

THE OXHILL NEWS



NO. 431
OCTOBER 2010

REFUSE COLLECTION

Recycling and green waste bins (blue and green bins) will be collected on Tuesdays 12th and 26th.

The grey rubbish bins will be collected on Tuesdays 5th and 19th.

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 October the van will visit us on Tuesdays 5th and 26th.

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

Editor

WEEKDAY WALKERS

We have only one walk in October as follows:

Friday 22nd October

This is a circular 5.0 mile walk from Wigginton to Swerford with 430 feet of ascent with lunch at “The White Swan Inn”, Wigginton. We will leave Oxhill at 9:30 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.

NOVEMBER ISSUE

Please could I have all copy for the November issue by Midnight on **Monday, 25th October**? 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

Going downstairs one morning recently I was startled by a loud bang, clearly a bird strike on the landing window. Opening the curtain explained all; the collared dove had been chased into the window by the sparrow-hawk and, presumably, caught on the rebound. The hawk did much of his butchering on the lawn but took the body away to eat.

Editor

CHERNOBYL'S CHILDREN
GOURMET DINNER

**The Old Church House, Oxhill
Saturday 9th October 2010
7.30 p.m. for 8.00 p.m.**

Enjoy excellent locally-sourced food with complimentary champagne and canapés on arrival.

**Price £35.00 per head
Black Tie**

All profits to Chernobyl's Children, with a small donation to OWLS

**A few tickets are still available.
To book and for more details telephone
Anne Marshall, 01295 680411**

OXHILL FESTIVAL CHOIR

Rehearsals for the Carol Service, which will be on December 16th, will start in November. Details will be published in the November News.

We would be very pleased to see any new members. If you would like to join us please contact me, Gaynor van Dijk, on 01295 680349.

Gaynor

MEDICAL EMERGENCY REMINDER

Time is critical in medical emergencies and so in order to ensure we attend as quickly as possible

FIRST

call 999 for an Ambulance

THEN

phone us direct on 07977149317

Mick & Barbara Shepard

West Midlands Ambulance Service Responders

ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH, OXHILL

SERVICES IN OCTOBER

All are warmly welcome

Sunday 3rd	Trinity XVIII	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion (ML)
Sunday 10th	Trinity XIX	6.30 p.m.	Evensong (NM)
Sunday 17th	Trinity XX	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion (Rev M. Sharland)
Sunday 24th	Trinity XXI	9.30 a.m.	Family Service (ML)
Sunday 31st	Trinity XXII	11.00 a.m.	Benefice Communion at Tysoe

For other benefice services see porch notice board

Please note Carol Service date: Thursday December 16th at 7.30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

I know it's early but I would like to advertise the dates for the Carol Service and the Crib/Christingle services in December.

Carol Service	Thursday 16th December
Crib and Christingle	Sunday 19th December

Carol Fox

DEANERY NEWS

Deanery Synod

The next Deanery Synod is the one where we look at finance, and we are really pleased once again to be able to welcome Simon Lloyd to our meeting. The Synod will be held at Long Compton on Tuesday, October 5th at 7.30 p.m., preceded by coffee from 7.00 onwards. We will be looking at the budget for next year, and we hope to look at the new parish share system. We particularly wish to invite parish treasurers to join us, but as ever this meeting is open to anyone, so please do feel very welcome to come along.

Quiet Morning

We are holding a Deanery Quiet morning with Tina Lamb, to which all those involved in ministry in our churches, in whatever way, are invited. This will be held on Thursday, November 4th, 9.30 to about 1 p.m., in The Old Chapel, Oxhill. Tina will be looking at the hymn 'For all the saints who from their labour rest', focusing on how labouring saints get rest and refreshment..... A light lunch will be provided for those that are able to stay.

Garden Party

Thanks to the generosity of those attending, the ad hoc collection meant that more than £70 can be sent to fund relief work overseas where it is most needed.

