

# The Oxhill News



May 2004

## **Things that happened during the first week of May**

May 1 was the birthday of Arthur Wellesley, later Duke of Wellington, in 1769, of Sonny Ramadhin in 1929, Una Stubbs in 1937 and of Joanna Lumley in 1946.

May 2 is the Feast day of Saints Gennys, Athanasius, Mefalda, Wiborada, Waldebert, Exuperius and Zoe, and Ultan of Fosses.

On May 3, 1808 a duel was fought from two hot-air balloons over Paris, the first of its kind.

May 4 was the date in 1471 when the Battle of Tewkesbury, the last battle in the Wars of the Roses, took place; the Yorkists defeated the Lancastrians. In 1780 the first Derby was run at Epsom; the winner was Diomed, and in 1896 the first issue of the *Daily Mail* was published in London.

May 5 was the day in 1921 when Chanel No. 5 perfume was launched. It was also the day in 1803 when George Borrow was born, and when Syd Lawrence died in 1998.

May 6 was the day in 1840 when the Penny Black was issued, Sigmund Freud was born in 1856, and Marlene Dietrich died in 1992.

May 7 is the Feast day of, among others, St. John of Beverley. Greece became an independent kingdom in 1832, and in 1928 women in England were allowed to vote at the tender age of 21, as opposed to 30. Pyotr Il'yich Tchaikovsky was born in 1840 and Gary Cooper in 1901.

Editor

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## **June issue**

Please could I have all copy for the June issue by Midnight on Sunday, 23rd May? 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. If you do use electronic form, the best would be a Word file with the page size set to A5 and margins of 1.5 cm all round. The font size should in general be 10 point.

My 'official' e-mail address is [news-editor@oxhill.org.uk](mailto:news-editor@oxhill.org.uk) if you wish to send me stuff that way.

George Adams, 680286

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## **Cover Picture**

Russen Thomas has kindly provided this image of The Manor.

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## **More Concerning the Roman Villa**

I have talked to Ken Hutsby, who assures me that he neither intends nor desires to cause any damage to this site. He has contacted English Heritage, and is waiting for them to get back to him with further advice. English Heritage are being very slow to respond, but I understand from other sources that that is normal for English Heritage.

Editor

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## **Nature Notes**

We regret that, for excellent and sufficient reasons, Grenville Moore has been unable to provide his wonderful Nature Notes this month.

He assures us that normal service will be resumed in June, so we can all look forward to then.

Editor

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## **Oxhill Open Gardens**

This year, in addition to our usual teas with home made cakes, we will be selling cakes and preserves to take away so please can our bakers and jam makers make a few more?

Contributions for the plant stall may be left at any time to the side of Fern Cottage. Second hand books, particularly gardening books, would also be welcome.

We urgently need volunteers to help on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> (afternoon only) and Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> June.

Nadia MacCall, 680306

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## **For Sale**

Nissan Micra Celebration 1 litre, 'W' reg.

Metallic Green. One lady owner. Regular servicing and in immaculate condition.

Tax and MOT until April 2005.

£4,000 or near offer.

Ruth Gibson, 01295 680420

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**Church Services in May**  
**Church of St. Lawrence, Oxhill**

**Sunday Services**

Sunday 2nd	Easter III	9.30	Holy Communion
Sunday 9th	Rogation Sunday	9.30	Open air service (indoors if wet) at Church Farm, Oxhill, by kind permission of Tom & Ann Heritage
Sunday 16th	Easter V	6.30	Evensong
Sunday 23rd	Ascensiontide	9.30	Holy Communion
Sunday 30th	Whitsunday	10.30	Choral Holy Communion led by the Lord Bishop of Coventry

**Midweek Services**

Short (less than 30 minutes) informal services			
Thursday 6th	7.30	Cancelled in favour of Archdeacon's Service at Ilmington. For transport 'phone 680201.	
Thursday 13th	7.30	Shortened Holy Communion	
Thursday 20th	7.30	Cancelled in favour of Deanery Ascension Day service at Stourton Hill Farm, Whichford. For transport 'phone 680201.	
Thursday 27th	7.30	Compline	

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**Church Notices**

Our short course "Which way to God" is running throughout May. All the places have been booked, but we will be repeating this foundational exploration of Christianity. If you are interested in attending the next course, please see David or Jill.

