

THE OXHILL NEWS

June 2026 No. 619



Celia & Arthur Complete the Peak District Nine Edge Challenge
Read more on Page 16

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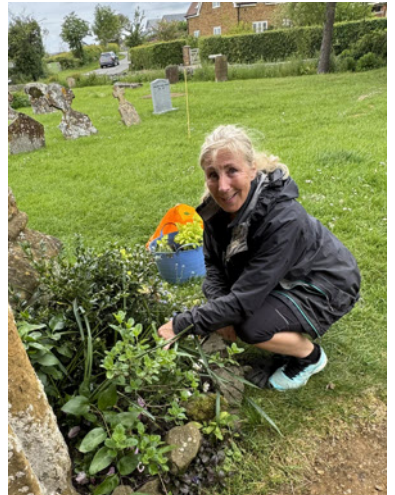


Creating a 'dry hedge' for wildlife as recommended by Grenville Moore in an article in last month's issue titled, 'Stay Wild'. See previous issues on our village website: oxhillcommunity.co.uk

CHURCH CLEAN

Carol's happy band of church cleaners gave the church a thorough spring clean and general tidy of the porch and flower beds in May. Also the same morning Iain and Tom were cementing in the posts for the new notice board.

Tricia Harbour



ST LAWRENCE CHURCH FOR JUNE

Firstly, a huge thank you to Iain McPherson for the beautiful new church noticeboard: no more struggling to put notices up!

Summer, it would seem, is on its way. The roses are already in full bloom, birds are singing their hearts out at 4.00 am, and things are growing before our very eyes. We have the privilege of being surrounded by God's gifts in creation, a reminder of his promise that seed-time and harvest would never stop, a sign every year of His care for us, and His ability to give life and renewal. It is, perhaps, a time to be thankful for, and to celebrate, all that He gives us. It is also a chance to celebrate life in our community, in Oxhill's Little Weekend on June 14th



God of power, as the countryside reveals
opening buds and ripening grain:
We celebrate your purpose in creation.

God of salvation, as the countryside provides
tranquility and timelessness:
We celebrate your grace in creation.

God of wholeness, as the countryside sparkles
with running, living water:
We celebrate your healing in creation.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, help us to preserve
all that gives and enhances life:
In celebration of your creation. *Jean Hudson, in Summer*



CHURCH SERVICES IN JUNE

June 29TH is the Festival of St Peter, one of the great saints of the church, after whom St Peter's Church in Whatcote is named. So, on Sunday 28th we will all be joining together in St. Peter's to mark this, their Patronal Festival.

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|--|------------------------|
| Sunday, June 7th | 9.30 am | Holy Communion | Jill Tucker |
| Sunday, June 14th | 9.30 am | Holy Communion | Susan Bowden-Pickstock |
| Sunday, June 21st | 9.30 am | Holy Communion | George Heighton |
| Sunday, June 28th | 11.00 am | United Service in St. Peter's Whatcote to mark St Peter's Day, and their Patronal Festival. George Heighton | |

Jill Tucker, revjill.tucker@btinternet.com

FRIENDS OF OXHILL CHURCH

Oxhill's Little Weekend

Sunday 14th June 11am-4pm

Please join us on Sunday 14th June for Oxhill's Little Weekend. We will be serving hot and cold drinks, cake and Ploughman's lunches all day at the Old Chapel, which will also be the venue for a Tombola and raffle plus the annual Garden Club plant sale.

The Artisan Market will be in the Village Hall as it was at last year's Big Weekend and every pitch is now booked. Additionally, the Village Hall will be the venue for a Kitchen Garden Stall, a children's sweet tombola, Wine or Water stall, hook-a-duck and additional refreshments of Pimms (in aid of the Village Hall) and ice creams/lollies.

For a small fee of £1, please buy a programme that contains both a Treasure Hunt and a Wildlife Trail map inside. There will be prizes!

If the weather is right, come and see the half-size steam engine, last seen pulling Santa around the village in December.

To make this event a fantastic success, we need help, please. Can you help with the following?

- Help serve teas
- Help on the plant stall, Tombola and raffle
- Tombola and Raffle prizes
- Sweets, chocolate, single serving biscuit packets or wrapped individual biscuits
- Bottles of wine for the Wine or Water stall
- Garden produce / cakes

Please contact me if you are able to help in any way. Prizes can be given to Lis Stuart (Oak View, Green Lane) or me (Struan, Whatcote Road).

It should be a very enjoyable day for everyone. Thank you in advance for supporting our fundraising towards the continued reordering of St. Lawrence's Church, Oxhill.

Saturday 22nd August

Barn Dance and Pig Roast 7pm

Great news – thanks to June and Rob Fox, we have a venue for our Barn Dance and Pig Roast. Come and join us for a pig roast (vegetarian or GF option available) followed by homemade desserts, along with an evening of barn dancing. Tickets are £20 and will be available at the Little Weekend and from me afterwards. Please buy yours early as they are strictly limited.

Saturday 7th November: Quiz Night

Always very popular but no need to book just yet!

