

THE OXHILL NEWS

August 2017

No. 513



The Oxhill Ladies completed a 26 mile hike to raise money for MacMillan. Photos show the Oxhill Ladies at the beginning and end of their challenging hike. Well done!

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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.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS THE 15TH OF EVERY MONTH.

MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library has books with **large print**, ordinary print, picture books, children's books, paperbacks, 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**, stopping at the Village Hall at 14:30 and staying there for 30 minutes. The van will visit us on August 18th. For further info please telephone: 01926 851031

REFUSE COLLECTION

Recycling and green waste bins (blue and green bins) will be collected on Tuesdays August 8th and 22nd.

The grey rubbish bins will be collected Tuesdays August 1st, 15th and 29th.

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

THE PEACOCK

The village coffee morning is on Wednesday August 2nd at 10:30 am.

The village lunch is on Wednesday August 16th.





BARNEY'S BAND IN THE BARN

SATURDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER 2017

**COME, LISTEN AND DANCE TO BARNEY'S AMAZING MUSIC IN THE
BARN AT WILLOUGHBY GROUNDS COURTESY OF BILL AND JUNE FOX.
A BRILLIANT EVENING FOR ALL SO DON'T MISS IT!**

7:30 PM

DONATION BAR

PIG ROAST

TICKETS £13.00

CHILDREN UNDER 16 £6.50

INCLUDES ONE FREE PORK BAP

**TICKETS/BOOKINGS CONTACT CAROL FOX 01295 680023 OR
07966059596 OR EMAIL CEAFX21@AOL.COM**

OR GAIDA WEBB 01295 680214

PROCEEDS TO OXHILL CHURCH

OXHILL LADIES MIGHTY HIKE FOR MACMILLAN 22nd JULY

8am, Hillesley, Gloucestershire

We all met at the start line – it had been quite an early start, with some of us having left Oxhill at 6.20am! It was a glorious morning and spirits were high!

We decided to set off with an earlier wave of walkers, so we joined in with the warm up exercises and set off at 8.30am. Straight out of Hillesley, was a lovely long hill climb! Once at the top, we were out in the open, the sun was shining and we were marching on! The weather soon changed though and suddenly we were in a freezing cold downpour! However, we made it to the first rest stop at around 7 miles just before 11am. We had a quick re-shuffle of boots, coats and socks, as well as enjoying tasty pastries and a quick loo-break. Before we knew it, we were off again! The rain had passed and we were set to dry off, with hopes of doing so before the next stop!

The next stage to lunch was roughly the same distance, taking us to around 13.5 miles. We crossed the M4 and the A46 in this stage! Whilst crossing the motorway, we had lots of cars flashing their lights, tooting their horns and waving at us. It was so great to feel we had the support from complete strangers and we kept on plodding, eventually reaching the lunch stop near Dyrham Park around 1.30pm. The wet weather was really coming in now. The view over the valley was beautiful, even whilst tainted by rain clouds! After some good food, plenty of cups of tea and some more boot/sock changes, we ended up in 4 smaller groups, leaving at slightly different intervals. The rain was a real challenge for the next couple of miles, as well as a nice big hill through some woods (bit



mean straight after lunch!). The real killer of this section though was a very steep descent on a hard road, followed by a hill-climb never to be repeated! As we walked/zig-zagged/springy-knee'd to the very bottom of the valley, we had constant view of the next challenge straight ahead of us. Fortunately, there was a marshal at the foot of the hill, who fuelled us with jelly babies and words of support.

Forever dubbed “the b**** of the 18-mile hill”, it really did put all of our training into practise - it was a hill that we had to pace ourselves up. But we all did it! The afternoon rest stop was imminent, however it felt like we had walked for hours until we got there after the 18-mile hill! Mars bars and crisps were much appreciated at 20.5miles, and the final blister plaster applications were just going to have to be enough to get us to the end. With 5 miles left, the sun was shining again and with the knowledge that the final leg was mostly downhill, we marched on knowing that our next stop was the finish line! The 4 of us bringing up the rear got held up in people traffic on a fairly narrow part of the path but we ended up chatting to a couple of trek-masters that were helping out some walkers that needed a bit of extra support. The final stagger



down the steep hill into Bath was a sight to behold. By this point, all the hard downhill walking was starting to take its toll on our knees! Luckily, we had Catherine-bum-out-springy-knees-walk-like-a-cowboy-Kimmins with us, who coached us down! Once at the bottom, it was then a case of striding through Bath to get to Victoria Park to the finish line. Medals and glasses of fizz were dished out and we were met by partners, family and friends – more Prosecco, cakes and quiche in hand! Photo finishes all round and we were

done. Boots could not come off quick enough! We had had such an amazing day!

