

THE OXHILL NEWS

April 2014

No. 473



Topping up the hedgehog home in Oxhill churchyard wildlife area.

Editors:

Vanessa Druce & Roger Goodman

07972 240818

news-editor@oxhill.org.uk



CLEANER WHO LIKES A CHALLENGE

3 Bed Semi (with a dog, 2 cats, a husband and a full time working wife) needs a weekly (or twice weekly) clean. May need Gas mask and full Bio suit!!!
Please ring Hilary on 07891 838 314

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. Please email news-editor@oxhill.org.uk or place paper contributions in the box labelled 'The Oxhill News' in the Church.

MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library has books with **large print**, ordinary print, picture books, children's books, paterbacks, non-fiction, novels,sagas, crime, mysteries, adventures, westerns and romance. The van has talking books, cassettes and CDs.

The library van will continue to visit Oxhill every 3rd **Friday (change from Wednesday)**, stopping at the Village Hall at 14:30 and staying there for 30 minutes. The van will visit us on Friday 11 April. For further info please telephone: 01926 851031

REFUSE COLLECTION

Recycling and green waste bins (blue and green bins) will be collected on Tuesdays 8th and 22nd April. The grey rubbish bins will be collected Tuesdays 1st, 15th and 29th April.

WEEKDAY WALKERS

Weekday Walkers usually walk on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month. If you are interested in joining or to find out further information, please contact Jim Saxton on 680613 or saxton@talktalk.net

PEACOCK EVENTS THIS MONTH

Quiz Night

Quiz night on Sunday 6th April at 8pm

Village Events

The village coffee morning is on Wednesday 2nd April at 10:30am and the village lunch is on Wednesday 16th April.



OXHILL GARDEN CLUB - AGM

Roger Umpelby made a return visit on Feb 20th to cheer up a winter evening with colourful slides of British Butterflies, of which apparently there are 111 species. Of those 58 are native to Britain. The butterflies were really beautiful-the underside

as well as the upper wings and the use of camouflage was particularly evident. Judging by the many questions, members found his talk very interesting.

By the time you read this, the AGM and cheese and wine will have taken place and the committee and officers elected for next year. Some of you will have also paid your dues and joined for 2014/15. Thank you.

Our next meeting takes place on April 17th and reverts to our usual time of 7.30 pm. The subject is "Driving in the South Midlands" to be given by Bruce Smith.

May sees the return of The Plant Sale-date yet to be fixed.



Other dates for your diary are, Wednesday June 16th a half day trip the Sezincote House and Gardens and Thursday August 14th a day trip to Wilton House and Gardens and Salisbury Cathedral.

More details later.

Ruth Gibson

ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH

Sunday 6th Lent V: 9.30am Parish Communion (JT)

Sunday 13th Palm Sunday: 9.30am Sunday Worship (BR)

Good Friday 10.00 United Service (At Tysoe Methodists)
2.00pm The Hour by the Cross (At Brailes)

Sunday 20th EASTER DAY: 9.30am Parish Communion (ML)

Wednesday 23rd St. George's Day: 7.30pm Patronal Festival (At Brailes)

Sunday 27th Easter I: 9.30am Family Service (NM)

For other benefice services see porch notice board

VICARAGE NOTES

Lent and Holy Week 2014

The Deanery Lent Services continue on Tuesday evenings and all are most welcome. Special services are held in the benefice on Good Friday and Oxhillians are invited.

Easter Day

The Church will be transformed as the flowers and decorations remind us of new life in the Resurrection. Charles Wesley's great hymn, Love's Redeeming Work, concludes with this verse – an acclamation of Easter praise:

*Hail the Lord of earth and heaven,
Praise to thee by both be given;
Thee we greet triumphant now;
Hail, the resurrection thou.*

Restoration Project

Please support the concert next month by the Carice Singers on the 12th – a highly professional choir - in aid of the appeal. The scaffolding and temporary hut remind us that the long awaited work has now begun! There will be some inconvenience, but the contractors, Croft Conservation, will try and keep it to a minimum.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting

All are welcome to this gathering on Thu. April 3rd at 7.30pm in Church. It includes the election of wardens and members of the P.C.C. together with the various reports including last years accounts. Fairly informal - you will not be bulldozed into taking on a job if you come!

