

# THE OXHILL NEWS



No. 408  
November 2008

# NO!

No sun - no moon!  
No morn - no noon!  
No dawn - no dusk - no proper time of day -  
No sky - no earthly view -  
No distance looking blue -  
No road - no street - no "t'other side this way" -  
No end to any Row -  
No indications where the Crescents go -  
No top to any steeple -  
No recognitions of familiar people -  
No courtesies for showing 'em -  
No knowing 'em!  
No traveling at all - no locomotion -  
No inkling of the way - no notion -  
"No go" by land or ocean -  
No mail - no post -  
No news from any foreign coast -  
No Park, no Ring, no afternoon gentility -  
No company - no nobility -  
No warmth, no cheerfulness, no healthful ease,  
No comfortable feel in any member -  
No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees,  
No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds -  
November!

Thomas Hood

## DECEMBER ISSUE

Please could I have all copy for the December issue by Midnight on **Monday, 24th November?** 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

Another photo from my holiday, this time the Church at St. Nectaire in the Auvergne. Unfortunately the builders were in when we visited, but that does mean we have a splendid excuse for going back again next year after they have finished.

*Editor*

## MRS EVELYN COLYER, NEE GILKS

### 100TH BIRTHDAY

Mrs Evelyn Colyer, who was born Evelyn Gilks in Oxhill on 5th October 1908, has just celebrated her 100th birthday. Her mother was a Summerton, a family who lived in Oxhill for many centuries. Her father, William Gilks was the son of the village blacksmith, and followed the same trade, finding work first at Rugby. When he joined up in the First World War, his wife brought her little family back to Oxhill, to be among her many relatives in the village.

When the War ended, and Evelyn was eleven, the family moved to Quinton, but Oxhill remains very much in her heart, and she has many happy memories of her childhood here. (Her only complaint is that Gilkes Lane has her family's surname spelt incorrectly!) She has written articles in *Country Life* in 1991 on The Village School, and in *This England* in 2000 about Mayday celebrations, and her *Reminiscences 1914-1919* are in the Warwick County Library. There are articles too on her grandfather John Henry Summerton, and the village Empire Day celebrations.

I have also enjoyed interviewing her on tape about village life during the First World War period, and her memory for detail is impressive. She has peopled the houses for me, and answered many queries.

Evelyn has been a traveller too. Before her marriage, working as a nanny in Aden, she was evacuated as the Second War loomed. On the ship she met her future husband, one of the ship's officers, and she subsequently often travelled with him during his career.

The couple had two daughters, and now Evelyn has 6 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Evelyn enjoyed a splendid party in Quinton to celebrate her birthday. Many (belated) Happy Returns from her childhood village of Oxhill.

*Ann Hale*

## TYSOE RECORD

After very many years Joy Bloxham has decided that she will have to give up delivering the Tysoe Record round Oxhill, so there is a search on for her replacement.

If you feel that you could commit yourself to delivering 36 copies per month round the village please would you get in touch with Mrs. Margaret Gibbs. Her address is 'Quo Vadis', Main Street, Middle Tysoe, CV35 0SE, and her telephone number is 01295 680416.

*Editor*

# ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH, OXHILL

## SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

All are warmly welcome

Sunday 2nd	All Saints and All Souls	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion (NM)
Sunday 9th	Remembrance Sunday	9.30 a.m.	Remembrance Service (ML)
Sunday 16th	Trinity XXVI	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion (ML)
Sunday 23rd	Sunday before Advent	9.30 a.m.	Family Service (NM)
	Christ the King		
Sunday 30th	Advent I	11.00 a.m.	United Benefice Communion at St. Mary's Tysoe

## CAROL SERVICE

Due to some choristers being busy on Wednesday 17th December the date of the Carol Service is currently set for Thursday 18th, but there is a possibility of it moving to Tuesday 16th. More details in the December issue, but for now probably better keep both days open! So put all these dates in your diary.

*Carol Fox, Churchwarden*

## CAROL SERVICE CHOIR

We are hoping to have a choir for the Carol Service again this year, and friends old and new are invited to the Old Chapel on Wednesday November 12th at 7.30 p.m. for the first rehearsal. I have chosen a couple of carols which I hope will be straightforward for less experienced singers and enjoyable for folk in other choral groups. Do come along if you can.

*Nicholas Morgan*

## REMEMBRANCE ROLL OF HONOUR

As usual at this time of year, I shall be putting in the Church (under the poppy wreath on the wall) a folder which commemorates the men from Oxhill who gave their lives in the First World War. (We were fortunate not to have any casualties in the Second War.)

