
THE OXHILL NEWS

May 2017

No. 510



Great Spotted Woodpecker

A frequent visitor to our garden. ~ Tricia Harbour

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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 oxhill@btinternet.com or place paper contributions in the box labelled 'The Oxhill News' in the Church.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS THE 15TH OF EVERY MONTH.

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

REFUSE COLLECTION

Recycling and green waste bins (blue and green bins) will be collected on Tuesdays May 2nd, 16th and 30th

The grey rubbish bins will be collected Tuesdays May 9th and 23rd.

THE PEACOCK

The Oxhill Ladies that are doing the MACMILLAN MIGHTY HIKE will be holding a pub quiz at The Peacock on Sunday 28th May at 8pm. Teams of up to 6 at £5 per team. All proceeds will go to Macmillan. Keep a look out for posters around the village and in the pub.



The village coffee morning is on Wednesday May 3rd at 10:30 am.
The village lunch is on Wednesday May 17th.

EQUINOX LUNCH AT THE PEACOCK

For over 20 years a grand group of friends have been meeting each equinox for fine food, rich wine and cheerful bonhomie.



OXHILL VILLAGE HALL UPCOMING EVENTS AND NEWS

Coming next...

Tuesday 2 May - Oxhill Village Hall Annual General Meeting

It is AGM time again when the chairman and committee will be reporting on the past year at the village hall. This year we are especially keen to receive your feedback on the events and activities we run and the hall itself.

For example, are there any events and activities we could be doing that we don't currently offer and that would attract you? Appeal to more families, for example? We are also looking for ideas for a June event and welcome your thoughts.

Likewise, we are constantly trying to improve the Hall and the facilities. We are proud that we are maintaining what we know is not the ideal, but is nevertheless a building of charm and character, but is there more we can do to improve the hall 'experience'?

It really is your village hall and while over the years many of you have served on the committee and attended events, new blood and new ideas are always welcome so please do come along, whether you have some ideas to raise or if you want to stand for committee.



Being on the committee is not onerous, and like anything, you get out what you put in. The committee year runs from April/May for twelve months. There is a meeting once a month and tasks are fun, whether it is decorating the hall for an event, preparing and cooking some food, taking bookings or writing this update for the Oxhill News.

**No
Obligation**

Essentially, we all muck in and gain hugely by working as a friendly, collaborative team, gaining satisfaction by knowing that we are helping to keep

this vital community facility going and persuading lots of you to come to our activities and events during the year.

The AGM is a 7.30pm for 8pm start. There will be cheese and wine on arrival.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Friday 12 May - Paella Night

Our next social event is the return of the Paella Night which proved a great success last time round. We will be cooking fresh paella in a huge pan, in true community style, and will be reflecting on the Spanish life style as we enter the warmer months of the year with wine and beers available! A great chance to catch up after a busy week.

The event starts at 7.30pm and places are still available.

Tickets are £10 each and can be ordered by contacting Tricia Harbour on 680676.

KNIT & NATTER

The group recently decided that because of the Easter break, the need for the Hall to be used for the upcoming local election and the hopefully better weather, that a break until September would be appropriate.

Therefore, the date of the next meeting is Thursday, September 7th when we hope to see all of the regulars again and any new people but in the meantime, have a great summer.

Tricia Harbour

ROAD CLOSURE NOTICE

Kinton Road OXHILL from Stonecraft House to Nolands Road 04 – 06 May 2017. Kinton Road, Whatcote Road, Halford Road, A422 Banbury Road and vice versa.



BIG BREAKFAST AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Scrumptious food, fine china, friendly conversation - the Big Breakfast is a big favourite in the village.

Make sure you join us next time!!





ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH

My thanks to those who helped produce this year's Easter Display for the Church – here shown with young George, who is our future vicar's grandson. With it comes an invitation to leave behind, in the tomb of Jesus Christ, all that belongs to the brokenness and incompleteness of our world – and follow Jesus into God's new world.

This month services in St Lawrence are:

- Sunday, May 7th, 9.30am, Holy Communion, Book of Common Prayer, with Jill
- Sunday, May 14th, 9.30am, Morning Worship, with Jill
- Sunday, May 21st, 9.30am, Parish Communion, with Jill
- Sunday, May 28th 9.30am, Family Communion with Tom Moffatt
- Sunday, June 4th, Pentecost Sunday, BCP Holy Communion with Glyn Evans.