Jill Tucker

OXHILL GARDEN CLUB NEWS

Peter Jones invited us to romp through “The Night Garden” on 16th September. This most qualified of gardeners gave members an often hilarious insight into why we should invest in a round the clock sanctum and why the garden’s intimate space should be fragrant, make sounds and be, above all, tactile (without prickles for those naturalists among us!).

He gave us ideas for non-mowing, scented lawns and low-maintenance planting. We heard that certain colours are better for the night and that we could introduce seasonal and imaginative accessories to express individuality - and to not worry about the expense!

Peter’s unusual planting methods involving sodden newspaper, methylated spirits, washing-up liquid and liquid fertilizer give much food for thought.

It was a most entertaining and informative evening.

Members, remember to get your photos to Reg Gethin.

Future meetings

- October 21st “A Year of Wild Flowers” with Monica Evans
- November 18th “Christmas Table Decorations” with Gill Hawtin
- December 15th Christmas Party at the Saxton’s

Ann Saxton

VISITING VICAR

On Sunday 17th October the 9.30 a.m. Service will be conducted by Canon Rev. Marilyn Sharland. Marilyn is one of my many cousins and was also a very good schoolfriend. We lost contact for some years and it was to my surprise that I found Marilyn had become a Vicar having been one of the early campaigners for women priests. She was Minister to St. Barnabus Church in Gloucester for several years prior to her retirement five years ago. When she was visiting us she came to church with me and asked if she could take a service some time. So we have arranged for her to come on 17th. She is a lively character and will no doubt conduct an interesting service. Hope you can come.

Carol Fox, Churchwarden

NATURE NOTES FOR OCTOBER

We were recently on holiday down in Devon and on the hot days we just relaxed in the garden and were intrigued by three crows that would wander round the lawn close to us, pecking in the ground. Every so often one of the crows would come very close and for a moment fix us with its black beady eye. It is very unusual for crows to be at ease so close to humans. These crows would also spend many hours in a tree at the edge of the lawn, and one morning we watched them when, much to our amazement, one suddenly swung round the branch it was perched on and hung upside down for about half a minute. The others ignored it! It then leaned upwards, took hold of the branch with its large black beak and swung itself upright once again. For the next two days I had my camera at the ready hoping for a repeat performance, but no such luck.

Now here's a useless piece of information. The crow's skill in prising open possible food sources with that powerful curved beak gave us our 'crowbar', and also the Romans had their 'corvus', a beaked piece of iron hinged to the masts of ships which were used as a grappling hook.

I am currently working at a house just outside Chipping Campden and in the surrounding parkland there is a herd of Red deer. They were first introduced into the park over 250 years ago. For the last couple of weeks it has been the start of the rutting season and every day we are treated to the guttural bellows of the stags and have been fortunate to witness the clashing antlers in the battle to establish supremacy and mating rights, at times only 100 yards from the house. The dominant male is a 'Royal' stag, which means he has twelve points to his antlers. The male is known as a stag and the female a hind. Stag is Middle English and the name given to any male animal in his prime. When a Red deer comes into his fifth year he was known as a 'hart' and a male with his first antlers in his second year a 'brocket'. I was also pleased to see a mature white stag within this herd - a 'White Hart', the name given to many pubs, and indeed we have the White Hart at Newbold in what would have been Ettington Park.

Towards the end of October "if the leaves will not fall from the trees, or else when there are a great number of caterpillars on the trees, then followeth after a cold winter" "If the birds are fat in October, expect a hard winter."
(*The Knowledge of Things Unknown, 1729*)

Flocks of migrant woodcock arrive about now; they were once believed to spend summer on the moon!

Grenville Moore

OWLS PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

A reminder that between 4.00 p.m. and 6.00 p.m. on Sunday 17th October, we will be hosting the Oxhill photographic competition in the Village Hall. Happily for all of us, Suzanna McKail has once again agreed to judge the entries. Presentation of prizes will be at 5.30 pm. Please come along to partake in drinks & nibbles and marvel at all the wonderful images on display!

