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# THE OXHILL NEWS

January 2013

No. 458



Another year in our beautiful village of Oxhill.

*Editors:*

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*news-editor@oxhill.org.uk*

## 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](mailto: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 Wednesday, stopping at the Village Hall at 10am and staying there for 30 minutes. The van will visit us on Wednesday 2nd and 23rd January.

## REFUSE COLLECTION

Recycling and green waste bins (blue and green bins) will be collected on Tuesdays 1st, 15th and 29th January.

The grey rubbish bins will be collected Tuesdays 8th and 22nd January.

## WEEKDAY WALKERS

The following walks are planned for January:

January 11<sup>th</sup> – A 5 mile circular from Whatcote with 240 feet of ascent. Lunch will be at The Royal Oak Whatcote – Leaving Oxhill at 10:00am.

January 25<sup>th</sup> – A 4.5 mile circular walk from Ilmington with 570 feet of ascent. Lunch will be at The Red Lion, Ilmington – Leaving Oxhill at 10:00am.

Due to the numbers on the walk Jim Saxton now contacts regular members to get numbers, so the pub can be informed, unless otherwise stated meal decisions will be made at the pub prior to walk. Those who wish to join us are most welcome, but please contact Jim Saxton on 01295 680613 or at saxton @ talktalk.net before the Tuesday evening prior to the walk.

## VALANTINE EWEN 1941-2012

Val Ewen, who most people in the village remember as the lady with the scotty dog “Mr Fin”, collapsed and died on Friday 7th December while walking her dog.

Val was born on Valentines Day in Londonderry Northern Ireland, the second youngest of a family of six. At 18 years of age she left Londonderry to become a student nurse in Greenwich London. In 1962 she qualified to become Staff Nurse and in 1964 she achieved Ward Sister status.

Those who have lived in Oxhill for many years may remember Al, Val’s husband, who she married in March 1965. Their first home was in Crayford, Kent and Val often told the story of how Al had to camp out to get first option to buy the house, which I’m sure those of a certain age will remember. They moved to Oxhill in 1978.

Al died in 1998 and Val carried on her District Nursing career in South Warwickshire until she retired. Val and Al loved to travel and it was still something Val liked to do. In 2011 she spent two months in Australia with her dear friends Geri and John to celebrate her 70th birthday.

She has been a member of the fund raising committee of the PCC for the last twelve years and always gave her support.

All her many friends will have great memories. She touched so many people with her kindness and her sense of humour. She was very highly thought of by everyone that knew her. There is a little story I would like to tell of Val when she left the NHS and for ten years was employed as Welfare and Personnel Officer for an industrial company and when she handed in her resignation the Managing Director wrote to her and a couple of things he said were. “I personally will always think of you whenever I judge the role of Personnel. I ask that you do one thing before you leave us, recruit someone equal to you - impossible I agree, but try!” I think that tells you everything.

Val was a true friend to many. We will miss her.

*[Thank you to Gaida Webb for her wonderful words.]*



## OXHILL VILLAGE HALL

### **Oxhill Christmas Lunch – Monday, 10 December**

The Christmas Lunch for the Senior Citizens from the Village was held on Monday 10 December and followed the usual, successful format of previous years. We had 30 guests to Lunch and in addition to the delicious 3 course meal with wine that was provided we also had some enjoyable entertainment.

We are grateful to the Children from Tysoe School who sang and played Carols & Christmassy songs on a variety of musical instruments.

I would like to thank the following people who, whilst not on the Village Hall Committee, always help out behind the scenes: Sue Robbins, George & Gwyn Adams, David Hill, Anne Marshall, Hugh Rowse and Brian Hobill who donated the delicious gammon. I'd also like to thank Judy Badger for her overseeing the whole event and my colleagues on the Village Hall Committee, who decorated the Hall, cooked food, waited upon tables and generally worked tirelessly to make the day the success that it clearly was.

*Derek Harbour*



*After the retired residents had finished their Christmas lunch at the village hall, the much younger helpers sat down for a well earned meal and drink.*

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH

A huge thank you to all the organisers of the over 65s Christmas lunch. Many of you were behind the scenes working on our behalf and we didn't get the opportunity to tell you how much we appreciated what you did for us. The meal was delicious, the quiz was quizzical [especially one question], the room was festive and the Children better than ever. What a happy way to spend a Monday lunchtime.

