

---

# THE OXHILL NEWS

August 2011

No. 441



The children from Belarus singing at the  
Chernoybl's Children Coffee Morning

*Editors:*

*Paula Buffery (07812128097) & Vanessa Druce (07972240818)*  
*news-editor@oxhill.org.uk*

## 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 [news-editor@oxhill.org.uk](mailto:news-editor@oxhill.org.uk) or place paper contributions in the box labelled 'The Oxhill News' in the Church.

## MOBILE LIBRARY

The library van will continue to visit Oxhill every 3rd Wednesday, stopping at the Village Hall at 10am and staying there for 30 minutes. The van will visit us on Wednesday 17th August.

You can renew books between van visits by calling 01926 851031 or online at [www.Warwickshire.gov.uk/wild](http://www.Warwickshire.gov.uk/wild)

## REFUSE COLLECTION

Recycling and green waste bins (blue and green bins) will be collected on Tuesdays 2nd and 16th August.

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

## WEEKDAY WALKERS

The following are the walks for August:

### **Friday 12th August**

This is a 6 mile walk from Northend to Avon Dassett with 550 feet of accent. Lunch will be at The Avon, Avon Dassett. Leave Oxhill at 9:30am.

### **Friday 26th August**

This is an 6.5 mile walk from Darlingscote to Ilmington with 300 feet of ascent. Lunch will be at the Red Lion Ilmington. Leave Oxhill at 9:30am.

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](mailto:saxton@tiscali.co.uk) before the Tuesday evening prior to the walk.

## RESCUING A YOUNG SWIFT

One late afternoon at the beginning of July, I found a young dark grey bird in the churchyard which I photographed and put on a 'WildAboutBritain' forum for help with its identity.

It turned out to be a juvenile swift and among the replies was one that said to throw it in the air as swifts cannot take off from the ground. With Barbara along for moral support, I picked up the fledgling preparatory to the launch and we were horrified when several large 'ticks' came out from among its feathers. (They turned out to be swift louse flies that suck around 25 mg blood every few days. Nice!!!). We got rid of some of these then tried to get the bird airborne but each time it crash landed and we grew concerned that we were causing it damage. In the end we tucked it high up into the ivy on one of the trees where it was sheltered from the gusting wind.

On my return home there were more replies, one giving the warning that these young birds should **never** be thrown into the air as their wings are too small to support them! Oh dear!! (The wings apparently need to measure around 16 cm from shoulder to tip before they can fly). There was also a link to a website 'Swiftcarers'. I called the nearest carer over near Broadway (Gill Westray, a friend of Mary Badger!) and she said to bring it straight over. I collected it from the ivy, put it into a grass lined box and set off into the night wondering if I had finally lost my marbles going on such a trip when I had actually been heading for bed!!!

When I got there I was so glad I had made the effort. The little bird seemed unharmed and happily sat in her hand while she stroked and examined it. She told me that swifts are one of the few wild birds that are comfortable with being handled and, after weighing it she gave it some liquid through a pipette then put it into a propagator with three other small swifts that greeted the newcomer with contented little chirpings. She had several of these boxes, all covered for the night, and was hand rearing all the occupants! A full time job without a doubt!

If you're interested, the website is <http://www.swift-conservation.org>. Many thanks Gill and all on the website for your help.

*Jane Smith, member of OWLS group*

## NATURE NOTES FOR AUGUST

August 1st is Lammas (loaf-mass) – the festival of harvest’s beginning. Some of the hottest days are record in this month. *“Dry August and warm doth harvest no harm”*; *“If the first week of August be warm, the winter will be white and long”*; *“August rain gives honey and wine”*.

As reported in “Rescuing a Young Swift” (pg 3), Jane Smith found a young swift in our churchyard;

### Swifts

by Ted Hughes

And here they are, here they are again  
Erupting across yard stones  
Shrapnel-scatter terror. Frog-gapers,  
Speedway goggles, international mobsters –

A bolas of three or four wire screams  
Jockeying across each other  
On their switchback wheel of death.  
They swat past, hard fletched,

Veer on the hard air, toss up over the roof  
And are gone again. Their mole-dark labouring  
Their lunatic limber scrambling frenzy  
And their whirling blades  
Sparkle out into blue –  
Not ours any more.



artist:: John Paige

The swift’s (*Apus apus*) black scimitar shape and shrill screaming call gave rise to many regional names, such as Jack Squealer, Screecher, and Skeer Devil. Swifts, as with swallows and martins, are declining in numbers over most of Europe, with the exception of parts of Scandinavia. Swifts nest inside eaves or on the rafters of buildings, usually finding access beneath the eaves or through a crack in the structure. They are particularly found in churches and old barns. Unfortunately new buildings and renovations almost entirely lack facilities for swifts and this loss of nesting sites is the major cause for their decline. Interestingly, in Amsterdam, where there has been a great deal of roof renovation, it has been made illegal to re-roof unless access for swifts is retained. What a great shame architects and planners haven’t taken this idea on board here. What would summer be without the shrieks of swifts and the “jibberish” of swallows. However, the tower on the Museum of Science in central Oxford has half-cone-shaped ventilation holes giving access to purpose-built accommodation for up to 80 pairs of swifts.