Also during May:

- Wednesday, May 3rd, Informal Communion Service at 10.00am in Oddcote
- Pate and Puds on Saturday, May 20th in the evening in The Old Chapel
- Thursday, May 25th is Ascension Day: the Deanery Ascension Day Service of Holy Communion will be in Oxhill at 7.30pm.

Finally, look out for 'Thy Kingdom Come', an invitation for individuals, churches and families to pray during the period between Ascension Day, May 25th, and Pentecost Sunday, June 4th. There will be a special display, and resources available, in the back of the church.

Every blessing, Jill

DEANERY NEWS FOR MAY

My thanks to all those who have hosted and attended, preached and made refreshments for the series of Deanery Lent Services this year. It has been wonderful to meet and worship with so many of you, and to listen to such an inspiring group of speakers.

Ascension Day is another occasion when we get together as a Deanery for the Ascension Day Eucharist. This year it is Thursday, May 25th, and our service will be in Oxhill Church at 7.30 pm. As ever, if the weather is kind to us, we shall begin outside. Our speaker this year will be Rev. Tim Mitchell, who is becoming familiar to people as the Healthy Churches Development Mentor.

Our final gathering of this liturgical year before we are all liable to disperse over the summer will be the **Deanery Synod on Tuesday, June 6th at 7.30pm**. Alice Farnhill is coming to speak about the work of the Community of the Cross of Nails, and appropriately we are meeting in Ilmington School, which is a Cross of Nails School. We look forward to seeing you there, and welcoming anyone who would like to hear about this world-wide branch of the ministry of Coventry Cathedral.

At the end of June we will be delighted to welcome Revd. George Heighton and his wife Drina to Brailes, Sutton-under-Brailes, Tysoe, Oxhill and Whatcote. The formal service of Collation by the Bishop of Coventry will take place on **Wednesday, June 28th at 7.30pm** – more details next month. In the meantime, please do pray for them both as they prepare to leave Coventry and move here.

Every blessing, Jill

CARERS 4 CARERS KINETON

Friday 26th May - Carers4Carers monthly meeting at Kineton Village Hall 10.30 – 12 noon.

Time to relax over a cuppa, exchange experiences and ideas or enjoy some therapeutic TLC. We can look after your loved one in our Companionship Group and also offer help with transport.



For more details, or to book transport or the Companionship Group, phone Gillian on 01926 640203/07947 893504

LATEST ON THE OXHILL SCARECROW WEEKEND 1 AND 2 JULY

We hope you like the poster produced for the weekend, from the last Oxhill News. This is now starting to appear locally. We are just two months away from the big event and preparations continue to go well.

Here's the latest update, including an outline of activities and events planned for the weekend.

Volunteers

As mentioned previously, there's been a terrific response but we still need the following if you are able to help:

- **Car Park Marshalls** (highly sought after roles) - contact Katy Dowding on 688194 or kdowding@me.com
- **Poster and leaflet distribution** - contact Ali Sayer on 680451 or ali.sayer@btinternet.com
- **Afternoon Teas - washer uppers, servers and cake makers required** - contact Gaynor Fila on 680473 or gaynorfila@hotmail.co.uk
- **Open Gardens: volunteers to open their garden or even their window boxes! Plus, we need a volunteer co-ordinator for Open Gardens** - contact Katy Dowding on 688194 or kdowding@me.com
- **Village Market: volunteers to provide produce and to sell produce** - contact Jay Roberts on 680030 or djayroberts@btinternet.com

Songs of Praise in the church

This will take place on the Sunday morning of the weekend. Requests for songs still welcome to Rev Jill Tucker on 688193 or revjill.tucker@tiscali.co.uk

Tombola

There will be a junior as well as an adult's tombola. Donated prizes for the tombola welcome. Please contact Carol Fox on 680223.