David Knight

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**Car Boot Sale**

Don't forget about this evening event – Friday June 4th at 6.30 p.m. on Bill Fox's field off the Whatcote road.

Contact me if you would like a pitch. If you have any items to donate to the Church's stall, please let me have them.

Lilian Welsby, 680468

### **Katy Flies the Flag**

Having had a successful winter on the National Open Dressage circuit, Katy qualified in two classes for the Senior Winter Championships at Solihull on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of March 2004. She was placed 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> in the two classes, well above many professional adults.

At the Under 21s UK Winter Championships, also in March, she won 3 Championship classes, making her the Junior, Advanced and Team Winter Champion.

Katy is very pleased to have been invited to compete as part of the British Junior squad at the Home International (CDI Y/J/P), at Addington, Bucks between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> April. Here she will hope to qualify for the Junior European squad.

She is now allowed to wear (with pride) the Union Flag on her jacket for the rest of her career.

Hilary Simcox

### **Katy Goes to France**

Having submitted the above article to George, we received a phone call from British Dressage the following day, inviting Katy and Glamour to compete in the British Junior Squad in Saumur, France on 23-25 April. A long awaited ambition and of course we were delighted but have only a 24 hour turn-round after the International in Bucks before catching the Ferry from Portsmouth. So you won't see us for a while, but I will make sure any good news gets into the next available edition. Peter and the Dogs are still at home, so burglars beware.

Hilary

[Wasn't there a highly successful series of children's books "Katy does ....."? This series too could run and run. Ed.]

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### **Thank You**

To the kind person who found my dog lead and left it on the gate on the footpath –

### **THANK YOU.**

I had been on a long meandering walk through numerous fields the previous day and was nearly home when I realised I had lost the lead. I had no idea where it could be and was faced with a long, tedious and, I thought, ultimately fruitless search of a green lead in all that grass. So I was delighted to see it swinging on the gate. There are some very kind people living in Oxhill.

Gaynor Van Dijk

## **London Marathon**

Thank you to everyone in the village who sponsored me to run the London Marathon this year – your generosity has been amazing. I am glad to say that I finished in just over five hours and am on target to raise £2000 for “Children with Leukaemia”.

I cannot say that every minute was fun, but the crowd and the atmosphere were fantastic, the sense of achievement is pretty good and I enjoyed quite a lot of it (I'm not sure about the last six miles!). We won't mention the fact that I was overtaken by a gorilla, a camel and a top hat!!

Some of you have already given me the money but if you haven't please could you either let me have cash or a cheque to “Children with Leukaemia”.

Thanks, Alison Sayer

[Well done, Alison, and all those others who ran in the marathon. I have great admiration for anyone who can even contemplate doing such a thing. In my athletic days I considered 100 yards to be fine, 120 for the hurdles even better, the 220 getting a bit far and the quarter was just a silly idea. I still think that buses were made for that sort of distance. Ed.]

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## **Tysoe WI**

The subject at the April meeting was Keeping Active. Our speaker and guest was Mrs Marilyn Bosworth, who has been a member of the Keep Fit Association for many years. She also runs a weekly keep fit class in the Village Hall on a Thursday morning from 10.30 a.m. during term time.

A very interesting and informative talk on the way muscles were used in different parts of our bodies, and how keeping active helped these muscles, was followed by all the members present using their hands (and feet) in keeping time with the music. It was good fun and I am sure was enjoyed by everyone there.

After our own demonstration, Mrs Bosworth then gave a wonderful demonstration of her own dancing skills, which are truly enjoyable to watch.

Mrs Bosworth also drew the evening's raffle for us. Our hostess for the evening was Mrs A. Gethin, with refreshments being provided by Mrs G. and P. Pritchard.

A note for your diaries - there will be a coffee, cake and plant sale morning in the Old Reading Room, Tysoe from 10am on the 22 May, for WI funds. We would be grateful for your support.

J Batchelor

## **Oxhill Festival Choir**

Our next engagement as a choir is Whitsunday, Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, at 10.30am in Oxhill Church.

This is a United Benefice Service of Holy Communion, when Bishop Colin is due to be with us, and we are therefore going to have a combined Oxhill and Tysoe Choir.