Thank you to everyone that helped us out on the day. We couldn't have done it without you – even the few that took the longest time EVER to get to Bath on the train...it did keep us entertained (naming no names!). Special thanks to Stuart Whittaker, Stuart Barker and Matt Kimmins who were our amazing on-route support vehicles, turning up at the exact right moments with spare socks, water and extra snacks! Special thanks also to Jon, Ruth and Alice Mercer for the baked goods at the finish line, as well as their top class taxi-service!

Finally, a huge thank you to everybody that sent us words of support all day – keeping up with our Facebook updates, sponsoring us and generally being amazing. It really did keep us motivated! Our sponsorship page is still active for another couple of weeks, so please, if you'd like to donate, please search for 'Oxhill Ladies' on justgiving.com.

The Oxhill Ladies



Annual Cricket Match Tysoe v Oxhill

Sunday 20th August 2.30pm

New - Ladies inter-village Rounders Match 11.30am

All-Day Bar ** Lunch - Hot Beef Rolls and Hot Dogs ** Teas - from 3.30pm



Come and join the Fun!

Want to play? Call

Tysoe:

Tom Moffatt 688030

Digby Norton 688251

Rounders

Jane Gardner 680683/07766 706906

Oxhill:

Stuart Whittaker 07713 621067

Adam Jordan 07590 960992

Catherine Kimmins 07811 195345

WHISKEY TASTING

Well we had a giggle! OWAS made its debut appearance and would like to thank you all for making it such a fun evening. I particularly liked how a few of you were scoring the different oat cakes as well as the whisky!

Reuben kept us up to speed with details on each whisky and also guessing which item of clothing was coming off with the next taster! And the lovely Vanessa did a photo shoot of the event, committed to the cause she stayed to make sure she got some before and after shots of the 35000 mile dram flight we were all on. Even our furry four legged friends couldn't resist the smell of whisky and we had a very quick visit from our guest of honour Chip.



We're very much looking forward to seeing you all at the next one, until then, happy dramming!

Lisa





OXHILL VILLAGE HALL UPCOMING EVENTS AND NEWS

Coming next...

Sunday 3 September - Village Hall Maintenance Day

After a busy few months for the village hall, we have a bit of a rest in August from putting on organised events, which in turn allows us to give the hall some TLC (Tender Loving Care)!

Volunteers are very welcome to join committee members at our annual maintenance day which this year takes place after the end of the month, on 3 September.

If you are keen to help - likely to be some painting work, maintenance of guttering, cleaning and clearing up in the kitchen and bar areas, tidying up outside the hall - you will be very welcome. Just come on down or speak to a committee member. We will aim to start at 10am.



Boules at the Village Hall this July 16th

Coming soon...

Saturday 23 September - Progressive Supper

Our highlight for September is the ever-popular Progressive Supper.

Once again we will gather in the village hall for drinks at 7pm, then split up into groups to enjoy starters and main courses in different houses across the village before returning to the village hall for puds. The cost to take part is £17.50 each but if you host a course there is no charge to take part.

This is a fantastic opportunity to meet one another in our homes and experience our warm and friendly village atmosphere, especially for newcomers to Oxhill.

More details and how to book will appear in the September Oxhill News.

Dates for the diary

Saturday 7 October - Village Big Breakfast

Friday 10 November - Annual Curry Night

Monday 11 December - Village Christmas Lunch

Friday 22 December - Beer and Bubbles Night (posh frocks and black and white/lounge suits/jackets)

Saturday 27 January - Burns Night



Jo and Richard won this year's Boules with Katy and Stuart in second place.



DEANERY NEWS

Deanery activities take something of a break over the summer, but there are none the less some significant events.



We shall be welcoming Sharon Goble to our Deanery: she is to be licensed as Rector of the Stourdene Benefice (i.e. Ettington, Pillerton Priors, Butlers Marston, Halford, Newbold and Alderminster) on **Wednesday, August 30th at 7.30pm in Newbold Church**. We welcome her to Shipston Deanery, and pray for God's blessing on her ministry here.