OXHILL

SCARECROW WEEKEND

July 1&2
2017

Scarecrows
9.30 - 5.30
Sat & Sun



Live Music

Village
Market

Village Breakfast
Rolls

Songs of Praise

Tea and Cakes

Art Exhibition

Children's Entertainment
and Treasure Hunt

@ Oxhill Village, Warwickshire, CV35 0QU



follow us on Facebook @oxhillscarecrows www.oxhill.org.uk

Donations to Local Charities

Art Exhibition

Artists, we want your works of art to display in the Old Chapel, and children we want you artistic creations too. Please note there will now be no charge to exhibit your art. Instead, we will be inviting donations at the door and if any art is sold at the exhibition there will be a small commission payable which will be added to the fundraising income from the weekend. Contact Grenville Moore on 680664 or gren.moore@zen.co.uk

Children's entertainment

Our very own Iain Lauchlan will be leading the entertainment, so expect something very special from the creator of the Tweenies and star of the Belgrade Theatre's annual pantomime. He tells us that there will be different shows performed over the weekend, during half hour performances. Not to be missed!

Many Faces display

In addition to face painting we will have our very own photographer Natalie Whittaker who will, by consent, be photographing faces from the village to create a photographic display for the art exhibition.

Outline for the Scarecrow Weekend - 1-2 July

Saturday

Scarecrows on display

9am

Car park opens

9am-11am

Breakfast in the Village Hall

9.30am-4pm

Village Market

Art Exhibition in the Chapel

Floral Displays in the Church

Scarecrow displays inside and outside the Church

Plant Sale

Bric a Brac and Tombola

Face painting and photography of `faces`

Treasure Hunt with map

11am-4.30pm

Teas and Cakes in the Village Hall

11am-11.30pm, 12noon-12.30pm, 2pm-2.30pm and 3-3.30pm

Children's Entertainment in The Peacock garden

5pm

Car park closes

6.30pm-8.30pm

Music in The Peacock

Sunday

Scarecrows on display

9am

Car park opens

9am-10am

Songs of Praise in the Church

9am-11am

Breakfast in the Village Hall

9.30am-4pm

Village Market

Teas and Cakes in the Village Hall

Art Exhibition in the Chapel

Floral Displays in the Church

Scarecrow displays inside and outside the Church

Plant Sale

Bric a Brac and Tombola

Face painting and photography of `faces`

Treasure Hunt with map

11am-4.30pm

Teas and Cakes in the Village Hall

11am-11.30pm, 12noon-12.30pm, 2pm-2.30pm and 3-3.30pm

Children's Entertainment in The Peacock garden

3.30pm-4.30pm

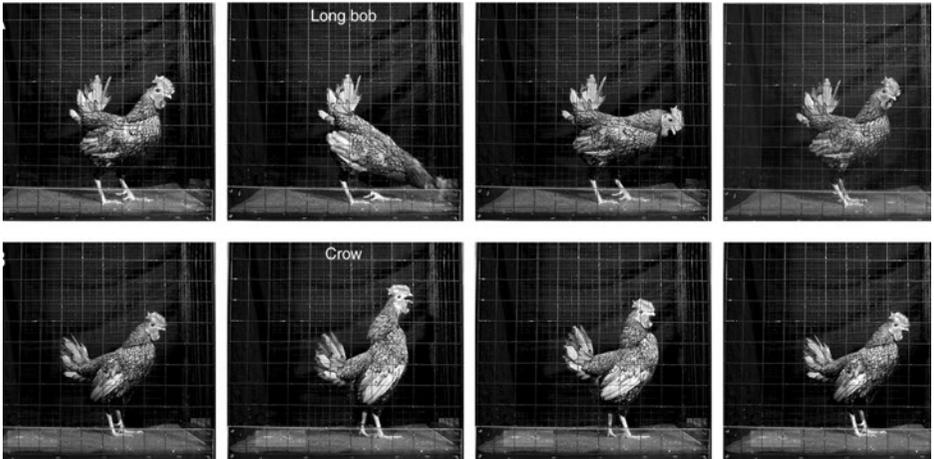
Jazz in The Peacock

5pm

Car park closes

Oxhill Garden Club

The April meeting in the Village Hall took place on Thursday the 13th of the month and, at long last, was actually “All About Chickens” – the speaker being Jacqui Vallance, of the Warwickshire Chicken Coop accompanied by her straight man Bernard – a rather fine cockerel who strutted his stuff during the meeting. When faced with sprinkled grain he exhibited the behaviour known as tidbitting – a call to his harem to come and feed, with the possibility that he could get lucky!