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

OXHILL'S

LITTLE

WEEKEND

14TH JUNE

FOR OXHILL CHURCH **11AM-5PM** ADMISSION - FREE

AT THE CHAPEL:
PLANT SALE
TOMBOLA & RAFFLE
CHILDREN'S WILDLIFE TRAIL
FAMILY TREASURE HUNT
PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCHES
TEA & CAKES

AT THE CHURCH:
WILDFLOWER MEADOW

AT THE VILLAGE HALL:
ARTISAN MARKET
VARIETY OF STALLS
ICECREAM/LOLLIES
PIMMS

*How important is our Churchyard -
not only as a place of beauty and solitude but also as a scientific
resource.*

As part of the Coventry Diocese *Churchyard Biodiversity Heritage Project*, I volunteered to participate in a National scheme to monitor the carbon content of churchyard soil over an extended period of time. This research is being led by Dr Alan Radbourn of Loughborough University in conjunction with *Caring for God's Acre* following on from trials carried out in other dioceses. The project is looking into how important churchyard soils are for storing carbon and how varying habitats and their management affect this. Apart from burials, churchyards have soils that have remained undisturbed for, in some cases, many centuries and will be there for repeat analysis in the future.

Following attendance at a practical workshop at Saint James's, Southam I was tasked with obtaining 25 soil cores from Saint Lawrence's churchyard taking the samples from places where the ground was likely to have been undisturbed for 75 plus years and away from graves and other sensitive areas.

A map was drawn to correspond with an aerial / satellite view of the churchyard and the core samples taken from *What 3 Words* recorded locations along the arms of a "W" shape plotted thereon including part of the wild flower area. All of the samples were combined / thoroughly mixed and the equivalent of two mugs full of soil sent away for analysis.

As a separate exercise I was helped by Celia Fawcus to record the number of earthworms in a 15-centimetre cube of soil taken from each of five separate recorded locations in the churchyard - once again from previously undisturbed ground. The count was deemed to be a measurement of the fertility of the soil in the differing habitats. Findings were mixed, ranging from 0 to 10 in terms of the number of worms found. The earth was almost uniformly very dry and difficult to tease apart. I hasten to add that we left the site in good order with the replaced turf squares watered in and virtually undetectable.

With the blessing of the Church of England (and possibly an even higher authority?) these exercises were designed to help Saint Lawrence achieve its *Silver Eco Award*. We have already had a lichen survey and there are other Eco / wildlife events planned for the future. Jane Smith is co-ordinating input of churchyard help from interested villagers and Sophie Smith (no relation) of the Coventry Diocese is to be thanked on keeping us focused on achieving a raised Eco Church status.





Glenn Crouch, second from the left, next to Charlie Watts. Wembley Stadium, Saturday, July 7th, 1990

We had a great evening at the Village Hall in February, listening to Glenn Crouch reminisce on his years in the music industry. In this interview we catch up with Glenn to ask him a few more questions including how do young people get a job in music? ~ ed.

CATCHING UP WITH GLENN CROUCH

The experience of doing the talk in the village hall was cathartic. It enabled me to revisit my career and what I did while I worked in the music industry. I kept so much stuff. Everything, from gig tickets to invites to, you name it, I've got it. I've got a huge archive thrust into bags, and not properly put into any kind of chronological order. I've also got a massive music collection - both records and CDs.

Will you auction it off?

No. I'll leave it for my kids, they can reap the benefits when I'm gone, if they so wish. I'm lucky I've got quite a big collection, it probably is worth quite a lot of money, but I'd never get the full value. Anyway, the value of a record collection is what it means to you.

I consider myself especially lucky because a 13 or a 14-year-old me would never have thought I would be swanning around backstage of a Rolling Stones concert and chatting with Mick and Keith.

They're larger than life characters, aren't they?

Yes.

If they weren't famous, do you think they would be normal guys down at a pub?

I think you've got to have a certain something about you to become a star. The fact that Mick and Keith have endured, well, the Stones have endured for so long, means they're not normal human beings. That's the way that I look at it. The same goes with any kind of major artist of significance. The Rolling Stones are exceptional at what they do and they've evolved over the years. They aren't the young bratty kids they were in their late teens and early twenties.

Keith and Mick have almost become parodies of themselves to a certain extent. They've got these big personas, especially Keith. It was always said of Mick. "Which Mick did you meet?" Because there's several different versions. I met the business Mick. I would meet him in social situations, but he would always have a business head on. Whereas Keith, you'd meet him and he'd just be Mr Rock and Roll.

I was invited to see them at Wembley Stadium around the late eighties. There was a big group of us from retail and the record companies. It was the first time I met them. That's when Bill Wyman was still in the band. We were all invited to the backstage area in the old Wembley Stadium. I remember walking up and Keith was just in front of me. He was the epitome of what you wanted a rock star to be. The whole swagger and attitude, even the way that he talked. It was quite extraordinary.

Charlie was always the nicest. He was quiet, very down to earth and had a wry smile. Ronnie was great as well. Ronnie was very similar to Charlie in that respect, quite down to earth and very personable. Maybe they could just hang back and be themselves because the cameras weren't on them as much.

Van Morrison was also a really interesting character. When I first got introduced to him, I was thinking, what am I going to say to Van? But he was very forthcoming and completely the opposite of what I expected him to be. He was a real joy and very upfront about everything. If he was happy, he'd tell you so and if he was pissed off, you'd certainly know about it. He could be quite angry and domineering, but he had a kind of aura about him. He's got one of the great soulful voices - an artist who lives in the music.

What exactly did you do in the music industry?