This Roll of Honour gives brief details of each of the seven men, the family from which they came, and the battles in which they fell.

*Ann Hale*

## RATS!

During the 'summer' that has recently passed there have been several instances of rat infestation in the village. Most of us who were afflicted tried to deal with it ourselves, spending large sums on traps and poisons.

We have now learned that this was quite unnecessary, as the council Pest Control department will deal with rats in private residences free of charge. Those of you suffering from mice would, though, have to pay for their services.

If you have problems with rats in the future, the telephone number you need for the council service is 01789 260814.

*Editor*

## FROM THE PEACOCK

We are delighted to tell you all that we have been nominated and shortlisted in the Coventry and Warwickshire Dining Awards for the Best Dining Pub. Six Pubs have been chosen and the results will be known on Tuesday 18th November at an awards ceremony at the Ricoh Arena.

Following the success of the Beer Festival we are holding a CIDER FESTIVAL on Fri 31st October, Sat 1st and Sun 2nd November. We will have a great range of ciders including Rattlers from Cornwall, Black Rat, Farmers Tipple, Happy Apple, Olde Rosie, Thatcher's Heritage, Bounds Scrumpy, Thatcher's Dry and our usual Gold. To coincide with this there will be entertainment each night:

Friday 31st October, Blooze Busters from 9.30 p.m., Saturday 1st November, Andrew James from 9.30 p.m. and on Sunday 2nd November there will be a Halloween Quiz starting at 8 p.m. (not too serious and lots of fun.) Entry for teams of 4 will be £5 per team with £3.00 going to the prize fund and £2 to Air Ambulance.

The whole weekend we shall be raising funds for Warwickshire and Northants Air Ambulance, so do come and support and try the ciders. Food will be available and will feature some delicious dishes made with cider.

*Cheers! Yvonne and Pam*

## KINETON OIL CONSORTIUM

We will shortly be ordering oil to provide pre-Christmas warmth.

Please let me know you oil needs no later than 6 p.m. on Wednesday November 19th.

*D. Harper, 01295 680529*

## A DEFINITION

**PIANO**, n. A parlour utensil for subduing the impenitent visitor. It is operated by depressing the keys of the machine and the spirits of the audiences.

Ambrose Bierce

# ST. PETER'S CHURCH WHATCOTE FUNDRAISING CHRISTMAS 2008

We are again selling the Ultimate Plum Pudding that you've all enjoyed in previous years and at the **same price as the last two years.**

For our new customers here is your chance to taste these virtually hand made puddings, made by a very small craft manufacturer in Cumbria. The Ultimate Plum Pudding is endorsed by the BBC Food and Chef magazines as well as receiving the Great Taste Award.

All the vine fruits are soaked in plenty of brandy and dry sherry. Fresh breadcrumbs and freshly grated carrot help give the pudding a distinctly northern style being lighter, less bitter, and having a wider variety of luxury ingredients than many other puddings. Most people have no idea that Christmas pudding can be this good.

A 454g pudding (serves 4) costs £5.00 and a 908g pudding (serves 8) costs £8.50

It's a great pudding. Makes excellent Christmas gifts for family and friends. Order from us simply by filling in the order form below and sending it back now. Last date for orders is **December 12th** and the puddings can be collected from:-

**June Wreford, Church Cottage, Whatcote. Telephone 01295 680294**

Ingredients: vine fruits (raisins, sultanas, currants), fresh breadcrumbs, free range eggs, dark sugar, grated carrot, apple, flour, mixed peel, chopped dates, whole cherries, stem ginger, brandy, sherry, vegetable suet, all vegetable margarine, flaked almonds, nibbed walnuts, apricots, golden syrup, spices, salt. (Please note puddings contain nuts).

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## PUDDING ORDER FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Tel.No. \_\_\_\_\_

Would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ 454g @ £5.00: \_\_\_\_\_ 908g @ £8.50

I enclose a cheque for £\_\_\_\_\_ made payable to Whatcote PCC Special Projects Fund.

Please return to:-

**June Wreford, Church Cottage, Whatcote, Shipston-on-Stour. CV36 5EF**

## VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Those of you who have been in the Village Hall this month will have noticed that the redecoration is nearly complete and the hall is now looking very smart. The funding for this work has come from Awards for All Lottery Fund and we would like to thank everyone who has used the hall recently for their patience and understanding whilst the work has been going on.