Looking beyond the summer, the only date on the horizon at the moment is the Deanery Synod, which will be on **Monday, October 9th, at 7.30pm** – venue to be confirmed. Note that this is a **Monday** – for once this is not a misprint!

This is one image of rest: may you find some or all of it over the summer.

Rest means:

finding that God loves you are you are and that he is your Father;

an awakening to the presence of God;

a growing knowledge of His voice and leading;

inner healing from hurts;

journeying to find your true self in these times;

space to think;

space just to be;

release of creativity;

receiving of revelation;

joy;

being enabled to give yourself more fully and be more present once you are back and around others.

~ The Musings of an Urban Monk: Simon Jones

Every blessing, Jill

DORIS ROLL

1921 -2017

Doris Roll with her husband Reg, lived in Oxhill for about 30 years. Doris had a very long life, she lived until 95 years old.

Her funeral was held on 20th July, with family and friends attending. Doris was buried alongside Reg in the St Lawrence church graveyard. May God's love hold them close for evermore.



NOTES FROM ST. LAWRENCE

During August and into September, services in St Lawrence Church will be as follows:

- Aug 6th BCP Holy Communion Revd. Canon Dr. Jill Tucker
 - Aug 13th Patronal Festival Revd. Canon Dr. Jill Tucker
- A Special occasion when we commemorate St. Lawrence himself!
- Aug 20th Parish Communion Revd. Canon Dr. Jill Tucker
 - Aug 27th Family Holy Communion Rev George Heighton
 - Sept 3rd BCP Holy Communion Rev George Heighton
 - Sept 10th Morning Worship Rev Canon George Warner
 - Sept 17th Parish Communion Revd. Canon Dr. Jill Tucker
 - Sept 24th Harvest Festival Revd. Canon Dr. Jill Tucker

And we are also planning another Messy Harvest on Saturday, September 23rd between 10.00am and 12 noon in The Old Chapel – open to everyone to come along, and either help create a Harvest Display, or have coffee and cake while others do so!

Even now the harvest is all around us: as we are privileged to enjoy this summer in our wonderful countryside, please do pray for those whose harvests fail, who have absolutely nothing to feed to their children – and think about how we can make a difference.

Have a wonderful summer,
Blessings, Jill

30 HOURS FREE FUNDED PLACES from Sept 2017



High quality childcare from 7.45 am - 6 pm
5 days a week, 51 weeks a year

- Pre school from age 18 months upwards
 - Holiday club
- Before school club including breakfast
 - After school club (inc hot meal)
- After school activities: French, art & craft, running and film night
 - Walking school bus to and from Tysoe Primary School

Toddler group Weds am

Youth group Tues pm



tysoechildrengroup.co.uk 01295680624

Oxhill Garden Club



OXHILL GARDEN CLUB OUTING 13th JULY

On Thursday 13th July, 15 members of the Oxhill Garden Club were on a half day trip to Langdale , the garden of Adrian and Sheila James at Offenham near Evesham. Eleven members met in sunny weather at the Bridge Inn pub for lunch, which was served in the gardens overlooking the River Avon . Arriving at Langdale at 2.30pm the party were greeted by Sheila who gave a summary of the development of the garden from 2009 to date. Free to wander the many paths and sections of the garden the displays included many varieties of plants shrubs and flowers. There were also soft fruits ,squashes, vegetables and two apricot trees well laden with fruit. The visit closed with tea and cakes in a cosy corner of the garden. A most enjoyable time was had by all with thanks given to Sheila on our departure.

Martin Hunt – Chairman

WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, SECTION 14

TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF A422 BANBURY ROAD, KINETON

Warwickshire County Council proposes to make a Temporary Traffic Order closing A422 Banbury Road, Kineton, from its junction with D6429 Tysoe Road to its junction with C54 Tysoe Road, to vehicular traffic.

The closure is required to facilitate carriageway resurfacing works.

The Order will commence on 23 August 2017 and will last for a period of 18 months, or until the works are completed, whichever is the earlier. However, it is anticipated that the works will be completed by 30 August 2017.

Pedestrian access to and egress from properties and land situated adjacent to the length of road to be closed will be maintained at all times. Vehicular access will be maintained where possible.