I was a product manager. I describe a product manager as being the hub in the middle of the wheel. I'd connect all the parts - the spokes - within a record company and various music business contacts together and make sure that everyone was working harmoniously towards the same end result. Say we were expecting a new record by the Rolling Stones in three-or-four-months' time. I had to make sure that the music was delivered in time and that the production department were able to service Promotions with promotional copies to service radio, TV and press. I also had to make sure that the artists were delivering artwork or they were working with a design company to get artwork together. If they were going out on the

road, then I'd be liaising with promoters and agents to make sure that everything came together at the same time.

A marketing budget would be allocated based on how many records were expected to sell in the first couple of months. A band like the Stones were pretty much guaranteed a certain number of sales. With a new artist, we were reliant on how the promotional side of the company did their work. We had lots of new artists that didn't make it. There was the rule of thumb that only 1 artist in 20, that a record label signed, ever made the company money. Each artist would get an advance, but that advance would often not get paid back.

Can you tell us of a success story?

A band called Black Rebel Motorcycle Club was signed by Virgin America and success hadn't really happened for them in America. Then we brought them over here and it took off.

They were quite an English-sounding band and were compared a lot to the Jesus and Mary chain, a late 80s, early 90s kind of indie sound. The guy that did the press on them over here did a really good job. He got Melody Maker, the New Musical Express (NME), and all the really big music papers at the time interested in them. Once the press got on board, radio became interested and they started getting played on Radio 1. We moved them from them playing to 40, 50 people in the Underworld in Camden to playing at Brixton Academy and then headlining the Radio 1 tent at the Reading Festival.



Black Rebel Motorcycle Club

They were a three-piece and were managed by the guitarist's father, a guy called Michael Bean, who'd been in a relatively successful band called The Call, that was signed to Elektra in America. But he became embittered by the music industry because his band got to a certain stage and never got any bigger. They were one of those bands in the classic phrase, 'could have been contenders'. So, he was quite a tough nut to crack initially. But once they started to become really successful here, it was a lot easier.

Did they like it here?

They loved it. And because of their success here, that translated into European success as well. I'm not sure they ever really did a lot of business back in the States, but they were certainly successful here for a while.

At the Reading Festival in 2003 the Black Rebel Motorcycle Club, the darlings of NME, were asked to do a signing session. Everything was quite friendly, until one rather drunken punter turned up with a huge inflatable penis for them to sign, which they point-blank refused to sign. NME thought this was quite funny, but it absolutely soured their relationship with the band, because the band were miserable and they didn't want to sign this man's inflatable penis. I mean, had they lost their sense of humour? They had an English drummer, Nick Jago and I'm surprised the drummer didn't say, oh come on guys.

How was it working with your American counterparts?

It was interesting. Virgin America was based in Los Angeles and they had a bit of an indie mentality. They signed a lot of acts that didn't really do much. People like Teddy Thompson, who was the son of Richard Thompson from Fairport Convention. Fairport Convention were a huge band, and Richard Thompson was a renowned guitarist. But his son didn't succeed. Teddy Thompson, would have been better off being signed to the UK label. I remember meeting with him, and he was just fed up, because nothing had happened.

As you said only 1 in 20 make it. Do have any advice for the youth of today? I imagine that talent on its own is not enough.

It never was, really, because you've got to do the groundwork. The problem with today is being heard above the noise. It's easy to get your music out there on a streaming platform, but it's not as easy to get it heard.

A&R is still seeking out talent. You hear all these horror stories about how many venues are closing, but I think there is still very healthy live circuit at a grassroots level. Venues don't tend to be as permanent as they once were. It is the same in the restaurant business, isn't it? How many times do you go to a great restaurant and then go back six months later and it's not there anymore.

Volunteering is still a great thing. You can work at a record label as an intern, though not paid. To be honest, the music industry does take advantage of interns. As I suppose a lot of industries do really.

The problem is that everything now is totally fragmented. When I was growing up, we had three TV stations, one national radio station and a few important regional stations. If you got a record on Radio 1 back in the day, then everyone heard it. Any record that was in the chart right through the late 60s, 70s, 80s, I can probably remember because we heard it all the time on the radio. Now everything is so fragmented. You've got different radio stations playing different types of music and lots of different stations in different regions.

I don't think young people listen to the radio, do they?

Even my youngest son, who's 35 and really into music, doesn't listen to the radio.

Spotify?

Well, there's an element of that, but he'll pick it up from a video game, for instance Grand Theft Auto. You pick a car and you can turn on a radio station in that car that you're driving.

It might be a West Coast country station. My son loves country music and he picked it up from playing Grand Theft Auto and by listening to a country station that had been programmed into the game. If you can get one of your songs into a video game, for instance, then you've got your captive audience right there.

Or you might get your song on a TV ad, for instance. It might be used as the background music on the football on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon. There are so many elements, which is why there is an advantage to being signed to a major label because they would explore all those areas for you.

Was this part of your work?

I didn't quite get to that stage. It was all coming up when I was in my last stage of work. I was made redundant in 2008, nearly 20 years ago. I have to admit that I was a bit of a Luddite. I remember someone in the office talking about the new technology that was coming in. This probably would have been late-1990s, early-2000s, and they said, one day you'll be able to press something on your phone and order your music. And I thought, no, that's never going to happen. Couldn't have been more wrong.

