

THE OXHILL NEWS



NO. 436
MARCH 2011

REFUSE COLLECTION

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

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

Editor

MOBILE LIBRARY

The library van will continue to visit Oxhill on Tuesdays, stopping at the Village Hall at 10 a.m. and staying there for 30 minutes.

In March the van will visit us on Tuesday 8th and Tuesday 29th.

You can renew books between van visits by calling 01926 851031, or online at www.Warwickshire.gov.uk/wild.

Editor

WEEKDAY WALKERS

We have the following walks in March:

Friday 11th March

This is a circular 4 mile walk from Shenington with 170 feet of ascent and lunch at “The Bell”, Shenington. We will leave Oxhill at 9:45 a.m.

Friday 25th March

This is a circular 4.5 mile walk from Kineton with 150 feet of ascent and lunch at “The Swan” Kineton. We will leave Oxhill at 9:45 a.m.

Due to the numbers on the walk Jim Saxton now contacts regular members to get meal decisions by Wednesday evening. Those who wish to join us are most welcome, but please contact Jim Saxton on 01295 680613 or at saxton@tiscali.co.uk before the Tuesday evening prior to the walk.

APRIL ISSUE

Please could I have all copy for the April issue by Midnight on **Thursday, 24th March**? If you normally prepare your material using a computer, it would make my life easier if you could submit your offering in electronic form, though paper is, of course, fine. My ‘official’ e-mail address is news-editor@oxhill.org.uk if you wish to send me stuff that way.

George Adams, 680286

COVER PICTURE

The new livery of our First Responders. Just so you will recognise them.

Editor

BURGLARIES IN OXHILL

In late January there were two burglaries in Oxhill as well as several in nearby villages. That's in addition to the sheep stealing, of which more elsewhere.

Burglary #1 was between 2:30 p.m. and 3:15 p.m. on the 30th January 2011, when someone gained entry to a house in The Sett by forcing a back door and stealing various items of jewellery. The crime reference number is S/11/1144.

Burglary #2 was between the 28th and 31st January, when someone forced open a window of a house in Green Lane, Oxhill. However the offender/s are believed to have been disturbed, as nothing appeared to have been stolen. The crime reference number is S/11/1158.

If you have any information regarding these incidents please contact your the Shipston SNT on 01789 444670 or contact Crimestoppers anonymously, on 0800 555111, quoting the appropriate crime reference number.

Editor

SHEEP-STEALING IN OXHILL

Over the last few weeks someone has stolen at least 17 lambs (eleven months old, so just about full grown) from the flock of approx 1000 of this age, one or two at a time.

The older ewes are all present and correct. At first I thought they had strayed and have been asking my neighbours if they had seen them.

Yesterday Mr. Hobill found evidence in his wood of the skins and heads (with our ear tag numbers in) so the carcasses have obviously been taken away to sell into the food chain.

If any-one has been offered cheap meat for their freezer or seen anything suspicious, please contact P.C. Clair Price of Shipston Police Team quoting

Incident No. 202. Her mobile telephone number is 07879608696. If you see anything suspicious in the fields especially during darkness, please phone 999 immediately.

As we are just starting lambing I am very worried that if the thieves steal a ewe her lambs will be left to suffer. Everyone's help would be much appreciated.

Tom Heritage

AT THE PEACOCK

The village coffee morning will be on Wednesday 2nd, starting at 10.30, with the charity quiz night following on Sunday 6th at 8 p.m. The village lunch will be on Wednesday 16th.

Editor

COMMUNITY RESPONDER VEHICLE

We have had the graphics on our Nissan Navara 4X4 changed from that of a Motor Sport Association Safety unit to that of an Ambulance Community Responder Scheme Vehicle. This has been done in association with West Midlands Ambulance Service, and it is now registered with them, as an Ambulance Responder Scheme Vehicle, but like every other aspect of our responding work, the cost was down to us, including all the on going running costs. When we have had to treat patients at the road side at night and in the day, we felt very vulnerable, so now we have the benefit of been more visible, which is safer for us, and our patients. It can also on occasions, help the ambulance to find the patient more quickly as they can easily identify our vehicle. The worst of the winter snows did not stop us attending 999 calls and our 4x4 capability also enabled us to give assistance to one of our own Ambulances when it got into difficulties on Sun Rising Hill.

