time for rest, relaxation and restoration (though not, perhaps, if you have the blessing of small children!). Some of us spent some time recently thinking about what it means to us to be blessed, and also to be a blessing to each other. It begins with knowing that we are truly blessed by God.

Bless us

When we are happy,
when we feel your presence,
when the sun shines on us,
bless us.

When we are sad,
when we cannot find you,
when the rain keeps on falling,
bless us.

Bless us,
with tears and laughter,
with courage and curiosity,
with hope and healing.

Bless us with love.
Ruth Burgess, Redeeming our Cracks.

CHURCH SERVICES THIS MONTH:

Sunday, July 7th 9.30 am Holy Communion Heather Parbury
You are also warmly invited to Whatcote's Patronal Festival at 3.00 pm, with afternoon tea to follow.

Sunday 14th July 9.30 am Morning Worship George Heighton

Sunday 21st July 9.30 am Holy Communion George Heighton

Sunday 28th July 6.30 pm Evensong George Heighton.

Have a wonderful summer,
Blessings, Jill

RESULTS OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL APRIL 28TH 2024

ST LAWRENCE CHURCH OXHILL

Chair.	Rev George Heighton
Church Warden.	Carol Fox
Deputy Church Wardens.	Alan and Verena Mary Rogers
Secretary.	Linda Synge
Treasurer.	James Synge
Electoral Roll Officer.	Douglas Nethercleft
Deanery Synod Representatives.	Douglas Nethercleft and Alan Rogers
Other Members.	Robin Hancock John McKail
Social and Fund Raising Representative.	Ruth Mercer



God bless us,
every one!

Charles Dickens

“ quote fancy



Join us

MUSIC AT THE MANOR

*An afternoon of live entertainment
set in the grounds of Oxhill Manor*

www.nicodemuscharity.org.uk

Celebrating young talent, Supporting young people

12noon until Late

SATURDAY 10TH AUGUST

FOR TICKETS GO TO OUR WEBPAGE OR USE QR CODE BELOW

www.nicodemuscharity.org.uk/music-at-the-manor

Tickets £15 per person, £10 under 14 years, Under 5yrs go FREE

**A full day of amazing performances from local musicians,
bands and solos artists**

*Bring your chairs, gazebos, family and friends and be prepared to be
thoroughly entertained*



A fundraising event to support



NICODEMUS





FESTIVAL CLOTHING

GIN BAR



Badminton

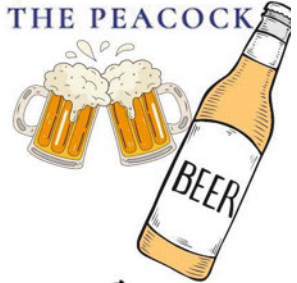


SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!!

Pop up Pub



THE PEACOCK



Bee & Ridgways
Farmhouse Ice Cream



NIC DEMUS
TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

Full Line-up

Joe Richards

The Hummingbirds

Luke Keane

Barney Porter

Hokum & Hooch

Afterknights

Frazer Leford

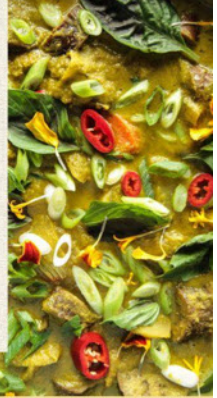
Amber Liadan

James Pullen

Aeneas

Solar Jam

Mad-Thingz





WOT2GROW COMMUNITY ORCHARD

Below are photos of cherries in their protective wraps and the first pickings of the season from this morning. All members will be getting a punnet of fruit.



WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND OXHILL

JULY

Wed 17th	14:30-14:50	Mobile Library outside Village Hall
Sat 20th	17:00-21:00	Family Barbeque, Oxhill Village Hall
Every Thursday	12:00	Coffee Morning, Peacock Pub

PC MEETINGS

The date of the next PC Meeting is **Tuesday, 9th July 2024 at 7.30pm**. This meeting will be held in the Village Hall. The minutes and agendas will be posted on the Parish Council part of the Welcome to Oxhill Notice board, not the one by the pub.

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 20th of each month for publication in the following month.



PrintableTree.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	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			

BIN COLLECTION CALENDAR

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

-  Food waste
-  Recycling
-  General refuse
-  Garden waste