Tidbitting behaviour

Jacqui, based locally in Brailes, currently has some 400 chickens bred for sale – both special breeds and hybrids. The latter are more prolific in their egg laying and, indeed members were able to take away fresh eggs with a variety of different coloured shells to eat in whatever form they chose or to use in general cooking. It is, of course, the versatility of eggs that is their attraction.

Jacqui’s love for her charges shone through as did her satisfaction of being able to work from home with a lifestyle that she enjoys. She very rarely goes on holiday, indeed some one third of her income is from boarding other people’s chickens whilst they go away. Bio-security is a major issue here and for her boarders Jacqui uses Omlet’s plastic EggLoo chicken houses that can easily be washed down and disinfected between tenants. Each run, too, is carpeted with a bed of subsequently composted wood shavings on easily cleaned rubber matting.

Having started her career as a Saturday girl with another local chicken breeder, Jacqui now runs courses for those taking up what may be a hobby or the first step to self sufficiency. She is not shy, however of telling some potential clients that “perhaps chicken keeping is not for you – just yet”.

We certainly heard, and learned, “All About Chickens” and very much enjoyed the process.

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The above meeting was the last of the Winter calendar but a new programme of 2017/18 Garden Club activities is soon to be published. The first of these is the annual Plant Sale on Thursday 18th May – bring items to the Village Hall from 6.30 with the sale starting at 7.00pm. Always a knockout, come buy!

Douglas Nethercleft



Carol and Doreen at the 2013 Garden Club Plant Sale.



PARISH COUNCIL – LEYS FIELD UPDATE

Following the Village Meeting on 6 April, your Parish Council called an ad hoc meeting to discuss the key concerns expressed and the way forward to try to bring the Leys Field situation to the most acceptable close. Before moving on to the key concerns, we would remind everyone that sadly the battle to stop development was lost some time ago when Stratford Council gave planning permission to Stansgate to develop the field. Palmer Developments bought the field and expect to build 15 assorted house/bungalows as per the plans displayed on the night (and are still on show in the Village Hall). As a Parish Council, we have had to accept the Stratford Planning decision and have chosen to try to work with the Developer to get the best result for the Village in these difficult circumstances. We have taken the view that our best chance to get a reasonable result is by persuasion rather than by aggression and that is why the Developer has agreed to meet with us and to share their plans. This approach has already had some success, for example the re-location of the bungalow and some changes to the design of the houses.

The four key concerns that we took away from the meeting are:

- Potential flooding risk from the attenuation pond overflowing. We understand that this is a major concern to the residents that live close to the proposed pond and are seeking help from Stratford Council to get some

independent expertise in this area to consider all of the facts and advise a best way forwards.

- The ‘look and appearance’ of the new properties. We have had some correspondence and discussions with various Villagers about this subject and would ask everyone who is interested to let us have, in no more than 100 words, their views on what appearance they would like to see adopted and we will feed the results back to the Developer. Before writing to us, we would just remind you that whilst we all might like to see 15 dwellings in assorted Hornton Stone, this is unlikely to happen because of the cost of such materials and whether we like it or not, the Developer is a commercial business and will not want to spend more than he has to.
- The ‘open space’ and its maintenance. The Planning Document S106 is a bit vague on this aspect and so we are requesting a meeting with the Head of Planning in Stratford to clarify matters and will report back (see below).
- The ‘open space’ and its appearance and facilities. We believe that this aspect will be covered in more detail once the Developer moves to request Detailed Planning permission from Stratford Council. However, rather than wait until then, we are raising it with the Council in advance of the above and will call a further meeting of the Village just to discuss this one subject in the near future.



April 6 meeting

Our remit as a Parish Council is

to try to do the best for the Village with the very limited advisory capabilities ascribed to us by the District Council – we do not have any real decision making powers, we can only advise the Council (and the Developer) on the views of the Village and we have done this and will continue to do this BUT we cannot ensure that these views will always be acted upon.



TYSOE W.I.