Best wishes and God bless,

Nicholas Morgan 01608 685230
braileschurch@gmail.com

DEANERY NEWS

We welcome everyone to join us at one of our **Deanery Lent Services** held at Churches across the Deanery. This year we are studying the Beatitudes, using the book *Life Attitudes* by Robert Warren and Sue Mayfield, copies of which are available for those who wish to continue the theme of the services into their various small groups. All services are on Tuesdays at 7.30pm:

March 25th, Ettington **Living Purposefully** - Matthew 5:5-6 Revd. Stuart Allen, Rector SW7 Benefice

April 1st, Brailes: **Living Lovingly** - Matthew 5:7,8 Revd. Canon Martin Saxby, Healthy Churches Development Mentor

April 8th, Pillerton: **Living Differently** - Matthew 5:7-9 Revd. Daniel Pulham, Minister of Stour Valley Baptist Church

April 15th, Long Compton: **Eucharist of Holy Week**, Ven. John Green, Archdeacon Pastor.

Our **Ascension Day Service** this year will be at Darlingscott, at 7.30pm on Thursday, May 29th: our preacher will be Revd. Andrew Coleby, Rector of Shipston.

An advance notice that **Instant Choirs** is back, on Saturday, May 17th, from 2.00 pm until 5.15pm (registration from 1.30 onwards) in St. Gregory's Church, Tredington. We are delighted that Julian Harris has completed and is teaching us the whole of the Shipston Mass (we used parts for the Archbishop), so the day will end with a short Eucharist using the Shipston Mass setting at 5.30pm, finishing at 6.15pm.

Also in May, on Tuesday, May 6th, in Tysoe Church at 7.30pm there will be a meeting for all Treasurers and Churchwardens, as well as Synod members, especially those who are newly elected, to answer questions, share experiences, and explain a bit about the workings of the Diocese.

Finally, new **Deanery Synod Representatives** will need to be elected at the year's Annual Parochial Church Meetings. My thanks to everyone who has served so faithfully for the last three years.

Finally, some more thanks: across the Deanery we have paid practically every penny of our Parish Share this, which reflects all but a few percent of the total cost of

ministry across the Deanery. Thank you to everyone whose generosity in giving reflected God's generosity towards us!

May I wish you a time of great blessing this Easter,
Jill

LENT IN OXHILL

We had a wonderful time at the Pancake Supper: my grateful thanks to everyone who cooked, came, ate and donated so generously. We should be able to send something like £260 to Christian Aid, which is marvellous.

Next up is Mothering Sunday, March 30th, when there will be special service for Mothering Sunday, in celebration of the family, to which everyone, old and young, is invited. There will be posies all round, and refreshments afterwards!

To further support Christian Aid this Lent there will be a Super Soup Lent on Monday, April 7th at The Old House, from 12.30pm onward. Everyone is very welcome to pop in and share this simple meal, in order to share our world's resources more fairly. And there is a high chair for any very young visitor!

Jill Tucker



STOUR SINGERS, DIRECTOR
RICHARD EMMS
PRESENT BRAHMS' REQUIEM
IN SHIPSTON



On Saturday May 10th at St Edmund's Church in Shipston, at 7.30.p.m., Richard Emms will be conducting the Stour Singers in Brahms' Requiem, with soloists Robyn Allegra Parton (soprano), Alan Fairs (bass-baritone), and pianists Fiona Brown and Sara Harris. The programme consists of arias by Handel, Bach, and Mendelssohn, followed by the Requiem (an ultimately comforting work, described by Brahms himself as a "Human" Requiem), written in response to the death of his mother.

Tickets at £12.50 are available from R. Clarke, 27 High Street, Shipston. Accompanied children are welcome at no cost. Enquiries to Yvonne Ridley on 01789 269587.