An alternative route will be signed and is available via: A422 Banbury Road, A422 Stratford Road, A422 Silver Street, A422 Stratford Road, B4100 Warwick Road, B4100 Banbury Road, Fosse Way, A422 Banbury Road, A422 Pillerton Hersey Road, A422 Banbury Road, A422 Stratford Road.

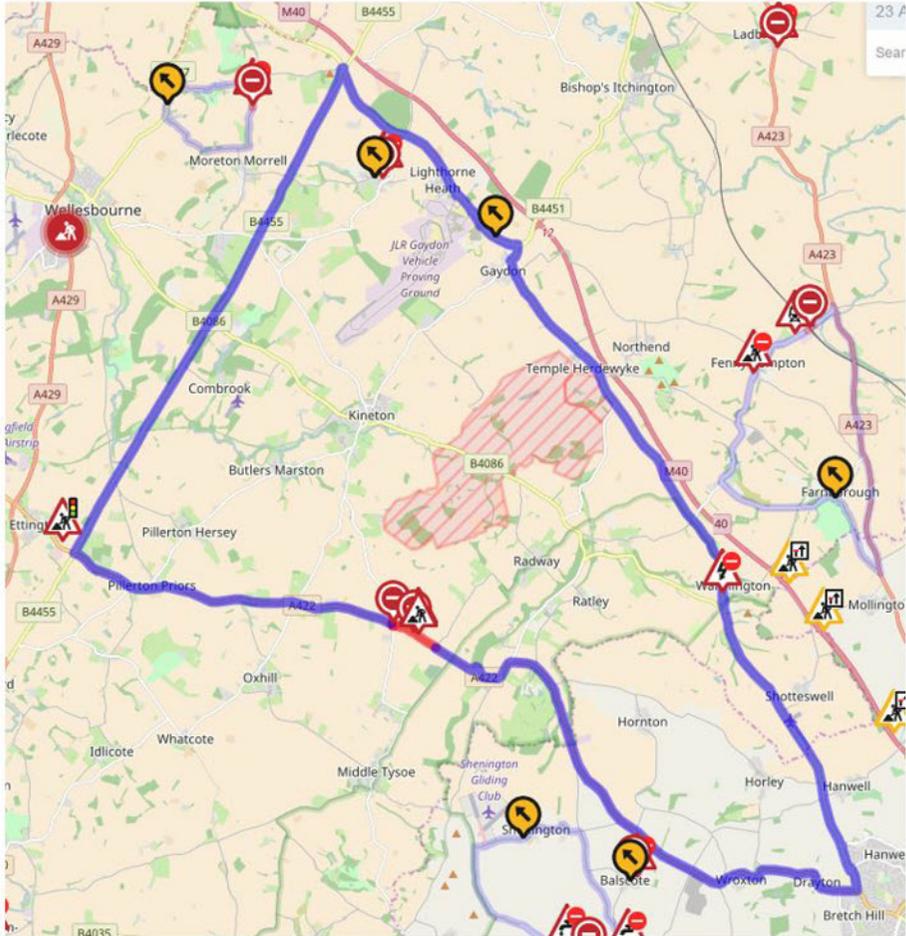
The Council regrets any inconvenience that may be caused. The team dealing with this Temporary Traffic Order at Warwickshire County Council is County Highways South (Tel: 01926 412515).

Any enquiries relating to the works being undertaken may be directed to the Contractors dealing with this matter Darren Vinning for Traffix (Tel: 0800 819 9001) and Paul Kelly for Balfour Beatty (Tel: 01675 467523).

S Duxbury, Head of Law & Governance, Shire Hall, Warwick, 4 August 2017

ROAD DIVERSION

Notice and plan for road closures, taking place between 23/08/17 - 30/08/17





HEDGEHOG TALES

Having spent many a night wandering round the garden with a torch to try and see what is going on I have now set up one of my many feeding stations under solar lights on my patio so I can observe it from the kitchen window. However I have also now obtained a night vision camera and, boy, what a hive of activity goes on in my garden during the night. Apart from the usual marauding cats, sorry cat owners but they do scare off the wildlife, I also have a nightly visit from the fox. Indeed it may be two as there is definitely a visit in the late evening and again early morning, unless of course he/she is particularly lazy and returns for a second helping. But it is the hedgehogs which are a pure delight and I am now recognizing the different characters as I must have at least 4/5 regular visitors as well as occasional visitors. I thought you might be interested in my observations of these lovely creatures.