### **Progressive Supper**

A good time was had by all who attended the Progressive Supper on 27th September. It appeared to be a great success judging by the headache I woke up with the next morning!

### **Indian Evening**

We are both sorry and delighted to announce that tickets for the Indian Evening are now all sold.

### **Mama Mia - 28th October**

Mama Mia is also sold out, but watch this space. We will have another great film for you very soon. You can book tickets for the film club through Judy on 688010.

### **Coffee Morning - 6th December**

We will be holding a coffee morning to help to fund the Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch, at 10.30 a.m. on Saturday 6th December at the Village Hall and we are looking for volunteers to cook cakes for us. If you feel you can help please give Judy (688010) or Gwyn (680286) a call. Of course if you can't cook us a cake **PLEASE** come along on Saturday to enjoy everyone else's cooking!

### **Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch – Monday 15th December**

We will be sending out the invitations to the lunch in early November. We are very sorry if we inadvertently miss you off our list but if you are over sixty-five and would like to come to the lunch but have not received your invitation by mid-November please contact George on 680286. You will be very welcome but, as with any event, we are limited in the number of people we can accommodate in the hall.

### **New Years Eve Party**

Tickets for the New Years Eve Party are still on sale from Gaynor van Dijk (680349) or Derek Harbour (680676) but hurry, they are going fast! The price of the tickets is £20 a head which will include a hot meal, free glass of wine, free glass of champagne and spectacular firework display not to mention some great music. Don't delay – book today.

*Judy Badger*

**FREE!**

2 kitchen/bar stools. 29" high with round wooden seats and black legs.

Good condition.

No charge but a donation to charity would be appreciated.

*Ruth Gibson, 680420*



## TRAVELLING NATIVITY

St Lawrence's Church, Oxhill is offering the chance to give the Travelling Nativity a home for a night or two through Advent (Nov 30th –Dec 24th).

If your family would like to participate contact Ann Saxton on 680613) to book an available date.

## VICARAGE NOTES

### **Cor Meibion Talgarth**

St. Lawrence's was full for the visit of the Talgarth Male Voice Choir and I am sure that all enjoyed what was a splendid evening. Thanks must go to Lilian and the team for arranging this event! Full details in the News next month.

### **Yet Again**

It is immensely sad to report that heating oil has again been stolen from Church. This time the thieves cut the fuel line! Although nobody is hurt, this sort of action reveals the mindless vandalism that can be seen in far more unpleasant acts. We are looking at ways of improving security. My thanks go to Bill Fox for getting the heating up and running in time for the choir.

### **Thought for the month**

November is the month of remembrance on a personal as well as national basis. There will be the special service on Remembrance Sunday, at which the collection will be for the Poppy Appeal, and within the service on the 2nd I will be including a commemoration of the departed. If you would like a loved one who has died remembered, please put his or her name on the list in church.

Hear us, O merciful Father, as we remember with love those we have placed in thy hands.

Shelter, we pray, the sheep of thy fold, lambs of thy flock and of thy redeeming.

Enfold them in the arms of thy mercy and in the blessed rest of everlasting peace.

Best wishes and God bless,

*Nicholas Morgan, 01608 685230*

## OXHILL GARDEN CLUB

How many National Parks of England and Wales can you name?

The Garden Club managed to recognise all twelve with a little help from speaker Adrian Thornton.

His talk reminded us of the spectacle, grandeur, variety and wildness of these spaces. We were also advised on how WE play a vital role in the protection and preservation so that views that have changed little in the past hundred years can remain for future generations.

Our help in assisting to focus attention on threats to wild life by encroaching road-building, mining and other destructive activities is much appreciated. There was much food for thought.

Future meetings are:

20th November – a talk on South African flora and fauna.

11th December – Christmas Party

*Ann Saxton*

## WEEKDAY WALKERS

We only have one walk in November details are as follows:

Friday 7th November

This walk is 5.80 miles long from North Newington to Wroxton with 120 feet of ascent. The lunch will be at “The North Arms” Wroxton. We will leave Oxhill at 10:00 a.m.

Please contact Jim Saxton on 01295 680613 or email at [saxton@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:saxton@tiscali.co.uk) before the Thursday prior to the walk.

## COMPUTER CLASSES

We are hoping to hold Computer Classes at St Peter’s Community Centre, Whatcote after Christmas, under the auspices of Stratford-upon-Avon College. The cost will be £75 for the term of 10 x 2 hour lessons which will be during the daytime, either on a Wednesday afternoon or a Friday lunchtime. (There is a reduced fee of £20 if you are in receipt of benefits).