*Mick & Barbara Shepard, West Midlands Ambulance Service Responders
3, The Leys, Oxhill, Warwick, CV350QX, Tel: 01295680644
email: viper@viperrecovery.co.uk*

OXHILL GARDEN CLUB

Celebrated author and columnist Val Bourne gave the club an insight into plants suitable to give interest to a winter garden. Her artistic side showed through as she talked about the joy of low winter light through tree branches and how this light intensifies colours so that we get the true depths of reds and yellows. Seed heads fringed with frost and an eulogy on how to use the textural qualities of various grasses followed. Val showed us that many brightly coloured stems and tree trunks can add great splashes of colour at this dismal time of year and that plants can be strategically placed to gain benefits from the low winter sun.

The quality of the slides was first class.

The AGM will be held in the Village Hall on March 17th and will be followed by cheese and wine.

A new programme will begin in April.

Ann Saxton

FOR SALE

2 Collie dog puppies

Lovely temperament

You will have seen the parents working, but will make good pets or agility dogs

Contact Tom Heritage on 680216

OXHILL VILLAGE HALL

Forthcoming Events

Friday 4th March

Friday Night @ The Village Hall

We are continuing the popular Friday night theme with a simple meal and a chance to socialise with friends. This month it will be Sausage & Mash plus a pudding, all for £7.50 per head.

Food will be available from 8.00 p.m. until 9.30 p.m. The event is virtually sold out. If you would like to come please 'phone Tricia Harbour on 680676 for any remaining tickets.

Friday 1st April

A Nautical Night (with Fish & Chips)

We have a talk and presentation by Belinda Marklew on 'Sailing the Southern Ocean - been there & done that', with, appropriately, a freshly cooked fish and chip supper.

Belinda took part in the BT Global Challenge Round the World Yacht Race in 2001 on board the yacht Norwich Union. She completed the arduous Southern Ocean crossing from Sydney to Cape Town in six weeks. Her yacht finished the leg in second place. "Never again" is what many sailors say of the Southern Ocean! There will be slides, video and audio from the world's toughest yacht race.

Food will be served in sittings between 7.30 and 8.30 p.m. with the talk starting at 9. Tickets at £10 each can be obtained by 'phoning Tricia on 680676. There may be a few tickets available for the talk only at £5. Please contact Tricia if you would prefer this option.

A raffle will be held during the evening in support of our First Responders Mick and Barbara Shepard. Any donations of prizes for the raffle will be gratefully received.

Friday 15th April

A.G.M + Cheese & Wine

The A.G.M. This year will be preceded by cheese and wine at 7.30 p.m.

A couple of long-serving members of the committee will be standing down, so there will be opportunities for new blood to influence events with their new ideas! If you would like to know more of what is involved in running the Village Hall please call Derek Harbour on 680676.

Derek Harbour

FOR SALE

One mahogany coffee table 42" x 20" £40

One wooden plant table £15

Angela Kean, 680441

KINETON OIL CONSORTIUM

The consortium will be ordering oil again in March.

Please may I have your requirements before 6 p.m. on Wednesday March 23rd.

D. Harper, 680529

AFTERNOON DELIGHTS

We will continue meeting through March and April. On March 10th we will be completing the Easter chicks knitted for the Katherine House Hospice. Anyone wishing to knit some of these before then please contact me on 680286. On March 24th Joyce will demonstrate making piped cushions (check your garden furniture to see if you need new ones for the summer). On April 7th Jackie will be showing us how to make an Easter Tree; there will be more details in the April News.