*Thank you*

*Ruth Gibson and other Seniors!*

## KINETON OIL CONSORTIUM

Kineton oil consortium will be ordering oil again, please may I have your order not later than Tues January 8th by 6pm

Thank you,

*D. Harper 01295 680529*

## OXHILL VILLAGE HALL – UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Afternoon Delight – An Afternoon with friends**

From 2.00pm to 4.00pm, Thursdays: January 10 & 24

Check Notices for details of what's happening or call Tricia Harbour on 680676

### **Burns Night Celebration – Saturday, 26 January, 2013**

Following the successes of previous years we are staging another Burns Night celebration on Saturday, 26 January, 2013. The evening will be a traditional event with Haggis (Vegetarian alternative available), Tatties and Neeps and a wee dram to keep out the cold. Our talented Scots from the Village will be on hand to recall and toast the life of Rabbie Burns, 'address' the Haggis and entertain us.

The evening will start at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm Dinner

**The evening is a sell-out and Tricia Harbour will be collecting money (£12.50 per person) in January from those people who have requested tickets.** We will have a waiting list in case of cancellations through sickness, etc and if you want to go on the list, please call Tricia on 680676.

### **Upton House Talk – Friday, 22 February, 2013**

We are fortunate to have a talk from representatives of the National Trust on the history of Upton House on Friday, 22nd of February. Doors will open at 7.30pm. Tickets will cost £3 each and a range of refreshments will be available to purchase.

Please call Gaynor van Dijk on 680349 for tickets.

# VICARAGE NOTES

## NEWSFLASH ENGLISH HERITAGE GRANT

I have just received notification that St. Lawrence's has been offered £9,000 towards the estimated £12,000 of stage 1 (the exploratory work and conservation reports stage) of the proposed repairs to the roof and stonework, and also, a grant in principle of £59,000 towards the estimated £92,000 cost of the actual repair work scheduled for 2014.

The P.C.C. has to confirm acceptance in January. It would then need to embark on fundraising and approaching the many grant making bodies to raise the remaining money.



The hugely successful auction raised £4,000! We also have some reserves to put towards this work, so I'm confident that the project is manageable if the wider community is supportive. The P.C.C. would value your comments by Jan. 10th, which can be sent to me, the wardens or any PCC member.

The English Heritage architect wrote "St. Lawrence's is one of the most attractive churches in the Midlands" and fully supported our hope to conserve the building for future generations, noting specially the grade 1 listing of the splendid carving on the south side of the building.

DO LET US KNOW IF YOU WILL BACK THE PROJECT

### SCARECROW WEEKEND

I am pleased to write that we hope to have another of the wonderful Oxhill Scarecrow Weekends again – please book June 16th and 17th in your diaries. Lilian Welsby has offered to help co-ordinate things, but we shall need extra folk to take on more responsibility for various tasks. Once again – all hands to the pump!

It all sounds like a busy – but enjoyable - year ahead, may I simply wish everyone a happy New Year!

Best wishes and God bless,

*Nicholas Morgan* 01608 685230 [braileschurch@gmail.com](mailto:braileschurch@gmail.com)

# ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Epiphany** : 9.30am Holy Communion (ML)

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> Epiphany I** : 9.30am Sunday Praise (BR)

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Epiphany II** : 9.30am Parish Communion (ML)

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> Septuagesima** : 9.30am Family Service (NM)

*For other benefice services see porch notice board*

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Funerals: remembered with thanksgiving on December 18th Peter Simcox, aged 68.



## DEANARY NEWS

The next **Deanery Synod** will be on Tuesday, 5th February, 2013, at 7.30pm at St. Edmund's Church, Shipston. We will be looking at the ways in which churches across the Deanery are Transforming their Communities, and also hopefully receive a report of the General Synod in November.

Lent begins a little earlier this year than last: Shrove Tuesday is 12th February, and Ash Wednesday is 13th February. Our **Lent Series of Services across the Deanery** will therefore begin the week after. This year we are following the York Course 'Glimpses of God'. The booklet that accompanies it was written by David Winter: not only do we have copies of the booklet available (£3.99) for those who would like to use it in house groups, David Winter himself is coming to give the opening address. Dates and places are as follows: all services are on Tuesdays at 7.30pm

February 19th	Tysoe	The God who hears our cry
26th	Halford	The shepherd who guards and guides his people
March 5th	Sutton-u-Brailes	The Son, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.
12th	Burmington	The God who shares our pain
19th	Idlicote	The God who calms our fears.
26th	Ilmington	Deanery Eucharist for Holy Week

May we all rejoice in the gift of this New Year.