I hope to know more details for the next Oxhill News.

If you are interested please contact Sue Price on 01295 680007.

## SHIPSTON HOME NURSING

There are two events in November.

### **Saturday 8th November**

9 a.m. – noon

### **Clothes and Accessories**

The annual sale of designer clothes and accessories from Moda Rosa of Alresford will be held again at Darlingscott Farm.

**Wednesday 12th November**, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

**Thursday 13th November**, 9.30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

### **Christmas Gift Fair**

Ettington Community Centre

Christmas Cards (designed by Betty Holden) carrying images of the churches in Tredington, Ilmington, Shipston, Charlecote, Whichford, Brailes and Great Wolford are now available from Rebecca (details below) or various outlets in the area. 10 cards in a pack for £4.00, all profits going to SHN.

Further details from Rebecca Mawle, 01608 674929

## VILLAGE HALL CLEANING ROTA

Week beginning Monday:

November 3rd	Judy & Dot
November 10th	Gwyn & George
November 17th	Angela & Gaynor
November 24th	Julie & Keith
December 1st	Una & Jane

*Una Hill*

## IT'S A POINT OF VIEW

"Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint."

Mark Twain

## CHRISTMAS AT COMPTON VERNEY

Visitors to Compton Verney can enjoy three Christmas weekends on 29th and 30th November; 6th and 7th December, and 13th and 14th December, offering a last chance to see the current exhibitions - Jack B. Yeats, Masquerade and Spectacle: The Circus and the Travelling Fair, and Oskar Kokoschka: Exile and New Home 1938-1980 – and experience a host of festive activities. The weekends include:

Carol concerts at 12 noon, 1.30pm and 3pm, in the gallery's magnificent Adam Hall.

A specially decorated winter space, with a resident winter wizard.

Storytelling inspired by the gallery's collections and suitable for all ages.

Family workshops to create Christmas cards and decorations.

There is a special menu of seasonal delights in the gallery's award winning café, and the opportunity to purchase a range of unusual Christmas gifts from the gallery shop, including books, artists' materials, jewellery and children's gifts.

The weekends offer an opportunity to purchase a year's membership to Compton Verney at last year's prices. Membership entitles holders to unlimited entry to the gallery for twelve months, and there are three membership types to choose from: £24.00 individual; £44 joint; £50.00 family (2 adults and up to 4 children).

There is also an opportunity to find out more about Compton Verney's recently launched Adopt a Tree scheme, which invites visitors to adopt a tree in the gallery's historic parkland, and presents a particularly unusual Christmas gift idea.

Contact: Ina Cole, Communications Manager, Compton Verney, Warwickshire, CV35 9HZ

Tel: 01926 645540; Email: [ina.cole@comptonverney.org.uk](mailto:ina.cole@comptonverney.org.uk)

*St Edmund's Church - Shipston*

**Saturday 22nd November at 7:30 p.m.**

***The Popular Choir present:***

***“TARANTARA”***

**Entry £8:00 (*accompanied children FREE*)**

***Raffle***

***Light Refreshments***

## WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND OXHILL

### ***NOVEMBER***

Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd The Peacock – Cider Festival  
Wednesday 5th The Peacock – Village Coffee Morning  
Friday 7th 10.00 Weekday Walkers  
Saturday 8th 9-12 Darlingscott Farm – Shipston Home Nursing  
Wednesday 12th 6-9 Ettington Community Centre – SHN Christmas Fair  
Thursday 13th 9.30-4 Ettington Community Centre – SHN Christmas Fair  
Tuesday 18th 10-10.30 Village Hall – Mobile Library  
Wednesday 19th The Peacock – Village Lunch  
Wednesday 19th 6.00 Order deadline for Kineton Oil Consortium  
Thursday 20th 7.30 Village Hall – Garden Club  
Monday 24th 23.59 Copy deadline for the News

### ***DECEMBER***

Saturday 6th 10.30 Village Hall – Coffee Morning  
Tuesday 9th 10-10.30 Village Hall – Mobile Library  
Monday 15th Village Hall – Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch  
Thursday 18th 7.30 St. Lawrence Church - Carol Service  
Wednesday 31st Village Hall – New Year's Eve Party

### **ACCIDENT and MEDICAL EMERGENCIES**

**FIRST CALL 999**

**THEN CALL**

Ambulance Responders

**MICK & BARBARA SHEPARD**

**07977149317 Mobile / 01295680644 Home**

**3, The Leys, Oxhill, Warwick, CV350QX**