Remember we meet in the Village Hall at 2 p.m. on Thursdays and if the organised demonstration/activity does not appeal then bring your knitting or embroidery or whatever. Or just come and chat.

Gwyn Adams

NEWS PRODUCTION

Ninetyseven down and only three to go.

That's April, May and June.

Which of you will produce the July edition?

WI REPORT

This month members were joined by several visitors for a stroll down memory lane. Sheila Gaydon began the evening by reading extracts from her father's memoirs. We were amazed - and amused - to hear how as a child he would watch women washing tripe and chitlins in the brook! He remembered sheep and cattle being driven all the way to market in Stratford - and back again if they didn't sell.

There were tales of hardship, such as the long walk for many children to and from school in all weathers - twice a day, because everyone went home for lunch. Sue Price talked about bringing up a young family in the late fifties in a cottage with one cold tap and a chemical toilet.

There were fond memories, too, of wartime dances with servicemen stationed up at Shenington and the annual children's party held at Compton Wynyates - although the highlight seems to have been the journey there and back on hay wagons!

Other shared experiences include picking potatoes in the October holidays, seeing the first combine harvester in the village (pulled by a tractor, of course) - and the smell of cakes and bread from Heritage's bakery.

2nd March: Marguerite Bell; 'Super soups' - bring a bowl and spoon!

Julie Smart

VICARAGE NOTES

Dear friends,

Deanery Lent Services – Tuesdays at 7.30 p.m.

All will be made very welcome to the Deanery Lent Services this year, specially that on March 29th at Whatcote. The titles are based on Paula Gooder's book "A Way through the Wilderness".

Concert at Brailes

On Saturday April 2nd at 7 p.m. at St. George's, Brailes, we are welcoming Erin Hughes, the runner up in the BBC choirgirl of the year competition. She will be supported by Maddy Evans and other young musicians. Admission will be £5 (u-16s free).

A prayer from the 1st Sunday of Lent

Many of the various collects and prayers to be found in Anglican Service books are based on words from the Bible, and perhaps the following will bring back memories of the "Temptation in the Wilderness".

O Lord our God, who hast renewed us with the living bread from heaven, and dost thereby nourish our faith, increase our hope and strengthen our love: incline our hearts always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and give us grace to live by every word that proceedeth out of thy mouth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God bless,

Nicholas Morgan 01608 685230

TYSOE CHILDREN'S GROUP

Tysoe Children's Group, based at the Old Fire Station, is throwing open its doors to the public to celebrate the completion of a major building project to improve the facilities for youngsters. The building project has provided improved accommodation for pre-school sessions, as well as extra office space.

The centre offers early years provision, including sessions paid for by the Nursery Education Funding scheme, to children from Tysoe and the surrounding villages, including Brailes. Users can also access before and after-school sessions, providing care between 8am and 6pm, and holiday schemes outside of term time for 50 weeks of the year.

Tysoe Children's Group is a registered charity and is run by parents, for parents. It is open to children from two years up.

To take a look at us, come and play with us on Saturday, March 12. We will be open between 10am and 4pm. There is ample parking next to the Old Fire Station – which is next to Tysoe park.

For more details about Tysoe Children's Group contact 01295 680624.

Rachel Matthews

SHIPSTON HOME NURSING EVENTS

Bonhams Valuation Day

Thursday 17th March, 10 - 3

Townsend Hall, Shipston

Free entry, valuations £2 per item

Warwick Schools Foundation Wind Orchestra & Jazz Band

Friday 25th March, 7.30

Townsend Hall, Shipston

£10 a head

Vintage Secondhand Clothes Sale

Saturday 9th April, 10 - 2

Sheldon Bosley HUB, Shipston

Rebecca Mawle, Fundraising co-ordinator

Telephone 01608 674929, Mobile 07932 043111

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

Advice from Warwickshire County Council Trading Standards Service

Buying Tickets Online

Tickets for concerts, festivals and sporting events often sell out very quickly and it is tempting to search the internet for somewhere that can provide them. However, be careful as 1 in 12 people are scammed by fake ticket websites. These very convincing websites claim to sell event tickets that are never delivered, leaving fans without tickets and their money. So follow our advice and don't let them con you.