There is still plenty of time to enter:

Category 1 – Local nature:

This can include any wildlife photos such as birds, plants, insects, wildflowers, trees & landscapes taken in Oxhill

Category 2 – British nature:

To include photos of the natural world taken anywhere in Britain.

There are 2 age groups:

children aged 12 & under

adults

Remember, that the ‘best in show’ photo will appear on the front cover of the Oxhill News! What an incentive to get clicking!

At the photographic exhibition we will have 2011 calendars & cards available for you to buy - ideal Christmas presents! The calendar’s format this year is bigger (A4) & better than ever.

Please submit prints that are no larger than A5 in size to Rhian (680574), Grenville (680664) or any of the OWLS members. Each entry will cost 50p & there is no limit to the number of entries you can submit. Please write your name and age category on the back of each print and give each photo a title.

Good luck & happy snapping!

Rhian Cooper

www.oxhill-owls.org.uk

POPPY APPEAL

Sadly Pat Crowther is unable to collect for the Poppy Appeal this year. Is there anyone in the village who could stand in for her for this year?

Names to David Sewell (01295-680234) please.



NOTES OF A MEETING OF OXHILL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2010 AT 8.00 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

All Councillors were present.

MATTERS DISCUSSED

Highways

Plastic Bollards would be replaced in front of “Oddcot”, and silt on the road before Church Farm would be removed. The Highways Department would be contacted regarding a problem with running water down Beech Road, and would be informed of the lack of a Weight Restriction sign at the Little Kineton end of the C45.

Parking

The Police have been in contact with us regarding vehicles being persistently parked on the bend in front of the Peacock pub. This problem is being monitored and any dangerous situations highlighted to the Police.

Planning

Permission was granted to fell spruce tree at The Hollies.

Applications had been returned with no objections raised for the following:

Erection of barn for storage of straw at Church Farm

Change of land use to equine & stables at Hogwood Farm

Change of land use to form domestic tennis court at Whatcote Park

Change of land use for warehouse for garden and agricultural supplies Windmill Farm.

An application to fell three willows at The Hollies had been received and also an application for a replacement garage at Greenfields.

Finance

An unqualified audit was returned for the year ended 31 March 2010 and the fee of £58.75 would be paid.

A request had been received to consider possible funding of a village Diamond Jubilee celebration for Queen Elizabeth II in 2010. The Parish Council could support this within the confines of the “free penny” precept.

Concessionary Travel Review

Warwickshire County Council is looking for ways to reduce the cost of the above scheme. Age group covered and timetable are two of the areas for savings. We would point out that a 9.30 a.m. start instead of 9.00 a.m. start for concessionary fares would have a large impact in rural areas where there is a limited service.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 9th November 2010 at 8.00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

Angela Kean, Clerk

VILLAGE HISTORY

Oxhill Boarding School

A facility now missing in Oxhill is a Methodist boarding school, but not so in the nineteenth century! There was a Church school at Old Church House, but the strong Methodist following in the village, particularly among the farmers, required Methodist schooling for their children. The first firm evidence of a school at Payn's House came with the discovery of an advertisement in the Warwick Advertiser for 4th June, 1836, when Mr Ward of Oxhill (who owned both Oxhill House, the family's main residence, and also Payn's House) advertised "premises situate at Oxhill, lately occupied as a seminary for young Gentlemen and eligible for that purpose; consisting of a respectable House, Schoolroom, Stable, Orchard and Gardens etc." A room in the barn at Payn's House has for generations been referred to as "the schoolroom", although the reason why had been long forgotten. More confirmation came when a correspondent to the website sent a copy of a letter written in 1833 by a young Frederick Edmunds of Banbury to his elder brother Richard, then at school in Oxhill. (The Edmunds family were Methodists, and had connections with Oxhill Chapel. Richard himself later grew up to become a lay preacher.)