There is Early Bird. A small hedgehog who is always the first to the dishes when I put them out around 10.00 pm. I can put one out on the patio and by the time I have put the other dishes out around the garden he or she is head first into the patio dish gobbling away, hedgehogs are very noisy eaters. On occasion he has been waiting for me on the patio when I come out as if to say - you're late, what kept you!



It is very difficult to know what sex they are unless you turn them over to look, which is impossible, the only difference that is visible is that female hedgehogs are usually smaller than males, but then again small hedgehogs could be this year's youngsters.

Then there is Grunter. Again a relatively small hedgehog who comes early on to the dishes. He is very noisy and grunts continuously whilst eating, when he walks to the water bowl and just generally as he sniffs around the patio. When he stops I know he is about to run off down the garden and hedgehogs can run very fast when they need to. Then there are two hedgehogs who usually come together. One is quite small and one medium size, they could be a male and female. They are quite wary of each other and the smaller one (Juliet) snorts very loudly when the other one is close by. However this does not deter the medium sized one (Romeo) who follows Juliet. Juliet continuously backs away snorting very loudly. Romeo pursues her with determination but understandable caution. This can go on for some considerable time. I think she is just playing hard to get. However Romeo usually gives up and wanders off. On several occasions I have heard this snorting in various areas of the garden and hope that Romeo finally succeeds one day. Then there is Bruiser.

I think it is definitely a he because he is so big and what a bully he is. I can have a hedgehog feeding at the dishes and suddenly they



will freeze. The next minute Bruiser charges out from the shadows and headbutts the poor hedgehog knocking them for six across the patio. Naturally they curl up into a tight ball and roll but Bruiser isn't finished and will headbutt them again and again all around the patio. I get quite concerned for the poor thing especially when they get stuck under the bench. Eventually Bruiser gives up and gobbles what is left of the food, headbutting the poor other hedgehog as he leaves! After a while the other hedgehog will uncurl and carry on, much to my relief, obviously none the worse for the battering he has received.



The night vision camera has revealed that there are lots of hedgehog visitors to my garden all through the night and certainly the feeding dishes are always empty by morning. As hedgehogs wander extensively during the night it is unlikely that it is the same ones over and over again that the camera sees as they will feed in my garden and then carry onto other favourite feeding spots in the area. They are certainly creatures of habit. I am also delighted to report that I now have a regular resident in my hedgehog box. Every 4/5 days I find a hedgehog sleeping in the box during the day and I reckon it is the same one. I place food outside the box for him/her to find the moment they wake up and indeed he appears to come out in the early evening, polish off the food and return to the box for another short sleep before the arduous task of a night's wanderings.

This is a very important time of the year for hedgehogs as they must put on as much fat as possible during August, September and October to ensure they can survive the rigours of a winter hibernation. Many hedgehogs do not survive the winter because they are too small or unable to find enough food to bulk up their fat reserves. I am delighted our local hedgehog population appears to be doing so well but they still need our help.

On a hedgehog website I am informed that only 1 person in 5 has ever seen a live hedgehog and only 20% of them have seen hedgehogs on a regular basis. I therefore feel very privileged to have them visit my garden every night.

Gaynor Van Dijk

[Actors used to depict real events ~ ed]

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF OXHILL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 11th JULY AT 8.00PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

The meeting, chaired by Grenville Moore was attended by Councillors, Derek Harbour and Sue Hunt, apologies were received from Duncan Harper and Stuart Whittaker. One member of the public attended. Councillor John Fielding, Ward Member for Red Horse and Chris Williams, County Councillor for Kineton, also attended

Minutes – Minutes of the previous meeting were read, agreed and signed.

Matters arising

Speeding radar- The cost of having an automated radar device monitoring the speed of vehicles passing through the village is £252.09 +VAT (as last quoted) for a single site, it was proposed that a new quote be obtained and that radar devices be booked for 2 locations – Whatcote Road and Green Lane.

Footpath Bridge – A request for the names of the landowners has been received, the Enforcement and Maintenance officer will be informed so that a job sheet can be issued.

Footpath extension on Whatcote Road – Highways will be contacted.

Dog bins – the dog warden will be contacted again.

Damage to the Village Hall Bin- Stratford District Council will be contacted to ascertain who is responsible for the repairs.