OXHILL VILLAGE HALL – UPCOMING EVENTS

Please note that The Village Hall will continue to operate as normal during the Sewer Renewal works in Whatcote Road. Residents of Whatcote Road are welcome to use the Car Park at their own risk but please be mindful of classes and events that are scheduled to take place therein. The Hall is used every Monday evening between 6.00pm and 8.00pm, every Wednesday between 9.30am and 12.30pm, every Thursday morning between 9.00am and 11.00am plus the events listed below.

An English Friday Night @ The Village Hall – 11 April, 2014

Another casual Friday Night event but this time with an English theme; Shakespeare's Birthday & St George's Day on the 23rd of April makes this a good reason to celebrate being English with a very English Supper of Cottage Pie and Vegetables (a Veggie version of Cottage Pie will be available) plus a pudding and a quiz or two and all for only £9 per person. Food will be available between 8.00pm and 9.30pm and the quiz will be held at a convenient point during the evening.

Tickets are available from Audrey Reid on 688148

Village Hall Committee AGM – Tuesday, 29 April

The Village Hall Committee AGM will take place on Tuesday, 29 April at 8.00pm and this is an opportunity for new ideas to influence the way that the Village Hall is run and the sort of event that is available. If you would like to join the committee please let me know in advance of the meeting. However, even if you do not want to stand for a committee post, please come along and enjoy a glass of wine, get to know more about our finances, our challenges and let us have your thoughts on how you would like to see the Village Hall develop.

Derek Harbour on 680676

Not SCARECROW WEEKEND but SCARECROW FRIDAY on 16 May

Thanks to Oxhill's favourite impresario, Pat Crowther, we are thrilled to have secured The Scarecrow Band for a gig on the 16th of May. They are an Oxfordshire based Folk-style band with an uplifting original and traditional repertoire, see www.scarecrowband.co.uk for details and to hear some examples of their music. They have delighted audiences from the Isle of Wight all the way to Sheffield and now Oxhill! Doors will open at 7.30 and the first music session will begin at 8.00pm.

Tickets, which will go quickly, at only £7.50 each can be ordered from Tricia Harbour on 680676

COLLIE PUPPIES FOR SALE

Lovely temperament! You have probably seen the parents working! Very agile. Ready to go to their new homes, would make lovely pets or agility dogs but will need plenty of exercise.

Call Tom on 01295 680216



KINETON AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

KADS is pleased to announce that our next production will be "Snakes and Ladders" (also known as "Heatstroke") a comedy by Eric Chappell in Kineton Village Hall on 10, 11 and 12 April at 8:00pm.

Sam and Fay think they are going to have a free and peaceful weekend at Sydney's Spanish villa. Wrong! The villa has been double booked and Howard and Dodie arrive shortly afterwards. From then on confusion reigns over who owns which holdall and where a large sum of money came from, and, more importantly, where it is going.

Tickets (£6.00, concessions £5:00) will be available from "Flower Thyme", Banbury Road, Kineton from early April, or can be reserved now by calling Yve on 01926 642313.

Check out our website for further information at www.kads.org.uk.

KNIT & NATTER

Our March sessions have again been very well supported and in April we have meetings on Thursdays, the 3rd and 17th at 2.00pm. On the 17th, the meeting just before Easter, we will be making an Easter Arrangement.

Please feel free to come along for a cup of tea and to 'Knit & Natter'. Also don't forget the BOOK EXCHANGE. If you'd like to know more, then call Tricia Harbour on 680676 or just turn up and join in.



LAMB AND CURRY LUNCH

The lunch is at the later date this year on June 15th. So put it in your diaries now so as not to miss it!! More details in May issue.

NOTES OF OXHILL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 11th MARCH 2014 AT 8.00 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Apology was received from Tom Heritage. The meeting, chaired by Grenville Moore, was attended by Parish Councillors David Hill, Carol Taylor and Brian Badger

MATTERS DISCUSSED

Planning

Appeals against planning applications had been rejected for (1) replacement garage at The Old Church House, and (2) the original design application at The Maples. Consent had been granted for tree work at The Fellows House.