I think most people are now aware of the swift's amazing flight pattern, only ever landing to nest, it feeds, sleeps, drinks and even mates on the wing. The mating occurs at great heights, up to two miles, for the coupling means they cannot fly so need a long way to fall. This is one of nature's only mating procedures that, should it last too long, could end in death! All this is more amazing when you consider that a swift can live for up to 20 years. Jane's swift almost certainly fell out of its nest somewhere in the eaves of the church. This is not uncommon, as when fledged the young swifts will leave the next in early morning when the parents are absent. It will not be fed again and it becomes totally independent from that moment.

Jane mentions a louse-fly; this is *Crataerina pallid*, a very nasty-looking flat crab-like creature, it can reach up to a quarter of an inch in length, huge in proportion to its host. I came across this quote "a small bird with one or two of these insects creeping about in its feathers can be compared to a man with a couple of large shore crabs scuttling about in his underclothes". As you read this, many of our swifts will be preparing to leave Britain. They only stay for 16 weeks, having arrived during May. Their capacity for long-distance flight is nothing short of staggering. It has been estimated that they cover 500 miles (800 km) per day; imagine, a 20-year-old bird would have covered 3.65 million miles. Even more amazing is that while on this flight, they will roost on the wing, circling for hours in the cold night air at high altitude until morning. Apparently most of their brain shuts down into 'sleep mode' and a small part remains active to adjust flight pattern when needed.

The other day whilst driving to the other side of Fenny Compton, we were startled to see flying quite low over the road, a Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*). This is a medium-sized all white heron with distinctive black legs with yellow feet and a long shining black bill. This is one of the most successful colonists of Britain in recent times and a possible beneficiary of global warming. It is mainly concentrated on the south coast, in fact for many years now I have seen them on the Kingsbridge estuary in Devon where there is a breeding colony. They are also present on the Exe and Tamar. Last summer I photographed one on a small brook on an estate at Stow-on-the-Wold and apparently it had been present for about six weeks. The first breeding record in Britain was in 1996 at Brownsea Nature Reserve, but seeing them in central Britain is still very rare. As early as the seventeenth century egret plumes had been used in human costume, especially hats, mostly coming from the region of Turkey. The demand was such that centuries later in 1914 egret farms were set up in the UK. Fortunately by 1920 the legal suppression of imports led to the demise of this trade.

August 17th – time to gather garden seeds. "*Seeds must be gathered in fair weather, and the wane of the Moon, and kept in Boxes of Wood, some in bags of Leather, and some in Vessels of Earthenware, and well cleansed and dried in shadow. Othersome, as Onions and Leeks, must be kept in their husks. It is best to plant in the last quarter of the Moon*". (Gervaise Markham, *The English Housewife*, 1683).





## CHERNOBYL'S CHILDREN COFFEE MORNING

A big thank you to the fantastic army of helpers, those who donated produce and prizes and of course to everyone who came along and made the event such a success. We raised £834 on the morning and also received over £400 in donations.



The Belarussian children really benefit from their month in the UK; receiving medical and dental checks, eating food free from contamination and getting plenty of fresh air. They really enjoy the fun and games at the Coffee Morning and they love seeing the Oxhill scarecrows.



We were very pleased that the sun came out for what has become an international event! There were visitors from America and a couple from Sydney who were driving past and decided to pop in.



Thank you all again for your continued support, it is greatly appreciated.

*Anne Marshall and Angela Emmerson*



# ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH

## SERVICES IN AUGUST

*All are warmly welcome*

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Trinity VII:** 9.30am Holy Communion (ML)

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Trinity VIII:** 6.30pm Songs of Praise (NM)

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> Trinity IX:** 9.30am Holy Communion(ML)

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> Trinity X:** 9.30am Family Service (NM)

*For other benefice services see porch notice board*

## DEANERY NEWS FOR AUGUST

### **Garden Party**

Everyone, from across the whole Deanery, is warmly invited to attend the Rural Dean's Garden Party on the afternoon of Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, at The Old House, Oxhill, between 3pm and 5pm. We know from past experience that, should it rain, the house can accommodate an awful lot of people, so don't let the weather put you off!

If you can bring a cake, that would be lovely! Every year people offer donations, even though we have never asked for them; this year therefore we will be inviting donations for the work of TEAR Fund, particularly in the light of the growing crisis in the horn of Africa.