But that's how it was at Virgin. The woman that employed me was the head of marketing at Virgin. I knew her because I'd worked in retail and that meant I dealt with all the record companies. Bless her, when the job came up at Virgin, she thought of me. She was a brilliant marketing manager and really on the cusp of new digital stuff and the internet. We're talking 1997. I don't think we had a fully functioning email system at Virgin. We had what was called intranet in the building. We could send messages just to other people in the same building. But we didn't have fully functioning email even then.

She was on the cusp of it. But could she get herself taken seriously by any of the top lords at Virgin? They used to laugh about it. There was a famous quote by Tony Wadsworth, who was the head of EMI, and Virgin were part of EMI by this time, who said, I thought it was serious is when someone came into the office one day and they had all the Beatles albums on one CDR as computer files, and I suddenly thought, hang on a minute, this is getting serious now.

But we conveniently ignored Napster and all that free file sharing until it was too late and it had blown a massive hole into the finances of the industry.

All the free music I downloaded, I didn't really listen to. I find if you don't buy something, you don't value it.

Exactly. One of my favourite bands is an American band called Wilco. Jeff Tweedy, their main man, was originally in Uncle Tupelo who were a big alternative country band in America. There was a whole movement then which is now called Americana.

I loved Wilco right from the very beginning. Tweedy famously used to come over and slag us all off. I don't think he was particularly enamored with the British audiences laid back response to his band. He was quite an acerbic character, but I loved them and I still love them today. I've religiously gone out and bought all their records. I think it was must have been

around 2014 that they bought this album out that was solely digital and you could have it for free. The album was called Star Wars and did I listen to it? No, or I might have done once. It was really weird because you'd think brilliant, you've just been given a free record.

But you didn't value it.

Exactly. Unless it was a tangible thing that I had in my hand I didn't value it. Since I've retired, I got time now to sit, and put a record on and listen to music. It's been the greatest thing.

I miss going into the record shops and hanging out. There's one in Stratford, a second hand one on Henley Street upstairs in the Antiques Centre. It's only a tiny room but he always gets loads of really good stuff. And there's Head Records in Leamington that's really good. I still spend a lot of time in London and there's a lot of choice, Rough Trade for instance.

In the past bands that didn't sell many albums, still sold enough to keep them going. But now Spotify only pays a few pennies on each play so they make very little money.

That kind of a band can't exist by streaming alone. Bands have to be clever. Wilco, for instance, have never really been part of the mainstream. When they first formed, they were signed to a major label, one of the Warner labels in America, so they had all that support and mainstream coverage and they managed to build a really good fan base from there.

There's a terrific documentary, called 'I'm Trying To Break Your Heart', which came out when they were recording their third or fourth album. The band were in the process of splitting because the two main guys were falling out. Their third album hadn't been very successful, and when they delivered the fourth album, it was quite different to their previous work and the label dropped them. But interestingly, Warner is formed of so many different labels in America and a more esoteric label, Nonesuch, who released quite a lot of left field jazz, picked up the record. The documentary is all about them recording the album, then being dropped by the label, then being picked up by another label from the same group and then finally the album going on to be the most successful one they ever recorded. It's astonishing really. After that they did another three or four albums until their contract ran out. They continued to build their fan base outside of the mainstream, to the effect that they could go

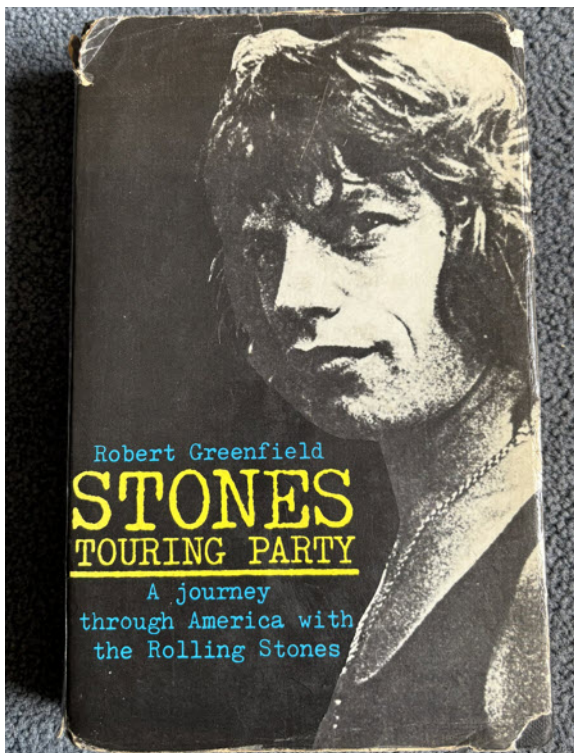


Jeff Tweedy of Wilco

out on tour in America and have sellout dates all across the country and do the same in Europe. Then they formed their own label.

They've got this space in Chicago called the Loft which is set up with a studio. It's an amazing cottage industry. Jeff Tweedy, the main guy, has kept the nucleus of the band together now for about 20, 25 years, which is remarkable because they're all such amazing musicians. They've got their side projects that they go off and do, but the band is still the main thing. Tweedy has got two grown-up sons who he now plays with plus the son's girlfriends come on stage. He's family man.

The point of the story is that they've built this cottage industry where you go to the Wilco site directly to find out about concert dates, buy a T-shirt or a new record. It's a fantastic success story existing completely away from the mainstream.



Which bands first got you into music?