It seems that, despite the advertisement of 1836, the house was not re-let as a boarding school, and was used instead as a private house by younger members of the Ward family. (The censuses reveal no neat lists of boys resident at Payn's House.) However the school itself did continue, as indeed did boarding, apparently on a "living out" basis. The 1861 census lists four children living around the village listed both as "boarders" and as "scholars". Two of these are the children of Alfred Baxter, a widower of 35 who lives separately, his occupation given as "Schoolmaster and Methodist Preacher". I assume the school continued in the Payn's House schoolroom, without resident master, and with children coming daily or boarded out rather than in. Both boys and girls now seem to be included. Another pupil of the time was Edmund Styles, Bill Gardner's grandfather from Tysoe, born in 1849. A book on Heritage family history (the two families intermarried) says that "Teddy" had gone to boarding school in Oxhill, where he learnt to read music, going on to be a fine musician and choirmaster at Tysoe Chapel. It is good to think of an ongoing choral tradition in our house - I had imagined something more akin to Dickens' Dotheboys Hall!

In the 1871 census and beyond there is no further hint of the Payn's House school. The opening of the village Board School in 1878 in any case would have rendered it obsolete.

Next time I'll explore the thin evidence that the school may have had even earlier roots - in the eighteenth century.

Ann Hale

WOT2GROW COMMUNITY ORCHARD

APPLE DAY

Saturday 16th October

1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Oxhill Village Hall

Join the nationwide 21st anniversary of Apple Day, an event started by the Common Ground charity to promote the importance of orchards and their significance in the community.

The WOT2Grow Community Orchard team will be holding an Apple Day event with a variety of activities and displays to educate and entertain, and to develop the support for our own Community Orchard for the villages of Whatcote, Oxhill and Tysoe.

Included in the Day we plan to have:

Apples of many types, sizes and flavours (some we'll bring, some you'll bring)

Juicing for your own apples: bring along a bucket full of fruit, and a jug/bottles

Children's activities and competitions

Cakes, pies, honey and other produce

Tasting of fruit, juice and cider, with products for sale

Local wildlife topics with the support of the OWLS

Contact one of the WOT2Grow team for more information or if you'd like to be involved in any way.

Oxhill - Derek Harbour (680676) & Paul Sayer (680451) and Tysoe - Sue & Mike Sanderson (688080), Graham Collier (680127) and Sam Littlewood (688137), Whatcote - Liz Atkinson (680045)

UNIVERSITY ENTRANTS

We have heard that Ellie Beavis is going to the University of Reading to study psychology and that Alex Finlayson is off to the University of Manchester to read environmental science.

If there are any others, please let us know.

Editor

OXHILL VILLAGE HALL EVENTS

Friday 8th October at 8.00 p.m. Quiz Night

The Quiz will be prepared by a specialist author who normally sells his Quizzes to Pubs and other organisations but thanks to one of the Committee Members contacts we have obtained it at a special low price. There will be a variety of different rounds including music, sport and pictures, so something for everyone. The cost, including light refreshments will be £2.50 per head.

Tickets can be reserved by calling Tricia Harbour (680676) or Gaynor van Dijk (680349).

October 14th at 2 p.m. Afternoon Delight

We plan to trial an afternoon's delight in October whereby those of you fortunate enough to be at home during the day can come along to the Village Hall for a couple of hours in the afternoon on a Thursday, to take up a new hobby or craft, meet up with your friends and have a cup of tea. Depending on demand/support, we envisage this taking place from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on alternate Thursdays from 14th October onwards. The first session will be free and thereafter a nominal charge will be made to cover the cost of the heating and the refreshments.

Please come along to the first meeting and let us have your ideas for what would **YOU** would like to see happen during this time on a Thursday. In the meantime, if you have any ideas or suggestions of hobbies or crafts that you would like to learn more about or have some knowledge of a hobby or craft that you would be happy to share with others, please contact Tricia Harbour on 680676.