### **Talks about the Bible, in Tredington**

This year is the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the King James Version of the English Bible. To mark it, Gordon Kuhrt is to lead four sessions on the Bible, to be held in the Chancel of St. Gregory's, Tredington, and everyone from the Deanery is invited.

Wednesday October 5<sup>th</sup>:      How was the Bible assembled?

Wednesday October 19<sup>th</sup>:    How is the Bible to be interpreted?

Wednesday November 2<sup>nd</sup>:    How is the Bible translated?

Wednesday November 16<sup>th</sup>:   How is the Bible to be used?

*Have a blessed summer,  
Jill*



# FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms: welcomed into God's family June 19th **William Ryder Fox**



## VICARAGE NOTES

Dear friends,

### **St. Lawrence's Day – August 10th**

Poor St. Lawrence, with his feast day in the holiday season he's often forgotten! However, this year we'll be making a special effort to remember him and to celebrate the dedication of the Parish Church with a "Songs of Praise" the following Sunday August 14th. If you have a favourite hymn, let me know – but, in any case, come along to the service if you're not on holiday and enjoy some great hymns and a celebratory toast afterwards.

### **Church repairs**

We will have be having some general maintenance on the stonework and downpipes carried out. It will also enable a full inspection of the hidden roof gulleys to be properly inspected. I have a nasty feeling that there may be serious problems lurking there that are causing the continued upper level dampness.

### **Major thanks**

The scarecrow weekend was a great success and, once again, huge thanks to Lilian and the "Social and Fundraising Committee" and all in Oxhill who created, helped and donated!!

Thanks also to the Warwickshire Singers for the concert on July 9th – much enjoyed by all who came.

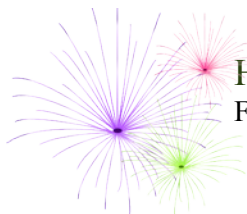
*God bless,*

*Nicholas Morgan 01608 685230*

## CHURCH CLEANING ROTA

After 23 years of noble service Jenny Bows has decided to retire from the rota. We are grateful to Jenny for all the time she has put in to keeping the church clean and shiny and wish her well.

So we have a vacancy . Jenny cleaned once a month on the third weekend in the month. Is there anyone who would like to help and fill this slot? Please contact Carol Fox on 01295 680223



**HAPPY 90th BIRTHDAY !!**

For **Bill Day** on 7 August from your loving family

## OXHILL GARDEN CLUB

Our Garden Party in June was again another successful gathering of the clan. Plenty of excellent food and wine certainly helped to cheer us on. Although the clouds loomed and it was not the hottest of evenings we still managed the event outside and with the aid of two log burning fires, everyone was more than warm enough and they added a charm to the evening. The skittles enclosure also provided a little entertainment for those willing to show off their skills. A big thank you to the Hedleys for the use of their back garden for this annual event.

Our summer visits in July and August are now arranged but by September we will be back to the Thursday evening meetings, the first of which is "The archaeology and history of Tysoe" by Kevin Wyles - perhaps we all still have a lot to learn!

*Club Secretary*

## GARDEN CLUB PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

### **Summer is here and the flowers are out!**

Start snapping your entries for the Club's photographic competition. Entries should be no bigger than 7x5 in, unmounted, name on reverse, please.

Compositions should be:

- single flower portrait, may include leaf or leaves; OR
- a general floral composition

Bring your entries along to the 29th September meeting or get them to Ann Saxton (Medway, Green Lane) by 29th September.

## SCARECROW FESTIVAL WEEKEND

The Parish County Council would like to thank everyone who helped with the Scarecrow Festival weekend. Special thanks go to all the villagers who made Scarecrows; without them we could not do it.

There were so many and all very different. Visitors do appreciate the choice and variety to be seen around the village. We had some visitors all the way from Westerham in Kent who were very impressed. They would like to do something similar themselves but appreciated that hard work on the part of the residents who make the scarecrows is the key issue. Thanks must go to Lilian who always comes up trumps and with the help of her family made all the scarecrows in the Church and at the entrances to the village.

*Carol Fox*



## THANK YOU FROM LILIAN

Another very good weekend with loads of visitors. I have so many people to thank for all their hard work, I don't know where to start. Road closure - thanks Mike for organising that and your work for both days. To Jo and Gaynor for all your hard work in getting car park organised and manning it both days. To Josh and the Boy Scouts that worked both days. And all who gave an hour to help - thank you. Many thanks to Jill Rodwell for the use of both fields, Roger and Ellie for moving sheep out of field and use of marquee and Brian and Josie for all the advertising. I know they worked for weeks. George and Heather for all the printing - posters, flyers and maps. A very large thank you to Gaynor for all the organising of teas; cannot do it without you Gaynor. And to all who made the lovely cakes and helped serving teas.