Planning applications had been received for Listed Building consent for (1) replace guttering and part rebuild of wall at Oxhill Manor, and (2) reinstatement of chimney stack and roof timbers at The Old Rectory – supported as essential maintenance.

Application received to demolish existing house and replace with two at Applegrove – supported in line with Parish Plan. Application received for single storey rear extension and dormer windows and bay to front at The Box Garden (formally Ripplesdale) returned with objection to some design features.

Finance

Grants towards mowing the churchyard and village hall land were paid £600 and £200 respectively. Cost of printing the Parish Plan at £195 was paid, and cost of printing the Oxhill News October – March at £384 would be paid against invoices.

Highways

Pot holes would continue to be requested for repair.

Parish Council Notice Board

The Parish Council would like to thank Doug Nethercleft for providing and putting in place a new Parish Council notice board this is very much appreciated.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 13th May 2014 at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

This meeting will take place at 7.30 p.m. Tuesday 13th May prior to the Annual Parish Council Meeting. This meeting is your meeting. Any items for the agenda should be sent to the Clerk or just come along to the meeting.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT

Although we have now officially retired from West Midlands Ambulance Service, we would still be willing to attend should the need arise. But if the patient::

- has stopped breathing.
- has trouble breathing.
- has chest pains.
- is unconscious.
- has had a stroke.
- severe bleeding or burns.
- or broken bones.
- or any other LIFE THREATENING conditions.

YOU MUST PHONE 999 FIRST.

BEFORE you phone us. We may not be able to attend for a variety of reasons, such as, our own medical conditions, or we may not be home. But it's worth a try. We still have a Defibrillator. Our old Ambulance phone number has now been switched OFF. So now if you need us please use one of these numbers.

Mick 07976298228 Barbara 07976269090



ANOTHER SELL OUT EVENING

The Celtic Evening at our Village Hall was another sell out.

We all sat down for a two course meal of Lamb Casserole with vegetables, followed by a selection of desserts, and no one went away hungry. The evening was a great success organised by the very hardworking village hall committee.

Look out for the next event coming in April, which is going to have an English theme.

Mick Shepard

POLICE INVESTIGATORS SECURE CONFISCATION ORDERS AGAINST WARWICKSHIRE CRIMINALS

Inquiries carried out by police financial investigators have resulted in two convicted criminals from Warwickshire being stripped of thousands of pounds.

The two investigations by the Warwickshire and West Mercia Police Economic Crime Unit are the latest in a long list of successful applications granted by the courts under the Proceeds of Crime Act.



Both applications were heard at Warwick Crown Court. In the first case, the police secured a confiscation order of just under £2,300 against Genavieve Meredith (28), formerly of The Fordway, Lower Quinton, Stratford-on-Avon.

Meredith was given an eight-month prison sentence in September last year for offences involving cashing fraudulent cheques which she stole from a vulnerable 87-year-old woman she befriended.

Sadly, her victim died before the conclusion of criminal proceedings. The money obtained from the confiscation order, together with a further £8,000 surrendered to police at an earlier date, will now go as compensation to her family.

The second police application, secured a confiscation order against Tristan Welsh (33), of Grafton Lane, Bidford-on-Avon for £15,000.

It followed his conviction last year for possessing heroin and crack cocaine with intent to supply. He was jailed for four years nine months.

The confiscation hearing was told that a search warrant executed at Welsh's home in September 2011, discovered Class A drugs with a street value of more than £3,500 together with £1,380 cash.

Examination of his bank accounts by police financial investigator Kaye Williams, identified a suspicious volume of cash deposits totalling nearly £25,000, as well as balances of more than £12,000 across four accounts.

During a second incident in February, 2012, Welsh was arrested again on suspicion of drug offences when a search of his vehicle revealed drug dealing paraphernalia and about £1,700 in cash.

Bob Turner, of Warwickshire and West Mercia Police Economic Crime Unit, said: "These two cases illustrate our commitment to ensuring criminals are not allowed to enjoy the fruits of their crimes and also the strenuous efforts we will go to on behalf of victims to secure compensation."