My first loves were Marc Bolan and T-Rex. And David Bowie. I'd be like waiting for them to come on Top of the Pops. For some reason I was a massive Stones fan, even though I was probably a bit young. My dad was into them. He was a big jazz fan, but he loved the Rolling Stones. I remember reading Robert Greenfield's book called Stones Touring Party. It documented their infamous tour of America in 1972.

It was so glamorous. It wasn't just about the music. It was the whole package. Being a rock'n roll star was so aspirational. But in the 1970s right through till YouTube started, you never got to see them. They were hardly ever on the TV and this mystique was built up about them. I read everything. I was a voracious reader and still am. I would devour any little snippet that came my way. I'd read a review of the Stones playing and thinking that sounds so fantastic. Occasionally there will be a clip of them playing live on The Old Grey Whistle Test or somewhere else. I remember seeing Brown Sugar on Top of the Pops and it was the greatest thing ever. I saw it once and lived on that.

Whereas now I can go to YouTube and pull out all these obscure performances. It's astonishing really, isn't it? Stuff back in the day that would have completely blow your mind, but you never got the chance to see it. Whereas now everything is out there. The mystique is gone.

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who joined us to walk on 16th May. A bit of drizzle did not dampen spirits - twenty five of us plus four dogs - and we all enjoyed tea and cake afterwards.

Thank you very much to those who have already donated. If you haven't yet but would like to, the fundraising page is still open.

Milo is really touched by the support from the village. Thank you from all of us.

Jo



**BRITISH HEART
FOUNDATION**
Charity number 225971



**GREAT ORMOND
STREET HOSPITAL**
Charity number 1160024

TO DONATE: www.Givewheel.com and search for Milo and Alice or Hiking For Hearts



NEW SPEED SIGN IN OXHILL

Here is a picture of the speed sign on Whatcote Rd which the parish council have funded. This is the finalisation of the lengthy process of trying to get both Police and Highways to help deter speeding in our village without success. We may change the direction of the sign in later months as previous speed checks have shown the speeding is equal in both directions. Initial observations show that there are plenty of people going too fast.

Peter Rivers-Fletcher





OSCAR'S CHARITY WALK UPDATE

Thank you to everyone in Oxhill who generously supported us on our walk. Despite the inclement weather, we completed all twenty three miles of the Peak District's nine edges in a time of eleven hours. We raised a fantastic amount of £640 and together with the 100+ other walkers, a total of £55,000 for Oscar's paediatric brain tumour charity. Here are some pictures of us along the way. After a few days resting our legs, we are looking forward to the next challenge!

Many thanks Oxhill,

Celia and Arthur



ECOLOGY, HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT & LANDSCAPE

Ben Wallace of the above Warwickshire department will be running a “bioblitz”, a number of different activities on one day to record and learn more about wildlife and nature in a particular area.



The event will take place at St Lawrence Churchyard on Saturday 20th June running from 10am - 3pm.

If you are interested in taking part in this event please keep this date in your diary. We will post more details nearer the date on the Village Facebook page. Hope to see members of *OWLS taking part*.

Grenville Moore



Licensed bar open throughout the evening

FRIENDS OF ETTINGTON SCHOOL

FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 5th June, Ettington Community Centre,
quiz starts 6.30pm prompt. Adult £6, Child £2 (under 5's free)



8 rounds, including a kids only round

Featuring Mrs Crowe as your quizmaster!

THE STREET FOOD CO.
CATERING & EVENTS

Maximum 10 people per team. Tickets are limited, so please buy early to avoid disappointment.

Ticket sales will close on 29th May, and are available at Ettington Village Store and online (subject to small booking fee). Scan the QR code to buy tickets.



Neapolitan pizza available to preorder from The Street Food Co. Limited time slots available between 4.30 and 8.30pm.

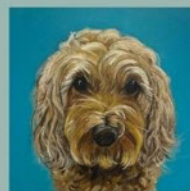
Scan the QR code to preorder.

All proceeds from this event will go towards



Arts in the Cotswolds

Art exhibition as part of Warwickshire Open Studios



Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st June 10am – 5pm
Tysoe Village Hall, Main Street CV35 0SE

Refreshments available

SILENT AUCTION FOR OXHILL POSTER

TO BAKERS AND OTHERS.

OXHILL

3 miles from Kineton.

FREEHOLD PROPERTY, Cob, Baker's Carts, and Effects.

BOSLEY & HARPER

LATE FRANK PARSONS & Co.)

have received instructions from Mr. W. G. SUMMERTON, 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. Summerton.

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.

The following will be sold immediately after the Sale of the Property:—

Bay Cob Mare, aged; capital Covered Baker's Cart, Spring Trap, 2-knife Chaff Machine, Wheelbarrow, Ladder, a few lots of surplus Household Furniture and Bakers' Utensils, &c.

Further particulars may be obtained of the Auctioneers, Shipston-on-Stour; or of the Vendor's Solicitor,
F. B. HANCOCK, ESQ., Shipston-on-Stour.

G. G. COLEMAN, Printer, High Street, Shipston-on-Stour.—211

All Proceeds Donated to Oxhill Village Hall

Original on Display at
Oxhill Village Hall During
June.

Highest bid to date : £60.

Further bids to
rghroberto@hotmail.com
stating Silent Auction Bid.

Hopefully it will be
acquired by a villager.