*Blessing, Jill*

## IN MEMORIAM

Peter Simcox of 3 Peacock Cottages, died suddenly on December 4th

Much missed husband to Hilary, Father to Charlotte, James and Katy and Grandfather to Isobella, Thomas and Harry.



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM YOUR AMBULANCE COMMUNITY RESPONDERS

Should you have a medical emergency you should ring 999.

We as community Responders are not always available and on duty.

If we are on duty Ambulance control will contact us and we shall be sent.

We hope you will not need us and you all have a very happy  
Christmas and New Year.



Mick / Barbara Shepard  
3, The Leys,  
Oxhill.

[viper@viperrecovery.co.uk](mailto:viper@viperrecovery.co.uk)

## WELCOME TO ANDREW STEWART & ANDREA TAYLOR

We would like to warmly welcome Andrew and Andrea who have recently moved into The Sett. Andrew is Gill Taylor's son, who herself along with Roger Goodman, are recent arrivals in Oxhill. It seems the village must be doing something right if our residents are recruiting friends and family! Or perhaps it is a Gill says: "I think they're hoping I'll walk the dog for them!"

## PEACOCK EVENTS THIS MONTH

### Quiz Night

Quiz night on Sunday 6th January at 8pm

### Village Events

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



## BEWARE OF POSTAL SCAM

This is one of the most deceptive scams I have ever heard of as well as one that I think is very easy to fall victim to. This is the email I received:

### SCAM ALERT



Can you circulate this around especially as Xmas is fast approaching - it has been confirmed by Royal Mail. The Trading Standards Office are making people aware of the following scam:

A card is posted through your door from a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) suggesting that they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to contact them on 0906 6611911 (a Premium rate number).

DO NOT call this number, as this is a mail scam originating from Belize .

If you call the number and you start to hear a recorded message you will already have been billed **£315** for the phone call.

If you do receive a card with these details, then please contact Royal Mail Fraud on 020 7239 6655.

For more information, see the Crime Stoppers website:

<http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org/crime-prevention/helping-prevent-crime/scams>

## HORSE RIDERS IN AND AROUND OXHILL

Please, please, please if you are hacking out on country lanes, make sure either you or your horse or both are wearing some sort of fluorescent wear.

This winter low light ( and in my opinion) even in high summer, if you are in a dark coat, on ANY colour of horse, it can be difficult to see you until very close.

I am NOT some interfering old biddy with too much time on her hands, but an experienced horse woman who is hoping to avoid a terrible accident on our roads. Another point.... did you know that some Equine Insurers will not pay out, in the event of an accident on the road, if you are NOT wearing fluorescent's.

*Thank you*

*Hilary Simcox*

*British Dressage Listed Judge*



## WOT2Grow YOUR Community Orchard

Finally the weather has put paid to the raspberry harvest! The last picking was at the end of November and completed a magnificent harvest of 160kg of fruit. The weather obviously played a part as it was so wet and we did not have to water but as half the canes were first year plantings we hope to have even more next summer.

The AGM was held in November and was well attended by members and supporters. We had a change of chairman as Derek Harbour wished to stand down and Mike Sanderson has taken his place. Also Pam Bennett agreed to become a member of the team that oversees and co-ordinates the day to day activities at the orchard.



The orchard has yet again been transformed! On a beautiful sunny but cold Saturday in early December an amazing 96 trees were planted by seventeen enthusiastic members and supporters. It was a fantastic turnout and having previously dug all the holes the actual planting was much quicker this year. Following an excellent demonstration by John Edgeley of all the stages in tree planting, which we captured on video, a production line was started to root prune, top prune and soak the tree roots prior to teams actually planting. We actually used the water stored in the butts for the first time this year! This completes the planned tree planting at the orchard but we have plans for all sorts of other things at the orchard.

John Edgeley will also be with us on Saturday 9th February to teach us about pruning all the trees, canes and bushes. This really is a not to be missed event for anyone unsure about caring for the fruit in their own gardens. Everyone is welcome to come along to these sessions and learn from a real expert who is a fantastic teacher. Look out for posters giving details.

A Happy New Year to everyone from the Directors and Team at your Community Orchard!!

Check it out at [www.wot2grow.co.uk](http://www.wot2grow.co.uk)

Find us off the Shenington Road behind the allotments – entrance gates at the far end of the allotments.