November Indian Feast Night

We are planning to hold one of our ever-popular Indian Feast Nights in November with an array of Indian food, freshly prepared by chefs from the plains and mountains of central Oxhill. This is always a popular event and more details will appear in the next issue of the Oxhill Village News.

Derek Harbour

KINETON ART GROUP

The group will be holding their annual exhibition and sale of paintings at Kineton Village Hall on Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th October. The doors will be open between 10 and 5 each day, and refreshments, including tea and home-baked cakes, will be available all day.

Please come and enjoy the abundance of paintings by our members and many other local artists.

Gail O'Dell

VICARAGE NOTES

We enjoyed the pig roast and then the Harvest Service, the collection from which went to Farm Africa – the total will be on the Church notice board. Our thanks to everyone for all their efforts.

The PCC has just received the architect's Quinquennial Report on St. Lawrence's Church. It makes worrying reading, but anyone walking around the exterior and interior of the church can't fail to notice the very poor condition of much of the stonework and the continuing problem with damp. A fabric committee will be taking a careful look at the Report, which is a 5 yearly legal requirement, and it will be presenting an action plan in due course!

The church is not, of course, the building, but the gathering of Christian people as a community of faith. The purpose of that community is to worship God, to strengthen each other by a true spirit of fellowship and to reveal the Gospel by word and by deed. However, an ancient and hallowed building where people have gathered over the centuries is a very visible beacon of the Christian Faith, and each age has a duty of care. We will do our best and I am grateful for the generous support that so many in all the villages round about do give to their parish church. God bless,

Nicholas Morgan 01608 685230

A CONCERT IN AID OF ST MARTIN'S BARCHESTON

THE WARWICKSHIRE SINGERS

directed by Steven Russell

with

Barbara Rodway (soprano)

Helen Daniels (mezzo soprano)

SUNDAY 7th NOVEMBER, 4.00 p.m.

St Edmund's Church, Shipston on Stour

Programme to include

Pergolesi/Durante - Magnificat

Vivaldi - Stabat Mater

Tallis - O Nata Lux

Vivaldi - Gloria

Tickets £10 (accompanied children free)

from 01608 664310 or on the door

Tea and cakes included

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Advice from Warwickshire Trading Standards Service

Take Care When Switching Energy Suppliers

Warwickshire County Council Trading Standards has had reports of "rogue" energy sellers operating locally who will say anything to gain access to your property. One claimed to be a "council home energy surveyor"; another claimed that he had been sent out to check meters in the area because of a report of "overcharging on tariffs" and carried a device similar to those used to record meter readings; a third claimed that the gas and electricity meter had been mis-calibrated.

New rules introduced this year to protect consumers state that:

Salespeople must carry a badge giving their name and that of the company.

They must give you a written quotation before the sale goes through.

If you have a pre payment meter you can now owe up to £200 and be able to switch.

Trading Standards advises:

If you really want to do business on the doorstep, do not switch on the first visit - get the written quotation and then check out whether it really is a better deal by using a price comparison website e.g. TheEnergyShop.com. If it really is better for you, arrange for the agent to call back at a later date to suit you.

For more advice on problems with shopping or buying services, contact Consumer Direct on 08454 04 05 06

SHN CHRISTMAS CARDS

Shipston Home Nursing are offering Christmas cards at the very reasonable price of £5 for a pack of 10 cards. Each card carries a winter scene of a local Warwickshire village, with its church a feature. The artist is local watercolourist Betty Holden.

Also available are notelet cards carrying flower illustrations by local artist Jenny Wilson, and a new card illustrating Long Compton Church. These are £4.50 per pack of 12 cards.

Unfortunately I have been unable to extract the illustrations from the pdf file sent to me, but I will print a couple of copies off and put them on the village notice boards so that you can see what the cards look like.

The packs can be bought in many local shops (we usually get ours from Fisher's in Kineton) or by contacting Rebecca Mawle on 01608 674929 or by email at rebecca@shn-fundraising.co.uk.