Shipston SNT has suffered with an increase of heating oil thefts. We wanted to offer the below advice and request that people are vigilant and report any suspicious activity to the team or ring 101.

About the tank

OFTEC or the "Oil Firing Technical Association" and offers advice and guidance for those who use and store oil at their premises. There are certain rules and regulations that may apply to you and OFTEC will help you clarify these. Visit their website at www.oftec.org.uk for more information. The leaflet domestic oil storage provides guidance on siting and maintaining your tank.



Where can you put the tank?

The position of the tank can have a significant effect on how hard a target it is in the eyes of the thief.

- * If the tank is close to the house, with one or more windows capable of giving a view of it, then the thief may consider the chances of being seen too high.
- * If the tank is close to a road, path, drive or alleyway then it will be a far easier target for the thief.
- * Hiding the tank behind the garage, shed or some other type of outbuilding is fairly commonplace, but it does give the thief the advantage.

Tanks need to be within a reasonable distance of the road otherwise the oil supply company may not be able to refill it for you. Hiding the tank behind the garage, shed or some other type of outbuilding is fairly commonplace, but it does give the thief the advantage.

Locks

A good thief will come equipped with a limited range of tools to attack your tank so its worth spending a little more on good quality locks. Close shackle padlocks are the best as they offer most resistance to the most popular of burglar tools - the bolt cropper. Due to their design, close shackle padlocks have very little of

the metal hoop (shackle) exposed and bolt croppers cannot get a good grip. Remember that buying a padlock is like buying a car the more you pay the better the quality you get and the longer it will last.

Monitors

Remote electronic oil level gauges are now available which will set off an audible alarm if the oil level in the tank suddenly drops or falls below a quarter full. These gauges can be located in the kitchen or perhaps a utility room to warn of any potential problem. There are two or three different versions on the market at the moment and cost between £70 and £100.

Security lighting

Security lights can have a very positive effect and make any property a much harder target for the thief. It's not always necessary to floodlight the area with high power beams, as a more subtle level of lighting may be all that is needed. Low energy "dusk til' dawn lights positioned close to the tank should, in most cases, provide sufficient light to illuminate any suspicious activity. This type of light can be both effective and inexpensive. High powered lights can be used but care should be taken not to cause any nuisance to neighbours or road users.

Defensive Planting

This is nature's way of helping to reduce crime. Thieves will not wish to force their way through or over a prickly hedge. The smallest trace of blood or shred of ripped clothing could help the police identify the offender. Prickly shrubs and bushes can, if planted around your tank, provide an effective and decorative thief proof barrier.

Fencing

Fences and walls can also make life difficult for the thief. A wooden or metal fence, trellis or wall can give significant protection to the tank but it must be remembered that the oil tanker driver will need access to fill the tank. A metal grill or cage with a lockable access point across the top of this wall or fence can further improve security.

CCTV

The use of CCTV as a crime prevention and a crime detection tool has grown massively in recent years. It could play a part in the protection of oil tanks but before you spend lots of money on equipment make an assessment of your needs.

Ask yourself:

- * What do I hope to achieve by using CCTV?
- * How much am I prepared to spend?

* Is there a reasonable level of light where the cameras will be operating or do I need to think about using cameras with low light capability? (most thefts take place at night).

* What am I going to record the captured images on - digital recording is best?

* How am I going to provide the police with any evidence I may capture?

Be vigilant


If you notice tankers or large vehicles close to your property - take down any details if you think they may be suspicious and report to the police. Regardless how minor you might think the information is, please let us know. It might just be the piece of the puzzle we are missing.



SHIPSTON HOME NURSING

SPRING RUN JOG OR WALK AT WALTON HALL

Sunday 6th April 10am
*In the wonderful grounds of Walton Hall,
Wellesbourne CV35 9HU*

Sponsored by
SHeldon BOSTLY


**£5 per adult and £3 per child. Dogs on leads welcome
Hot Dogs at the finish line!**

To enter a team please contact Rebecca on 01608 674929 or just come along on the day!
For more information contact Gilda Gardner on 07970 177951

Use it as a team building event or get sponsored and raise more funds for the Charity! Warm up with Jamie Francis Personal Trainer.