Auction ends 30th June
2026.

Highest bid update
regularly.

For further information
email as above

ANN HALES'S LOCAL HISTORY

I am privileged to report that I have taken custody of Ann Hale's folders of local history notes. After sorting, checking and cataloguing it all, I will need to work out how best to share and preserve all her hard work; being a bit of a nerd, my first thought was a small website, but I am open to suggestions.

Carol Clark



Map of Oxhill 1953

HISTORICAL PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES – JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS IN OXHILL

by Lis Stuart

All dates, names and references to places in the village have been taken from the extracts of the Parish Council minutes as recorded at the time.



KING GEORGE V & QUEEN MARY SILVER JUBILEE 1935

1935 saw the Silver Jubilee celebration of King George V and Queen Mary, marking 25 years as King of the United Kingdom, the British Dominions and the Emperor of India.

The preparation for celebrations in Oxhill are recorded in the Parish Council minutes as follows:

1935 – A special meeting of all the Parish was held on Monday March 11th 7pm.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

Mr. J Heritage announced that Mr Herbert Groves had been cooped as a Member of the Jubilee Celebration Committee. He then outlined the programme recommended by the Committee for the coming Jubilee Celebration. It was as follows:

1. A tea for Children at 4pm, to be followed by games and sports, every child to be given a Souvenir of the Jubilee.
2. A meat tea at 6pm for adults and children, after which there is to be a social evening.
3. The Celebration is to end with a firework display.

The cost of the Jubilee Celebration was estimated at about £20.

After discussion it was proposed by Mr E. Simmonds and seconded by Miss Simmonds that £5 be allowed out of the Wake Fund towards the Jubilee Celebration expenses. This was carried by 16 votes to 7. Mr F. Gilks proposed that in memory of the Jubilee a copper beech tree be planted by the children.

After discussion this was unanimously agreed upon.

Tuesday April 9th at 7pm

The Chairman read a circular letter from Warwick County Council to all Parish Councils and Meetings with reference to contributions to King George's Jubilee Trust Fund, which the Prince of Wales had inaugurated.

The Parish Meeting was asked whether they were willing to allocate to this fund 10% of the money collected for the Jubilee Celebration. After discussion it was proposed by Mr C. Gilks and seconded by Mrs Mills and unanimously carried that the Rector be asked if he would give the collection in the Church on May 6th to the fund, instead of the Jubilee money being used.

The Rector was willing for this to be done.

The proposed planting of a tree in memory of the Jubilee was then considered. It was decided that the best time for this to take place would be immediately after the conclusion of the Church Service on May 6th.

It was then proposed by Mr H. Simmonds and seconded by Mr. Windsor and carried that a copper beech tree price 10 s/_ be purchased from a farm in Warwick and planted, it being pointed out by Mr Windsor that if the hole is dug, soil carefully prepared and the eaves stripped off, the tree would have a better chance of surviving the next winter, although not planted at the proper time of year.

Wednesday 15th May

The Chairman presented the Balance Sheet of the Jubilee Celebrations.

Including the £5 allocated from the Wake Fund.

The receipts amounted to £24"17s"1d, of which £17"11s was the result of a house-to-house collection, and £2"6s"11d was obtained from the sale of provisions left over.

The total expenditure was £20"6s"6 1/2 d leaving a balance in hand of £4"11s"4 1/2 d. It was proposed by Mr C. Gilks and seconded by Mr. S. Heritage that this be returned to the Wake Fund. This was carried.

Mr H Simmonds said that he would like to thank the Committee for the satisfactory way in which everything was arranged and carried out in connection with the Celebration. This expressed the feeling of all present.





QUEEN ELIZABETH II SILVER JUBILEE 1977

1977 saw the Silver Jubilee celebration of Queen Elizabeth II, celebrating the 25th anniversary of her accession to the throne on 6th February 1952. It was nationally celebrated on her Official birthday in June.

In Oxhill preparations for the celebrations began in 1976 and are recorded in the Parish council Minutes below:

24th May 1976

The Chairman suggested that as 1977 was Jubilee Year, the Council should give some thought to whether the village should celebrate and what form this should take. The plan to ask for suggestions in the Oxhill News.

12th July 1976

After much discussion it was agreed that the Chairman ask Mr & Mrs Walters to form a committee, consisting of representatives from all local organisations, and with the aid of the Youth Club organise the 1977 Jubilee celebrations. Parish Council rep. to be Mr. P.V. Smith. It was suggested that a gift (probably a commemorative mug) should be



Jubilee decorated house at Elmville.

given to children within the Parish. The Jubilee comm. to be asked to come back to the Parish Council for some limited financial aid.

1st November 1976

Me & Mrs Walters have formed a Jubilee Committee as agreed, and the first meeting is to be held on Nov 2nd. The Council agreed that some financial assistance should be available to commemorate this event, and it was agreed that further discussions should take place on the cost of a presentation mug or similar. The Council were in full agreement that finance must be limited.

It was further suggested that consideration may well be given to the planting of a commemorative tree next year.

Monday 2nd May 1977

It was proposed by Mr J Woodward and seconded by Mr Ted Reynolds that the Parish Council should make a donation of £100 to the Jubilee Committee, to help offset the cost of the commemorative mugs to each child.

There is no mention of the details of the events which took place to celebrate the Jubilee in 1977, however, the Walters family have kindly sent some to me showing some of them. You may recognise some of the faces.