Tysoe W.I. Are proud to be celebrating their centenary this year. It promises to be a busy year with many events taking place in addition to our monthly meetings. You can hardly miss that we have yarn bombed the village, with our amazing bike which has been made to measure by one of our members Janice, in crochet using W.I. Colours. Along with our Pom Pom plaque completed almost single handed by our secretary Christine. Members also knitted scarves and Easter animals, decorating spots around the village including the local school. Our little pixies could be spotted in the dead of night with their head torches and heard giggling as they climbed ladders preparing the surprise for villagers as they ventured out the next day.

A few days later we planted a weeping cherry tree in our churchyard with a prayer of dedication from Martin. It will serve to remind us all every year as it comes into blossom of our thriving and growing W.I.

On Wednesday 5th April we held a centenary dinner in our village hall, decorated with bunting, flowers, candles where we enjoyed a wonderful dinner followed by a hilarious play by Ginny Davis, all about West Nippleton W.I. She wrote this for us and will be rolling it out to other W.I.s. It reflected the highs and lows of running a W.I. and had us falling off our seats with laughter.

This was followed by coffee and cake, our fantastic cake was made by one of talented younger members Emily.

Everyone agreed it had been a truly memorable evening.

We will be holding a "gnome hunt" later in May, open to everyone, particularly our younger residents, watch out for the posters

If you would like to kept informed of our forthcoming events and meetings, please email: Tysoew.i.1917@icloud.com

You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Our May meeting will be our resolutions meeting followed by a speaker, again look out for posters. All of our meetings and most of our extra events and trips are open to non members.



Spring Clean in Oxhill - Free for the next generation of children



***Pate and Puds
at
The Old Chapel
Saturday 20th
May 7.30 pm***

Donation bar and Raffle

Price £11.00 Children £5.50

Book your places now with Carol Fox

01295 680223

Email ceafox21@aol.com or

Phone Cath Pugh 01295 680958

Or

Lilian Welsby

1608686934

*Lots of delicious
home made
pate and puds
by the "cooks of
Oxhill"*

*Proceeds to St. Lawrence Church
Oxhill*





BABY COLLARED DOVES

Look where a collared dove has made her nest and now has 2 chicks ! Hope it doesn't rain hard !

~ *Tricia Harbour*



PARKING ON PAVEMENTS

Following a complaint from a resident to the Parish Council we have to point out yet again the issue of parking on the pavements.

Will all residents make sure that if you or your guests have to park on the pavement for a short period (which I am sure you know is in fact illegal) that you leave enough room for pedestrians, especially mothers with pushchairs to pass safely. In most areas of the village there is plenty of room for large vehicles to pass without people having to park on the pavement.



Oxhill Parish Council

TOMBOLA PRIZES FOR SCARECROW WEEKEND

Expect this will be advertised in other items but please can you help with the provision of prizes for the Tombolas. One will take place in the morning of Saturday and Sunday which will be run by children so no alcohol. but please bottles of any type and other prizes will be most helpful for the afternoon Tombola run by grown ups

We are also staging a Bric a Brac stall by the village hall so here is an opportunity to sort out those unwanted items. China, books , fabric items etc.

There will be a box of clothes and shoes at Phil and Heather Brennans barn for dressing scarecrows. Straw will be delivered nearer the time.



WELCOME TO OXHILL

Welcome to Graham and Gareth
newly resident at Whitecroft.

NEWS FROM STOUR SINGERS:

Covent Garden Principal, Darren Jeffery, stars as Saul

We are so lucky that Darren Jeffery, a good friend of Stour Singers, has agreed to return for a third time to sing for us in the title role of Handel's dramatic oratorio, Saul. The audience will also be given the opportunity to hear soloists counter-tenor - Tim Morgan, tenor - Ben Thapa, soprano - Anita Watson, and young bass from Birmingham Conservatoire, Alistair Donaghue, accompanied by the Queen's Park Sinfonia.



The famous Bible story of King Saul is set in an era of terrible battles won and lost for the Children of Israel. The oratorio begins with joyous celebrations after the youthful David has killed the mighty giant Goliath. Saul is troubled by envy of the youngster who has become the hero of the people, outshining him, the king.

The great dramatic composer Handel gives wonderful expression to the private emotions of the individual characters, and the public outpourings of the people. The Choir take on the role of the people and have glorious choruses to sing about jealousy and envy, victory, and deep grief.