SPRING AT UPTON HOUSE

Spring is upon us and the daffodils at Upton House & Gardens are now out. Our 7,000 tulips will gradually come into flower during April with over 20 different varieties, creating wonderful displays in different parts of the garden.

The Cadbury's Easter Egg trail makes a great reason for families to visit Upton over the Easter weekend with lots to do inside and out.

Our New Shell Art Exhibition opens on 18 April in the Squash Court Gallery. A selection of posters and original artworks, on loan from the Shell Advertising Art Collection, will be at Upton in the home of Walter Samuel, 2nd Viscount Bearsted, former Shell chairman and son of the company's founder, Marcus Samuel. This collection of posters demonstrates a wide range of artistic styles, both



traditional and modernist, and employed artists with established reputations as well as promoting new talent such as Graham Sutherland and Ben Nicholson.

Our 'Summer of Music' this year features the Warwick University Big Band on Father's Day, three indoor concerts with piano, violin and saxophone and of course our famous Jazz Party. Details of all these events are on our website.

Andrew Overton, Assistant Visitor Services Manager said "The events calendar this year is packed with a wonderful variety of things for our visitors to enjoy and we hope the new concerts we have arranged for the evenings in June, July and September will be really special events, with award winning musicians."

For more information call 01295 670266.

Opening times and dates are on the website.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/uptonhouse

"Bluebell Walk"

Sunday May 11th starting from Hell Brake Paddock, Whatcote.

Come for a gentle walk up to Hell Brake to see the Bluebells and enjoy a cream tea in the churchyard on your return.

You can start the walk any time between 2.00pm and 5.00pm

The cost is £6.00 for adults, accompanied children free – and this includes the tea and scones!



The walk will start from Church Lane, Whatcote. (postcode CV36 5EF), and will be well signposted in the village, as will free car parking.

Cake & produce stalls – Dogs welcome if kept on a lead. Proceeds to St Peter's Church. **Strong shoes or boots are essential.**

If you have any queries please contact Sue Price –

KINETON ART GROUP

Kineton Art Group will be holding their Open Art Exhibition and Sale of Paintings at Kineton Village Hall on Saturday and Sunday, the 10th and 11th May 2014.

Doors will be open from 10-00 am until 5-00 pm each day. Adults 50p and Children enter free.

Please come and enjoy the abundance of paintings by our members and many other local artists. Refreshments including tea and home-made cakes will be available throughout each day. We are pleased to say that we will be sponsoring PAINTING FOR PLEASURE, a not for profit organisation for disabled people and those living with or recovering from illness including carers needing some respite.

If you need any other information please let me know.

You can telephone me on 01295 788890 or send an email to gail@kinetonartgroup.co.uk.

With many thanks,
Gail O'Dell

The Carice Singers Choir



The Carice Singers consists of some of the UK's most talented singers between the ages of 18-22. Our projects provide invaluable experience to those considering careers as professional singers, and bring students together from around the country. Named after the daughter of Sir Edward Elgar, the choir strives to give invigorated performances of the English Romantic Composers, as well as promoting the singing of choral music in rural churches.

All the Flowers of the Spring
Music by Stanford/Warlock/Delius/Whitacre

Saturday April 12th 2014

St. Mary's Church Tysoe at 7.30pm

Tickets £15

***To book, please telephone Sue Hunt 01295 680419
or e-mail sue.hunt@onebillinternet.co.uk***

THE VICAR OF BAGHDAD

illustrated talk on the church's work in this challenging city – Tuesday 6 May

The Rev. David Post is a retired vicar who has taken an active interest in the work of St George's Church in Baghdad and its inspirational vicar, Canon Andrew White, the 'Vicar of Baghdad'.

David has taken to long distance sponsored cycle rides to raise money for the church and the services it provides in Baghdad including a kindergarten, clinic and food-aid provided to local people - irrespective of their faith or politics.