Vic Walters as the fool for the Oxhill Morris men.



It's a knock-out cup race



Pig Roast



Pram Race



[*www.mattarell.co.uk](http://www.mattarell.co.uk)

Tuesday 9th June | Doors open at 6:30pm

PASTA

Masterclass

LEARN HOW TO MAKE, SHAPE, AND COOK
PASTA LIKE A TRADITIONAL ITALIAN PASTA MAKER

*with Richard Parker, Lo Sfogfino**

TICKETS £14 include a tasting and a free drink
From Ali on 07970 922352 or oxhillvh@gmail.com

ONLY 30 SPACES AVAILABLE



OXHILL VILLAGE HALL

It's been a quiet month on the events front at the village hall this month with only the AGM, which took place on Tuesday 12th May. Thank you to all who attended. Your support, input and feedback is a great help.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June is an exciting month with 2 events planned.

9th June – Pasta Night

We're looking forward to an evening with Richard Parker *Sfoglino* - a highly skilled artisan dedicated to the Italian craft of *sfoglia*. *Come along to share the story of Richard's Bologna based training in this traditional pasta making art with demonstration, the opportunity to have a go yourself and a tasting.*

Doors open 6.30 pm. Glass of Italian wine & pasta tasting included in ticket price of only £14.

Book early to avoid disappointment as there's only 30 places available.

20th June – Summer Soiree

Always a popular event, especially when the sun obliges with its presence. An occasion to dress in your best summer style to enjoy a Pimms or whatever else takes your fancy, with canapés of both the savoury and sweet variety.

Doors open 7 pm. Ticket price only £17.50 – includes 2 drinks and canapés.

11th July – Family BBQ, Boules & Games

The Oxhill chefs will be firing up the grill for burgers, sausages etc while the rest of us can enjoy a glass or two of something delicious and get stuck into some garden games.

Doors open 5 pm. Tickets £15 adult/£8 children.

AVAILABLE SOON: New online booking system for our events at oxhillvh.co.uk

We're very grateful to Karen McCrae who's put in a huge amount of work to set up a new online booking system which will hopefully make it easier for you all to book event tickets and will be going live over the next few days.

Tickets for all of the above events can be obtained via the new online booking system at oxhillvh.co.uk or from Ali on 07970 922352 or oxhillvh@gmail.com

100 Club Winners

The draw was held on 24th April at The Peacock. The lucky prize winners were:

- 1st Eileen MacPherson
- 2nd Michelle Hardiman
- 3rd Graham Mann

*If you'd like to **Join the 100 club** for a chance each month to win £60, contact Sally on 07769 348844 for details.*

A vibrant, tropical-themed poster for a 'Summer Soirée' event. The background is filled with lush green palm leaves and bright, colorful flowers in shades of yellow, orange, and pink. In the foreground, there's a large, textured pineapple, a slice of orange, a strawberry, and a blueberry. Two colorful straws, one yellow and one red, are also visible. The text is arranged as follows: at the top center is a circular logo for 'OXHILL VILLAGE HALL for our community' featuring a stylized hand icon. Below this, the word 'SUMMER' is written in large, bold, orange capital letters, and 'Soirée' is written in a large, elegant, blue cursive font. To the right of 'Soirée', the date and time 'SATURDAY 20TH JUNE 7PM' are written in orange capital letters. At the bottom right, a dark blue circular badge contains the price '£17.50' in white, followed by 'Includes canapés & two drinks' in orange. Below the badge, the text 'Buy online at oxfordvh.co.uk or email Ali at oxfordvh@gmail.com' is written in white.

OXHILL VILLAGE HALL
for our community

SUMMER Soirée

SATURDAY
20TH JUNE
7PM

£17.50
Includes canapés
& two drinks

Buy online at oxfordvh.co.uk
or email Ali at oxfordvh@gmail.com



OUR NEW WEBSITE IS LIVE!