Rehearsals, which are somewhat irregular, I'm afraid, because of the complexities of my diary, are as follows:

Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm, at The Old House

Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm at The Old House

Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm at The Old House

Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in Oxhill Church

May I also remind anyone who is available of an invitation (request!) to sing in the Deanery Choir at the Archdeacon's Visitation on Thursday, May 6<sup>th</sup> in Ilmington Church. The rehearsal will be at 6.45pm for the 7.45pm service. I now have the music available. If anyone would like to go but will miss the first rehearsal here on April 30<sup>th</sup>, please ask me for the music.

Jill Tucker, 680663

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## **Tysoe School PTA**

South Warwickshire's Regional Steel Pan Band, Pantechnic, is playing in Tysoe Church on May 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. to raise money for Tysoe School's music facilities. The band comprises a group of young people aged between 12 and 18 (including two Oxhill residents) who rehearse weekly at Tysoe School and regularly perform all over the county. This promises to be a very enjoyable evening of music: the evening's programme will be varied, including classical and modern music on the steel pans as well as a string trio and soloists, a couple of saxophonists and a piano player or two.

Tickets are available in advance from Ruth Mercer on 680407 or from Tysoe School, adults £4 and children £2.

Tysoe School will hold their Summer Fete on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June from 3.30 p.m. until 5.30 p.m. Any donations of raffle prizes, tombola prizes, children's toys and games would be gratefully received by Ruth Mercer on 680407. Please come along to school on June 18<sup>th</sup> and enjoy the afternoon!

Ruth Mercer

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# "Bluebell Walk"



**On Sunday May  
9<sup>th</sup>, starting  
from Hell Brake  
House,  
Whatcote**

Come for a gentle walk up to Hell Brake to see the Bluebells, and enjoy tea and scones on your return. There will be a well stocked produce stall.

The cost is £4.00 for adults and £2.00 for children, (Family Ticket £10.00) and this includes the tea and scones!

Time:- 2.00pm to 5.00pm.

The proceeds will go towards St Peter's Church Repair & Alteration Fund.

**Strong shoes or boots are essential!**

Enquiries Telephone 01295 680007



## **Joy's Jumble**

Many thanks to everyone who helped me, loading up at Oxhill, unloading at Tysoe and loading up again to deliver back to my garage, all my "shop assistants" on the stalls, the tea lady and gentleman, and not forgetting Heather with the raffle. And, of course, the wonderful people who came forward giving me lots of things to sell. Also Tom Heritage for the use of his time and pick-up, and Greame MacDonald with his car.

Again, thanks to all of you. If I have forgotten anyone, please forgive me!

I am proud to say that we took £358 on the day. This will be going to Oxhill Church.

Joy Bloxham

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## **Oxhill Garden Club**

Mr. B. Taylor of Mill Lane Nurseries was a most interesting speaker and demonstrator on the subject of hanging baskets. The baskets he brought with him were beautiful and seeing baskets made up by an expert and being able to quiz him at length was a hundred times better than reading about it. His nurseries, near Bidford-on-Avon, specialize in hanging baskets for all seasons and produce about 5,000 annually. For those who missed the event and would like some tips for their 'Container of Plants' entry might like to check out his web site:

[www.mill-lane-nurseries.co.uk](http://www.mill-lane-nurseries.co.uk).

The next meeting on Thursday May 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. is the Plant Sale. This is an opportunity for the whole village to stroll along in the evening and snap up a bargain. All the plants on sale have been grown locally so you know that they will thrive in your garden and it is an ideal time to liven up a dull bit of garden with something new.

Heather Brennan, Secretary

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## **FOR SALE**

4 Habitat pine chairs with rush seats. Need a little cleaning, otherwise sound.  
£20 the set.

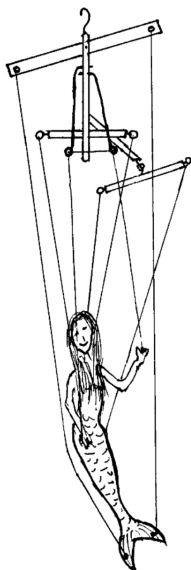
Tel: 01295 680664.