1. Ask yourself 'How can this website guarantee tickets to an event that is already sold out, or that are not on sale yet?'
2. Never buy event tickets from a website you're unsure of. Ask others about it and search online for comments.
3. You can 'tick off' a number of things to look out before purchasing your tickets online by visiting Consumer Direct's fake ticket website:
www.consumerdirect.gov.uk/tickets

Report fake ticketing websites or suspected ones to:

www.consumerdirect.gov.uk/reportascam

DO YOU WANT TO GROW YOUR OWN VEGETABLES?

Now is the time to start planning what you want to grow to eat in the summer/autumn. Whether you have tried to grow vegetables before or are a complete beginner, master gardeners could help you.

We have been trained by Garden Organic at Ryton and have many years of experience growing vegetables. We can offer you guidance and advice, and maybe some free seeds. The advice would be available throughout the whole season to help you achieve success with growing your own vegetables. This service is completely free of charge.

To take advantage of this offer email sueandmikemastergardeners@hotmail.com or phone 01295 688080.

GREENING THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

In 1972 The Ecologist magazine published its Blueprint for Survival. It was signed by one of my university lecturers. Although the analysis of the depletion of resources proved to be altogether too pessimistic, the Blueprint's fourth consideration has been part of my life philosophy ever since. This consideration is based on goals that can be achieved without destroying the environment. The word destroy was emotive; I prefer putting something back. This is not a political philosophy rather it's about personal lifestyle choice. Nor is it about forcing it on others. It generates personal satisfaction, a feeling of well-being. So at Garden Cottage we have installed solar panels, photovoltaic cells and harvest surface water run-off. We recycle like crazy. It is immensely satisfying to see the hot water tank heating from sunlight, especially when we have seen so little sun so far in 2011! Using surface water run-off for watering plants saves all the energy that goes into purifying water that comes out of the tap.

Orbit Heart of England Housing Association is investing in the installation of renewable energy technology in a number of their properties in Tysoe. You will receive an invite to come along to the Tysoe village hall on March 9th (5-9 p.m.) and learn more about these technologies. Please spare a few minutes to come along and see how you can share in the pleasure of generating your own energy.

At the same event there will be an opportunity to catch up with progress on The Community Orchard. The Apple Day at Oxhill showed us that there is genuine interest. The orchard project is reaching an interesting phase and the local organising group will be there to inform you about progress in 2011 - and how the orchard may be of benefit to you in putting a bit back.

Mike Sanderson

A SURREALISTIC 'PETER AND THE WOLF'

by Tysoe Marionette Group

"Peter and the Wolf" is a popular story, lending itself to many different theatrical interpretations. And no wonder! As originally conceived by that inventive Russian composer Sergé Prokofiev, it is an exciting story with marvellous music. Consequently it is often heard with a narrator in the concert hall; frequently seen as a ballet and is in the repertoires of many puppet companies in a range of different media all over Europe. So we felt we should seek an unusual approach.

The clue to our surrealistic approach lies with Prokofiev himself, who used "P&W" to introduce youngsters to the instruments of the orchestra. There are eight characters in his original story and each of these is represented musically by a different instrument. In our production young Peter is half Violin and half Boy complete with fur hat! Birdie sits on his Flute and the Duck has an Oboe for a neck. Our Cat is half Clarinet and Grandfather is half Contra-bassoon. Our Wolf has suffered the most, as his guts have been replaced by a French Horn! Two Hunters represent the Percussion section, one a short-fat Bass-Drummer and one a tall thin Tympanist, both with a drumstick in one hand and a shotgun in the other!

And why stop at the puppets? Our scenery is surrealistic too, combining musical instruments with the Deep Dark Forest. Add a sprinkling of snow and Olav the Russian owl in a hollow tree and we are away.