The dumping of Illegal waste – There is an ongoing investigation led by a Senior Crime Investigation Officer.

Clerks Contract – An example will be obtained and the contract drafted as appropriate.

Planning – Permission has been approved for: Harrods Farm, 4 The Sett, Applegrove, Removal of a tree at The Homestead, Materials used for the Garage conversion at Green Fields.

Permission Pending: Oakwoods Plot 2 Green Lane, The Homestead – Garage and garden room, The Homestead, spruce tree, and landscaping at Stablecroft. There is an appeal for the application to build on land adjacent to the Hollies Rouse Lane.

The Parish Council has been approached about possible applications for a bungalow at the top of Whatcote Road, this is not designated building line but is next to an existing dwelling, it also does not extend the building line beyond existing houses.

Also, a dwelling between the existing house at Fithers Field and the existing bungalow. This would be in the conservation area. Both applications would be considered in the context of the areas and their merits.

The Homestead are working with the conservation officer to agree a scheme that will be acceptable to both for the new dwelling.

Finance

Transparency Fund - An application will be made to cover the cost of providing the website and the increased workload for the clerk.

Clerks Wages – A sum of £960 was paid to the clerk for work from May 2016 to the end of April 2017.

Training – The sum of £30 was paid for 2 councillors to attend Introductory training for Councillors. It was identified that the publication The Good Councillors Guide would be useful for all members of the Parish Council and as an induction document for new Councillors. It was therefore proposed that 5 copies should be purchased.

Correspondence

Code of conduct for Councillors – Stratford District Council is currently reviewing it's code of conduct for Councillors, Once this has been adopted, Councillors will be able to attend training in order make an informed decision about whether to adopt the new code.

Changes to the Audit Regime – Changes in April next year will mean that for smaller councils the reliance on internal auditors will be much more important as there will be the ability to opt out of external auditing. There will be training for interested individuals to become WALC approved auditors – initially John McKail will be approached to see if he would be interested.

Any other Business

County Councillor's Report – A report was given by County Councillor Chris Williams identifying 3 key areas:

- Finance and the uncertainty of Settlement Grant allocated to local authorities, revision of the 0-5 provision and children's centres. The Public consultation which is taking place until September.
- Community Grant Scheme – to be launched at the end of the month.
- Highway safety- consideration of schemes through the delegated allowance.

Church Orchard – Grenville Moore will telephone Bob Goodyear for an update.

Thank you – The Parish Council would like to thank Doug Netherfield for continuing to maintain the trough opposite the Peacock Inn and recently planting it with bedding plants.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.40 pm. Date of the next meeting 12th September 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

Lis Stuart
Parish Clerk

THE SHAKESPEARE BIKE RIDE RETURNS

Oxhill again welcomes The Great Shakespeare Ride 2017, on Sunday 13th August. Cyclists will make their way through Oxhill as part of the Great Shakespeare Ride.

The Ride is in aid of The Shakespeare Hospice and attracts hundreds of cyclists every year from all over the country. The event raises money to help provide care and support to families in need of Hospice care in South Warwickshire and the North Cotswolds.

Starting from Stratford Manor Hotel at 9am, the ride offers longer sportive distances of 100 miles and 100 kilometres for more proficient cyclists and a flatter 40 mile route for the less experienced.

To join in the cycling experience visit www.thegreatshakespeareride.org.uk to sign up!

As part of the 40 mile route there will be a feed stop at Oxhill Village Hall to give the cyclists energy for their next stint !

If anyone can help man the feed station on Sunday morning from 9.45am to midday or can provide a cake please contact Tricia Harbour on 680676 or Karen Barker on 680033.



Shakespeare Bike Ride stopping in at the Village Hall in 2014

STOUR SINGERS - NEW SEASON

At its 2017 Christmas Concert on Saturday 9 December, Stour Singers will perform Kuhnau's cantata *Uns ist ein Kind geboren* and J.S.Bach's cantata 191, *Gloria in Excelsis Deo*. The evening will also include lovely carols, both familiar and unfamiliar. For the occasion, the popular soprano Robyn Allegra Parton makes a welcome return as soloist, and musical accompaniment will again be provided by Queen's Park Sinfonia.