**TYSOE MARIONETTE GROUP**

## **THE NEXT PERFORMANCE**

**in The Barn Theatre, Baldwins Lane Upper Tysoe**

**of Hans Christian Andersen's fairy story**



## ***The Little Mermaid***

**will be on**

**Thursday 6th May at 7.30 p.m.**

**for Tysoe Good Companions and  
Brailes Feldon Club**

**Tel: Margaret Oliver 680252**

*Proceeds to Shipston Home Nursing*

**Tickets: Adults £3 Children £1.50**  
**(Tysoe Good Companions £2)**

Audience comments from the Premier: ***"Brilliant!", "Superb production"***  
***"Very entertaining", "Wonderful scenery, sound and lighting"***.

**There will be further performances on Thursday 20th May  
and Thursday 24th June - both at 7.30 p.m.**

**For details ring Jon and Ann Beeny Tysoe 680431**

## **Know Your Rights! .... Advice from Trading Standards**

### **Buying at car boot sales**

Car boot sales can be great places to pick up a bargain. However, consumers buying second hand goods need to be vigilant!

Some used items may have lost their instructions and warnings, designed to ensure their safe use, whilst wear and tear may also have affected their safety. Electrical products especially may have old wiring and damaged plugs that could be a potential fire hazard. Beware of old painted toys - the paint might contain lead.

Car Boot Sales can be an ideal venue for disposing of counterfeit goods. Counterfeit DVDs are often of poor quality - some may even be blank! Computer software may not work properly and watch out too for fake alcohol. Spirits labeled 'Russian Vodka' may be little more than meths!

Remember, buying from a private seller, is not like buying from a trader. If you buy from a trader you have more rights and if there is a problem with the goods you can return to the shop to sort it out. However, if you buy from a private seller, the only requirement is that the goods are described correctly.

For more advice on problems with shopping or buying services, contact  
Trading Standards Advice Line, Old Budbrooke Road, Warwick CV35 7DP  
Telephone: 01926 414000  
Email: [ts-advice@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:ts-advice@warwickshire.gov.uk)

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### **Fish For Free!**

Have you suffered from heronitis recently?

Our Teall-built cover has protected us, and so we are somewhat overstocked with small koi and goldfish.

If you would like half a dozen or so, please bring your own bucket.

George & Gwyn Adams, 680286

## What's On in Oxhill

### May

Wednesday 5th	7.30	Tysoe Village Hall - Tysoe WI - Spring Show & Resolution Meeting
Thursday 6th	6.45	Ilmington Church - Archdeacon's Visitation
	7.30	Barn Theatre, Tysoe - "The Little Mermaid"
Friday 7th	7.30	Old House - Choir Rehearsal
Sunday 9th	2.00	Hell Brake House, Whatcote - Bluebell Walk
Tuesday 13th	8.00	Village Hall - Parish Council Meeting
Saturday 15th		Townsend Hall, Shipston - Shipston Home Nursing Plant Sale
	7.00	Tysoe Church - Steel Band in aid of Tysoe School
Friday 21st	7.30	Old House - Choir Rehearsal
Saturday 22nd	10.00	Tysoe Old Reading Room - Coffee Cake and Plant Morning
Sunday 23rd	12.00	Deadline for material for the News. Yes, I know it's early. It's also a holiday week!
Tuesday 25th	7.30	Oxhill Church - Choir Rehearsal
Thursday 27th	7.00	Village Hall - AGM, Cheese and Wine Newbald Pacey - Shipston Home Nursing, Champagne and Shop

### June

Wednesday 2nd	7.30	Oxhill Village Hall - Tysoe WI - Harvey Bloom (A Notorious Cleric)
Friday 4th	6.30	Evening Car Boot Sale
Friday 18th	3.30	Tysoe School - Summer Fête
Saturday 19th	2.00	Oxhill Gardens Open (until 6.00)
Sunday 20th	11.00	Oxhill Gardens Open (until 6.00)
		Admington Hall - Shipston Home Nursing, Horse Show
Thursday 24th	7.30	Barn Theatre, Tysoe - "The Little Mermaid"

### July

Sunday 4th	12.00	Loxley Hall - Shipston Home Nursing, Jazz Luncheon
Friday 2nd to		
Sunday 4th		Idlicote House - Shipston Home Nursing, Art Exhibition
Wednesday 7th	7.30	Tysoe Village Hall - Tysoe WI - The Work of the RSPB

### November

Friday 5th &		
Saturday 6th		Darlingscott - Shipston Home Nursing, Designer Sale
Thursday 18th		Townsend Hall, Shipston - Shipston Home Nursing, Gift Fayre