*If you would like more details please contact one of the following who are co-ordinating the community involvement*

*Liz Atkinson (680045), Paul Sayer (680451), Sue and Mike Sanderson (688080), Graham Collier (680127), Julia Stirman (01608 686776), Pam Bennett (01608 685606)*

## Gardening for Wildlife and Biodiversity



Karl Curtis from Warwickshire Wildlife Trust has kindly agreed to give us a talk on Gardening for Wildlife and Biodiversity. It will take place on January 22nd at 8.00pm in Oxhill village hall and will be a great opportunity to get the lowdown on how to succeed in the forthcoming Owls wildflower growing competition. For further information please contact Gren (680664) or any of the Owls team.

## OXHILL'S KNIT AND NATTER GROUP

Thank you so much to all the ladies of this group from Oxhill and the surrounding villages and all the others who have knitted for us. So far I have sent four parcels to the Greenfields Africa charity. We have sent thirty six jumpers and hats and many pairs of babies' booties. These will all have been sent out by now and Barbara Hatton and her husband will be out in Uganda to distribute these baby clothes to where they are needed. They still need hats and booties and blankets for their charity. Perhaps we can do more in the New Year.

*Thank you again for all your contributions,  
Joyce McKail*



# SHIPSTON HOME NURSING

## JANUARY 2013 EVENTS

We are a local charity that has been operating for 15 years, we look after terminally ill people in their homes run by a team of qualified nurses specialising in palliative care. We look after the patient and their family for the last 3 months of life. Our service covers Shipston, Wellesbourne, Kinton and the surrounding villages. Our service is completely free of charge and therefore we have to raise £150,000 a year to cover nursing costs.

Here is a list of our events coming up in January:

**Event:** Zumbathon

**Date:** Saturday January 12th 2013

**Time:** 10.00-1pm

**Venue:** Sheldon Bosley Hub, Shipston on Stour

**Info:** £8.00 entry – A 3 hour fun packed session of Zumba mania hosted by local Shipston Zumba Team Debbie Birch and Rachel Tame

**Event:** Health and Complimentary therapies Day hosted by Soulstream Arts

**Date:** Saturday 19th January

**Time:** 10-4pm Therapists available

6pm onwards Author Talk reading/book signing plus champagne and canapés

**Venue:** **SoulStream HQ**, Burmington House, Burmington Shipston on Stour Warwickshire CV36 5AF

**Info:** A two part Therapies day taking place at this new creative Arts Retreat on the outskirts of the Cotswolds. £20.00 per ticket. For more information call m.07769654445 h.01608 664972 or

go to [Soulstreamarts.com](http://Soulstreamarts.com)

**Event:** **BITE** – Dinner at Cotswold House Hotel with Greg Wallace

**Date:** 27th January 2013

**Time:** 7 for 7.30pm

**Venue:** Cotswold House Hotel

**Info:** **Cost £75.00** (price of event includes £10 donation to SHN) for more information please go to <http://www.thebite.co/> and download the programme.



# SHIPSTON RURAL WATCH

The SNT would like to make you aware that the theft of heating fuel and diesel from plant vehicles is on the rise. We understand that it is so expensive to replace. You may feel it is not worth reporting the crime as it is hard to trace etc. We would like to encourage you all to report it, regardless how minor you may think it might be. It will also allow us to build up a bigger picture of the types of issues we are having in the Shipston area and if the team doesn't know, then we can't help.

You can report any crimes on the non emergency number, 101.

Thank you.

Kind Regards

**PCSO 6234 Hayley Ditchburn BA (Hons)**

**Shipston Safer Neighbourhood Team**

**Warwickshire Police**

**Shipston Police Station**

**Tel: 01789 444 673**

**Extension: 4673**

**Mobile: 07879 608 696**

**Voicemail: 16234**

**Email: hayley.ditchburn@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk**

## OFFICES AVAILABLE TO RENT

Suite of 3 self-contained offices available to rent, individually or as a complete suite

Reasonable rates, off road parking, lovely central village location.

For more information call 01295 680624



## 2013 Exhibitions at Compton Verney

### Bellini, Botticelli, Titian... 500 years of Italian Art

23 March – 23 June 2013

This spectacular exhibition comprises forty of the City of Glasgow's greatest Italian paintings – the finest and most comprehensive civic collection in the UK, and mostly unseen outside Glasgow. The works are of the highest quality and richness and chronicle a remarkable time span (1400-1900), demonstrating the gradual move from religious to secular subjects. This outstanding exhibition includes landscapes, portraits and devotional works from the Renaissance onwards by artists such as Giovanni Bellini, Sandro Botticelli, Titian, Salvator Rosa and Francesco Guardi.