Once again, the choir is providing an opportunity for anyone with a secret urge to sing to fulfil their dream and enjoy the healthy, life affirming benefits singing provides. Under the direction of Richard Emms, the choir has established an enviable reputation for the quality of its performances.

To join, there's no audition, and previous choral experience or ability to read music are not required.

In the friendly atmosphere of rehearsals and with the support of specially created practice CDs even the most inexperienced noviciates flourish and blossom. There's even a singing workshop in September.

Like every choir in the country, it's the shy, retiring males of the species who are most reluctant to push themselves forward, so if you are a closet tenor or bass, seize the opportunity, and join our first rehearsal at 7.30pm on Thursday 14 September, in the Hall at Shipston Primary School in Station Road, Shipston-upon-Stour.

If you would like to join Stour Singers, there is more information on the website: www.stoursingers.org.uk, or contact Ian Buchanan on 01608 730323, email: ian@buchananhn.co.uk





**7 sheets of 3/4" thick
Trywall cardboard
10'x4'**

Free to collector

Please call on 680303 or email
nadia@vulcanworks.plus.com



Warwickshire Local Welfare Summer Support Scheme



Are you finding it hard to make ends meet over the school summer holiday?

You may be able to get food vouchers to help!

You may be eligible for the Warwickshire Local Welfare Summer Support Scheme if your children were registered for free school meals before 14 July 2017.

Funds for this scheme are limited and applications will be considered on a first come first served basis.

To apply please call Please call us on

0800 408 1448 or 01926 359182





WOT2Grow Community Orchard

Despite the weather or perhaps because of the weather we started to harvest summer fruit a good three weeks earlier than last year!



Musk Mallow

Unfortunately the blackbirds have turned their attention to the gooseberries and they have been in very short supply! Luckily the birds have largely ignored the black currants which have yielded some super succulent fruit and there were some Wineberries and Worcesterberries to add to the mix. May be we need more fruit cages like the one we have this year as it is in keeping with the orchard and does not detract visually.

The trees have suffered from aphid but this is part of the summer “pruning”! But the stone fruit are having their full prune as it must be done in the summer months to prevent silver leaf creeping in. Some of the plums and greengages

The raspberries canes are definitely reduced in number but we have picked some at each session which is a bonus! They were the first to be ready followed rapidly by Logan and Tay berries which have cropped well and will continue for a bit longer. The construction of the fruit cage has made such a difference to the red and white currants, they were stripped last year by the blackbirds, and we have returned to bumper quantities this year! This is in spite of several blackbirds finding a way in and having a feast before we got them out. The red currants are like jewels hanging in long strings, so beautiful.



Sunset Apples



Merton Worcester

have grown enormously, so are very happy with their conditions and treatment, and needed a severe “hair cut”. The established cherries likewise are looking good but the newer ones have a lot of catching up to do. It will take a while to complete the pruning but it will be done by the end of August.

The apples are swelling and looking very good as are the few pears. The cider apples and perry pears too look good and we do have some stone fruit.

The wild flowers are looking good, the bees have given up a small amount of honey, the sensory garden is overflowing with aromatic herbs and all is looking very good!

So do come along and see us and enjoy your community orchard behind the allotments along the Shenington Road in Tysoe! And maybe join us and enjoy the fruit we grow.

Contact one of us for more information
Liz Atkinson (680045), Paul Sayer (680451), Sue and Mike Sanderson (688080)



Common Toadflax



WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND OXHILL

August

Tuesday 1st		Grey landfill bin collection
Wednesday 2nd	10:30	The Peacock - Village Coffee Morning
Tuesday 8th		Green & Blue bin collection
Tuesday 8th	9:00	Barnsday Gardens & Rutland Water Cruise - Oxhill Garden Club
Friday 11th	9:30	Weekday Walkers
Tuesday 15th		Grey landfill bin collection
Thursday 15th		Oxhill News submission deadline
Wednesday 16th	12:30	The Peacock - Village Lunch
Friday 18th	14:30	Village Hall - Mobile Library
Sunday 20th		Oxhill vs Tysoe Cricket Match
Tuesday 22nd		Green & Blue bin collection
Friday 25th	9:30	Weekday Walkers
Tuesday 29th		Grey landfill bin collection

September

Saturday 2nd	19:30	Barney's Band at the Barn
Sunday 3rd	10:00	Village Hall Maintenance Day
Saturday 23rd	19:00	Progressive Supper