Find out what's on



Buy tickets



Sign up for the newsletter



Subscribe to the 100 Club



Contact us

oxhillvh.co.uk

ARTISAN MARKET AT OXHILL'S LITTLE WEEKEND OXHILL VILLAGE HALL

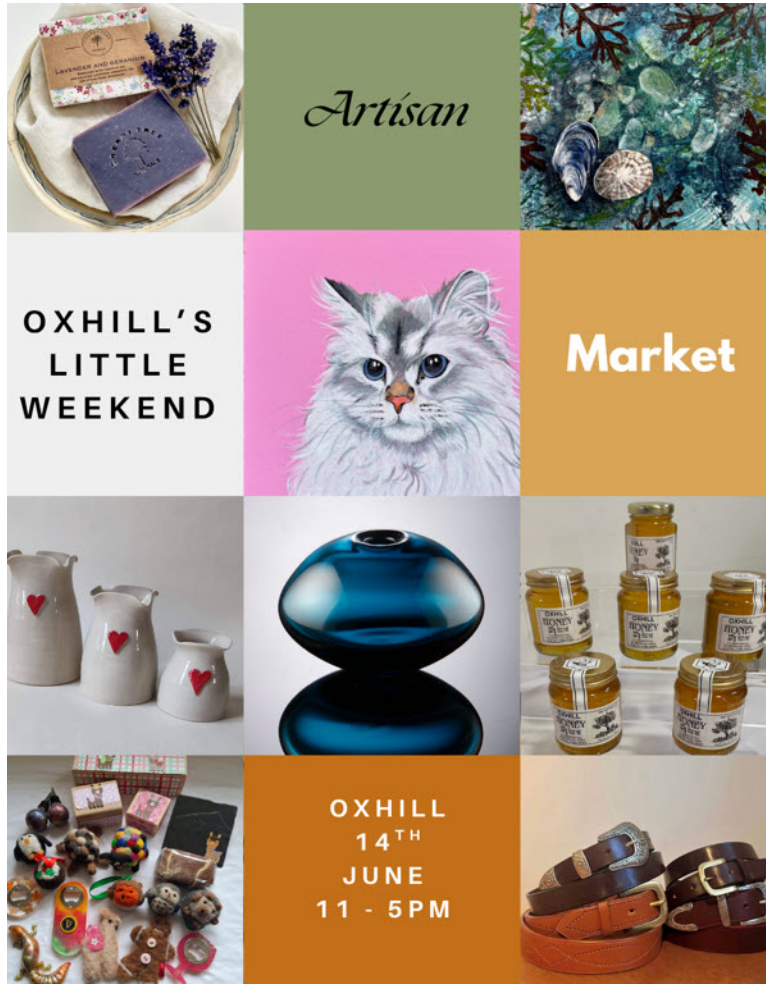
**Sunday 14th June
11am to 5pm**

Oxhill's Little Weekend 'Artisan Market' returns to the Village Hall this year, bringing together eight wonderful local artisan stalls for a relaxed day of shopping, refreshments and family fun.

We're delighted to welcome some new makers to the event, including beautiful handcrafted glassware by Melissa Melting Pot and bespoke leatherwork by Bonnie Dale. Visitors can also discover nature-inspired ceramics from Penny the Potter, quirky artwork by Melanie Charles and natural, organic skincare from Cherry Tree Naturals.

Returning favourites include locally produced honey from Oxhill's own beekeeper Doug Netherclef, unique gifts, resin work and alpaca wool felting by Lis Stuart, and wildlife-inspired artwork, textiles and cards by Lynsey Cleaver Artist.

The bar will be open throughout the day serving Pimms, and there will be children's games and activities on the lawn, making it a lovely afternoon out for all ages.



USEFUL VILLAGE CONTACT DETAILS

Oxhill Parish Councillors:

Malcolm Robertson: chair@oxhillparishcouncil.gov.uk
Jon Mercer: cllr.jon.mercer@oxhillparishcouncil.gov.uk
Peter Rivers Fletcher: cllr.peter.rivers-fletcher@oxhillparishcouncil.gov.uk
Sarah Hobill: cllr.sarah.hobill@oxhillparishcouncil.gov.uk
Barbara Shephard: cllr.barbara.shepard@oxhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

Oxhill Village Hall:

Derek Harbour - Chair
Ali Sayer - Hall Hire - 07970 922352
email: oxhillvh@gmail.com

St Lawrence Church:

Priest-in Charge Rev. George Heighton, 01295 680201
Rev Canon Dr Jill Tucker 07973 994800
revjill.tucker@btinternet.com
Churchwarden: Verena Rogers
email: rogersvm37@gmail.com
mobile: 0759 248 5016 landline: 01295 574 323

Friends of Oxhill Church:

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

Carers4carers:

kcarers4carers@gmail.com or tel: 07947 893504

Community Choir of Oxhill, Tysoe and Shenington (CCOTS):

Rehearsals Oxhill Village Hall 7.45- 9.15 pm every Wednesday term time only.
Website: www.ccots.org.uk
Email: membershipsecretary@ccots.org.uk

Oxhill Pickleball:

Peter Rivers Fletcher 07730 800729
rfn364@btinternet.com

talkdementia.uk:

Carer Support Service: [email: talkdementia@mail.com](mailto:email:talkdementia@mail.com)
Website: talkdementia.uk
Tysoe Village Hall every Friday from 10am

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: Miranda Forrester (680265); Paul Sayer (680451);
Sue and Mike Sanderson (688080)

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

WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND OXHILL

JUNE

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------|---|
| Wed 3rd | 14:30-14:50 | Mobile Library outside Village Hall |
| Fri 5th | 18:30 | Family Quiz Night, Ettington Community Centre |
| Tues 9th | 18:30 | Pasta Night, Village Hall |
| Fri 12th - Sun 14th | | Shenfest, Shenington |
| Sun 14th | 11:00-17:00 | Oxhill's Little Weekend |
| Sat 20th | 10:00-15:00 | Bioblitz, St Lawrence Churchyard |
| Sat 20th | 19:00 | Summer Soiree, Village Hall |
| Sat 20th-Sun 21st | 10:00-17:00 | Arts in the Cotswolds, Tysoe Village Hall |
| Every Thursday | 12:00 | Coffee Morning, Peacock Pub |

JULY

| | | |
|----------|-------|--|
| Sat 11th | 17:00 | Family BBQ, Boules & Games, Village Hall |
|----------|-------|--|

PC MEETINGS

The date of the next Parish Council meeting is **Tuesday, 21st July 2026 at 6.30pm**. The 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.

JUNE 2026

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | 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 | | | | |

BIN COLLECTION CALENDAR

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

 Food waste  Recycling

 General refuse  Garden waste