*Exhibition organised by Glasgow Museums.*

The exhibition will be accompanied by a reinterpretation of Compton Verney's Neapolitan Collection.



### Turner and Constable: Sketching from nature. Works from the Tate collection

13 July – 22 September 2013

Compton Verney will premiere this major exhibition which includes approximately 50 works by Turner, Constable and their contemporaries. These works provide a unique exploration of how the art of oil sketching in the landscape, rather than in the studio, became fashionable in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

**TATE**



### Re-Viewing the Landscape 13 July – 22 September 2013

This exhibition uses the *Turner and Constable: Sketching from Nature* exhibition as a catalyst to discover contemporary artists' responses to sketching and drawing landscape. The exhibition comprises a diverse mix of work by contemporary artists including Julian Opie, Paul Ryan, Sarah Woodfine and Simon Faithfull.

### Curious Beasts: Animal Prints from the British Museum

5 October – 15 December 2013

This exhibition will explore our enduring curiosity about the animal world through the beautiful and bizarre imagery found in the rich print collections of the British Museum. The exhibition features artists including Albrecht Dürer, Francisco Goya and George Stubbs.

*A British Museum tour.*



*Continued*

## 2013 Collections and Grounds – 23 March – 15 December

### *Empty Nest* by Hilary Jack

This work of art nestled in a tree in our 'Capability' Brown landscape is testimony to artist Hilary Jack's incredible ability to transform a visit to the grounds at Compton Verney into an extraordinary art experience. Visitors can climb up and step inside this human-scale nest, for a unique bird's eye view of the grounds.

*Supported by Arts Council England.*



### *Outside In: Central*

*Outside In* is a national programme focusing on marginalised and outsider artists. Compton Verney is the main exhibition venue for *Outside In: Central*, a region which includes Warwickshire, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Leicestershire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and the West Midlands. This exhibition features work by selected artists, who will have the opportunity to choose a work from Compton Verney's British Folk Art Collection to show alongside their own.

*In collaboration with Pallant House. The Outside In project is funded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation.*



### *Marx-Lambert Collection* redisplay

Enid Marx (1902-1998) was one of the foremost designers of twentieth century Britain. Compton Verney's Marx-Lambert Collection contains work produced by Enid Marx as well as over 400 items of folk and popular art which she collected with her lifelong companion, historian Margaret Lambert (1906-95). It was bequeathed by Marx to the gallery on her death.

*This re-display was made possible through grants from the DCMS/Wolfson Museums & Galleries Improvement Fund and The Clothworkers Foundation.*



### Chapel restoration

Compton Verney's chapel was designed by Lancelot 'Capability' Brown. It was built between 1776 and 1780 when the grounds were re-landscaped. It is one of the few surviving Georgian chapels in Britain and a rare example of Brown's remaining architectural works. Visitors will be able to gain access during normal open hours between 23 March and 15 December 2013.



**ENDS**

## WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND OXHILL

### January

Tuesday 1st		Green & Blue bin collection
Wednesday 2nd	10:00	Village Hall - Mobile Library
Wednesday 2nd	10:30	The Peacock - Village Coffee Morning
Sunday 6th	20:00	The Peacock - Quiz Night
Tuesday 8th		Grey landfill bin collection
Tuesday 8th		Kinton Oil Consortium order deadline
Thursday 10th	16:00	Village Hall - Knit & Natter
Friday 11th	9:30	Weekday Walkers - see pg 2 for details
Tuesday 15th		Green & Blue bin collection
Wednesday 16th	12:30	The Peacock - Village Lunch
Tuesday 22nd		Grey landfill bin collection
Tuesday 22nd	20:00	OWLS - talk from Karl Curtis - see pg 11 for details
Wednesday 23rd	10:00	Village Hall - Mobile Library
Tuesday 23rd		Green & Blue bin collection
Thursday 24th	16:00	Village Hall - Knit & Natter
Friday 25th	9:30	Weekday Walkers - see pg 2 for details
Saturday 26th		Village Hall - Burns Night Celebration

### February

Saturday 9th		WOT2Grow Orchard - talk from John Edgeley
Friday 22nd		Village Hall - Upton House Talk