Editor

SHIPSTON HOME NURSING

Events in October

The 1st Golf Tournament

at Feldon Valley Golf Club, Brailes

Thursday October 7th 2010

Coffee and bacon butties will be served before tee off at 2pm.

This will be an 18 hole tournament followed by dinner with an auction.

There will be teams of 4, entry £200 per team.

Would you be interested in getting a team together?

This will be a bi-annual event for Shipston Home Nursing.

If you would like me to send you a booking form or have any questions about the event please call.

FABULOUS SECOND HAND CLOTHES SALES

SATURDAY OCTOBER 9TH, 2010

10AM TO 2PM

AT THE NORGREN SOCIAL CLUB, SHIPSTON ON STOUR

FREE ENTRANCE

COFFEE, TEA AND BISCUITS AVAILABLE

If you would like to sell your own clothes please contact Rebecca Mawle

Armscote Manor Lecture Series

Week commencing October 11th

for tickets please contact Deborah Williams

01608 682375

or visit www.armscotemanor.co.uk/lecture_series.html

All forthcoming events are on our website. For more info please visit

www.shipstonthomenursing.co.uk.

Rebecca Mawle, Fundraising Co-ordinator, Shipston Home Nursing

Telephone: 01608 674929, Mobile: 07940 716345

A shotgun wedding is a matter of wife or death

TYSOE C. E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Tysoe

Warwick

Cv35 0SH

Tel: 01295 680244

Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Slatter

CLERK TO THE GOVERNING BODY

From £431.47

60 HOURS PER YEAR

The Governors wish to appoint a clerk to the Governing Body from - by agreement but before 1st January 2011.

Main Duties:

To liaise with the Headteacher, the Chair of Governors and WES Governor Services

Attend Governors meetings as required.

Maintaining an accurate record of meetings

Distributing minutes and agendas and supporting papers (following consultation with the Chair and Head)

Dealing with correspondence for the Governing Body

Administer governor elections

Obtain and receive advice/information from LA/Legal Services

Further details, including a job description and an application form can be obtained from the school on 01295 680244, or via email at admin3068@we-learn.com

Closing Date: 29th October 2010.

A FEW POINTS TO PONDER

If you think nobody cares whether you're alive or dead, try missing a couple of mortgage payments.

If you lend someone £20 and never see that person again, it was probably well worth it.

There are two excellent theories for arguing with women. Neither one works.

WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND OXHILL

October

Sunday 3rd	8.00	The Peacock - Charity Quiz Night
Tuesday 5th	10.00	Village Hall - Mobile Library
	7.30	Long Compton - Deanery Synod
Wednesday 6th	10.30	The Peacock - Village Coffee Morning
Friday 8th	8.00	Village Hall - Quiz night
Saturday 9th	7.30	The Old Church House - Gourmet dinner for Chernobyl's Children
Thursday 14th	2.00	Village Hall - Afternoon Delight
Saturday 16th	1.00	Village Hall - Wot2grow Apple Day
Sunday 17th	4.00	Village Hall - OWLS photographic competition
Wednesday 20th	12.30	The Peacock - Village Lunch
Thursday 21st	7.30	Village Hall - Garden Club
Friday 22nd	9.30	Weekday Walkers
Monday 25th	23.59	Copy deadline for the News
Tuesday 26th	10.00	Village Hall - Mobile Library

November

Thursday 4th	9.30	The Old Chapel - Deanery Quiet Morning
Tuesday 9th	8.00	Village Hall - Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 18th	7.30	Village Hall - Garden Club

December

Wednesday 15th	7.30	Garden Club
Thursday 16th		St. Lawrence Church - Carol Service

Anyone who jumps off a bridge in Paris is in Seine.

ACCIDENT and MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

FIRST CALL 999

THEN CALL

Ambulance Responders

MICK & BARBARA SHEPARD

07977149317 Mobile / 01295680644 Home

3, The Leys, Oxhill, Warwick, CV350QX