Musically and dramatically, this is an evening not to be missed. Richard Emms, the choir's Director, brings out of the choir a heartfelt emotional response. The performance is at St. Edmund's Church, Shipston, at 7.30.p.m. on Saturday 13th May. Tickets cost £12.50 each (free to accompanied children), available from R. Clarke Electrical in Shipston. For further information, contact Yvonne Ridley on 01789 269587.

Tysoe Church of England Primary School Easter Report

School visits continue to play an important part in the curriculum. Class 4/5 thoroughly enjoyed their day out at Chedworth Roman Villa. Harry and Alex said, 'The best part was seeing the Roman baths, they looked amazing!' The children had hands-on activities including crushing herbs for a potpourri bag. Class 1 took pleasure in their trip to Coventry Cathedral and then into the Herbert Art Gallery where they made sculptures out of clay.



Children crushing herbs at Chedworth Roman Villa

An exciting project has created a peaceful seating area in the lovely school grounds. The area includes a mirror pool set in cobbles, a beach area and play matting. Many willing volunteers got involved and donations came from St Mary's Church, Tysoe for banana benches, The Friends for materials, and some businesses, including the use of a digger. The all-weather garden is already very popular.

Recent extra-curricular activities include musical performances by the drumming and guitar groups. The concerts enabled all age

groups, including beginners, to celebrate their talents in front of children and parents. On the sports' front, a team of eleven enthusiastic children entered the Shipston Swimming Gala and were a credit to the school with their effort and team spirit.



Class 3 open the new reflection garden.

Easter activities included a competition to decorate eggs, the creation of miniature gardens by Reception Class and a visit to a local farm to see new-born lambs. A very special Easter Service was held in St Mary's Church for Reverend Martin Leaton as he led the school worship for the last time. He was presented with a card made by all the children and a gift of gardening vouchers. Everyone involved with Tysoe CE School wishes Rev Leaton a long and happy retirement.

Prospective parents are most welcome to visit, just contact the office on 01295-680244.
Jenny Coates, Head of School



WOT2Grow Community Orchard

Some beautiful weather in early April certainly made such a difference at the orchard! The blossom has been beautiful with the pears and perry pears joining the plums, damsons and greengages. The apricots have finished and

the peaches and nectarines will be over by Easter but the first apple blossom broke the second week in April and there is a lot more to come. Such a pleasure to see and with the **photography workshop on May 6th from 10:00 to 12:00** we hope we will have lots of lovely apple trees in blossom! Do come join us at the orchard, refreshments included in the modest cost of £2 for non members.

So much work has been done in the last month, all the trees weeded and fed and with watering and mulching well under way. Some of the soft fruit has been fed and mulched and the weeding is well under way. A new fruit cage has been constructed to protect the red and white currants as the birds are really partial to them. And of course the mowing has started in earnest to keep the weeds down!



Tricia and the Blackcurrants

Our blueberries are looking good with the first signs of flowers although they will not be allowed to fruit this year! They do need a lot of water so thankfully we have seven water butts and a new one being installed!

As always we rely only on volunteers to maintain and do all the work at the orchard, it is such a rewarding thing especially when you get your reward in fruit! Why not help out? An hour or so of your time can make an enormous difference and you will be most welcome!

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



Emily Watering Trees



Joe mulches trees



Pear Blossom Onward

WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND OXHILL

May

Tuesday 2nd		Green & Blue bin collection
Tuesday 2nd	19:30	Village Hall AGM
Wednesday 3rd	10:30	The Peacock - Village Coffee Morning
Tuesday 9th		Grey landfill bin collection
Friday 12th	9:30	Weekday Walkers
Friday 12th	19:30	Paella Night at the Village Hall
Saturday 13th	19:30	Stour Singers, St Edmunds, Shipston
Monday 15th		Oxhill News submission deadline
Tuesday 16th		Green & Blue bin collection
Wednesday 17th	12:30	The Peacock - Village Lunch
Thursday 18th	19:00	Garden Club Plant Sale Village Hall
Saturday 20th	19:30	Pate & Puds, Old Chapel
Tuesday 23rd		Grey landfill bin collection
Friday 26th	9:30	Weekday Walkers
Friday 26th	10:30 - 12:00	Carers 4 Carers Monthly Meeting
Sunday 28th	20:00	Quiz Night at the Peacock
Tuesday 30th		Green & Blue bin collection