Our next public performance will be on Thursday 31st March 2011, Curtain-up at 7:30 p.m. in The Barn Theatre, Baldwins Lane, Upper Tysoe, CV35 OTX.

Tickets: Adult £5, Children (5-15 yrs) £3. All proceeds to Shipston Home Nursing.

Jon & Ann Beeny, Tel: 01295 680431 Email: jonandann@annbeeny.f9.co.uk

Visit <http://tysoemarionettes.webplus.net>

WARWICKSHIRE COMMUNITY AWARDS 2011

Do you have a project you think deserves recognition? Is there someone you would like to nominate for an award? Has your community done anything it is particularly proud of in the last 12 months, which is worth celebrating?

Come along and find out how to nominate people you know for community awards at our drop-in session in Henley-in-Arden (10-1, March 12th in the Guild Hall) or Marton (10-1, 26th March in the village Hall).

The awards are organised by the Warwickshire Rural Community Council.

For further information please telephone 02476 217390 or visit www.ruralwarwickshire.org.uk.

WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND OXHILL

March

Tuesday 1st		Blue & green bin collection
	10.00	Village Hall - Mobile library
Wednesday 2nd	10.30	The Peacock - Village Coffee Morning
	19.30	Tysoe Village Hall - W.I. - Super soups
Friday 4th	20.00	Village Hall - Friday Night at the Hall - see page 5
Sunday 6th	20.00	The Peacock - Charity Quiz Night
Tuesday 8th		Grey landfill bin collection
	20.00	Village Hall - Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 10th	14.00	Village Hall - Afternoon Delights; see page 6
	19.30	Village Hall - Do you want to take better photos?
Friday 11th	9.45	Weekday walkers - see inside front cover
Saturday 12th	10-4	Old Fire Station, Tysoe - Tysoe Children's Group - see page 7
Tuesday 15th		Blue & green bin collection
Wednesday 16th	12.30	The Peacock - Village Lunch
Thursday 17th	19.30	Village Hall - Garden Club A.G.M.
Tuesday 22nd		Grey recycling bin collection
Wednesday 23rd	18.00	Kineton Oil Consortium order deadline
Thursday 24th	14.00	Village Hall - Afternoon Delights; see page 6
	23.59	Copy deadline for the News
Friday 25th	9.45	Weekday walkers - see inside front cover
	19.30	Townsend Hall, Shipston - SHN event - see page 11
Tuesday 29th		Blue & green bin collection
	10.00	Village Hall - Mobile library
Thursday 31st	19.30	Barn Theatre, Tysoe - Tysoe Marionettes - see page 10

April

Friday 1st	19.30	Village Hall - Nautical Night - see page 5
Saturday 2nd	9.30	Old Free School, Brailes - Introduction to beekeeping
Wednesday 6th	19.30	Tysoe Village Hall - W.I. - Leonard Cheshire Disability
Friday 15th	19.30	Village Hall - Village Hall A.G.M.

MUSICAL PLANNING

CANTAMUS is a Shipston-based a cappella choir of 24 people, who come from South Warwickshire, the North Cotswolds and North Oxfordshire, founded and directed by Richard Emms - well-known in this area as conductor, performer, and composer.

We are currently planning our programme for 2011 and 2012, and would be delighted to consider any performances and concerts, tailored to your specific needs. So if you have a church festival, a village celebration, a fund-raising event, a Christmas concert, or even a wedding to plan, do get in touch.

Our repertoire is very varied, and is tailored carefully to each occasion. We have sacred and secular music to offer, from the 16th century to the present day, and can incorporate beautifully-chosen and performed readings, if required, to complement the musical programme.

If you wish to know more about the choir, visit our website - www.cantamus.org.uk - and if you wish to explore any ideas, get in touch with either Yvonne Ridley, Concert Manager on 01789 269587, or Richard Emms, Director on 01608 662163.