He visited Andrew last year and in May he undertakes a UK speaking tour, by bike, to talk about the Vicar of Baghdad.



David on his bike during his 2010 ride.

Come and hear David's fascinating, illustrated talk at **The Old Chapel, Main Street, Oxhill at 7.30pm on Tuesday 6 May.**

Admission is £5 including a glass of wine or soft drink, with all proceeds going to St George's, Baghdad.



Shipston Home Nursing in association with Sheldon's Wine Cellars

Sheldon's
wine cellars

CALL MY WINE BLUFF

An evening with the BBC & QVC
Saturday 26th April 2014, 7.30pm

You taste the wine, the Panel each opine.

Which Panel member forsooth is telling the truth?

The Chairman: Richard Phillips *Racehorse trainer*

The Panel: Beverley Cressman *QVC Channel Guest Presenter*; Cornelius Lysaght *BBC Racing Correspondent*;

Mark Pougatch *BBC 5 Live Sports Report and 'Ashes' Breakfast Presenter*

For more details and booking form contact winebluff@hotmail.co.uk

Sheldon Bosley Hub | Entrance Fee: £15 | Raffle | 5 Lot Auction | Bring your own picnic | Cash Bar





WOT2Grow YOUR COMMUNITY ORCHARD

It looks like Spring has arrived at the orchard. We have the first blossom, an apricot, which really makes the spirits rise and the other trees are beginning to show buds breaking. Everything is springing into life after a few days of dry sunny and much warmer weather so it won't be long before everything is green and starting to grow strongly.



Apricot Goldcot in blossom

Work carries on and we still have a lot of weeding to do but the soil is now just right for pulling the weeds out. Spring feeding has started and after that we will be mulching to help keep the moisture in and the weeds down. The permealax is spread and hopefully we will avoid the sawfly predation this year.

We pruned all the currants and gooseberries during a master class with our consultant John Edgeley who showed us how it should be done. This was fascinating and we all learned a lot especially the fan training of the gooseberries which had got a bit out of hand!

The grass cutting team is gearing up and the first cut has made a big difference. The aim this year is again to

attack the dandelions when they reach the optimum height for losing their heads so preventing them from seeding. A definite art!

The bee team are pleased with the state of the two hives and hopefully we will get some honey this year.

Lots of different things to do at the orchard so why not come along and find out more at one of the regular working sessions on a Wednesday at 10:00 and a Sunday at 2:00, weather permitting.

Or contact one of the team which you can find at www.wot2grow.co.uk

WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND OXHILL

April

Tuesday 1st		Grey landfill bin collection
Wednesday 2nd	10:30	The Peacock - Village Coffee Morning
Thursday 3rd	14:00	Knit and Natter
Sunday 6th	20:00	The Peacock - Quiz Night
Tuesday 8th		Green & Blue bin collection
Thursday 10th - 12th	20:00	KADS - "Snakes and Ladders"
Friday 11th	9:30	Weekday Walkers
Friday 11th	14:30	Village Hall - Mobile Library
Friday 11th		An English Friday, Village Hall
Saturday 12th	19:30	Carice Singers St Mary's Church Tysoe
Tuesday 15th		Grey landfill bin collection
Tuesday 15th		Oxhill News submission deadline
Wednesday 16th	12:30	The Peacock - Village Lunch
Thursday 17th	14:00	Knit and Natter
Thursday 17th	19:30	Garden Club meeting
Tuesday 22nd		Green & Blue bin collection
Friday 25th	9:30	Weekday Walkers
Tuesday 29th		Grey landfill bin collection
Tuesday 29th	20:00	Village Hal Committee AGM

May

Tuesday 6th	19:30	The Vicar of Baghdad, The Old Chapel
Saturday 10th	19:30	Stour Singers St Edmunds Church Shipston
Sunday 11th	14:00	Bluebell Walk Whatcote
Tuesday 13th	19:30	Annual Parish Meeting
Tuesday 13th	20:00	Annual Parish Council Meeting
Friday 16th	19:30	Scarecrow band, Village Hall