To Angela for manning plant stall for both days. And all that gave an hour or so to help on the stall. To Mick and Barbara for giving up both days for us, it was nice to have you around, I don't think you had many mishaps. Thanks to all who worked on the stalls, and everyone that gave an hour or so manning the church. To Helen, Kate, Jude and Carol for the lovely flowers in the church, they looked beautiful.

To all that opened their gardens. It does make it more special. Hard work before but worth it. To Carol and Tom for both pig roasts, fantastic as usual. To all the committee that managed to find time with everything else to make salads and lovely puds for the evening pig roast. A very good turn out - the weather was not kind, but a good evening. Thanks Linda and James for manning the bar all evening.





What can I say about the scarecrows? Without them we wouldn't have the weekend. They were all brilliant! Thank you, thank you so much. It was a great weekend. It is hard work but a lot of fun. It makes people happy. It pulls everybody together and that is what we are good at in Oxhill. To Ruth for the usual supply of scarecrow heads. To Helen, June and Josh for face painting. Thank you Jill for the use of the chapel, a lovely venue.

Lastly I must say a big thank you to my family who worked so hard the week before. I cannot do it without them. I do hope I have not left anyone out, if I have I'm sorry.

We did not have very good weather, but still managed to make £2430 for the church funds, with donations going to Air Ambulance and First Responders.

A very big thank you to all!

*Lilian*





## OXHILL VILLAGE HALL - UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Village Hall Maintenance Day & BBQ – Saturday 20th August**

We are having our annual Village Hall Maintenance Day, well afternoon really, on Saturday 20th August starting at 1.00pm. This will be followed by a BBQ, starting at 6.30pm/7.00pm that is open to everyone at a cost of £6 per person. However, if you have helped significantly with the maintenance tasks, there are a few ‘concessionary’ tickets available for free. More details to follow, closer to the date.

### **A Tapas Safari – Saturday 24th September**

A new take on an old favourite – meet in the Village Hall for a glass or two of Sangria and then off to various houses throughout the Village for some interesting plates of Tapas and then on again to another couple of destinations for more varieties of Tapas before returning to the Village Hall for Coffee & Liqueurs.

For the Safari traveller you get to meet different people, see different houses and taste different delicacies and for the hosts you have all the fun of welcoming people into your home but without the stress of preparing and cooking a main course to a tight schedule. More details to follow but put the *corrected* date in your diary NOW!

### **Thursday Afternoon Social Event - Thursday 15th September**

This very popular event that was a success last winter, is re-starting on Thursday 15th September from 2.00pm till 4.00pm and will take place every alternate Thursday until next spring. The format is very relaxed and if you come along you will see that there are opportunities to join in with the selected ‘craft’ of the week or just have a cup of tea and a chat with your friends.

Please try to make the first meeting on 15th September because we will be discussing the format of future meetings and what people want to do during these sessions.

*Derek Harbour*

# OXHILL VILLAGE HALL

## Boules Competition for the Gardner Cup

Over 40 people came along to the Village Hall on Sunday, July 10th to join in our French Lunch and Boules Competition to decide the winner of the prestigious Gardner Cup. We did have a couple of very light showers but they failed completely to dampen the spirits of the revelers.

The pate, selection of cheeses and salads were eagerly consumed by the attendees and these treats were topped off with some locally made deserts.

The Boules competition, which was overseen by our 'Sports' secretary, Stuart Whittaker, was keenly fought with no quarter asked or given. There were many close fought games but 2 teams looked very promising from the start and they were John McKail's extended family and



a team of interlopers led by David Hill. In the end, David's Gallic connections (and secret practice sessions) paid off and his team was presented with the Gardner Cup. Unfortunately, Janet Gardner was unable to be there to present the cup due to a prior commitment.

Thanks to all who came along and to the committee for their hard work.

*Derek Harbour*



# THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE - JUNE 2012

On the 14th July twelve villages attended a meeting about the upcoming Diamond Jubilee. Mike Collins provided a brief presentation about the official programme and recalled how the village celebrated the Golden Jubilee and VE Day. There was considerable enthusiasm for a similar event to be organised next year. It was pointed out that at the same meeting called for the Golden Jubilee in 2001 only six people had attended but the Village pulled together and over 400 villagers and their families from all over the Country came together and enjoyed a weekend of entertainment.

The consensus of the meeting was that activities should be organised for Sunday 3rd June centred on the national Big Jubilee Lunch and that a full day of events should be planned for Monday 4th June along similar lines to that followed for previous events.

The meeting was informed that some preliminary discussions had been held and the Parish Council and Village Hall Committee would support the organisation of the event. Janet Gardner has kindly agreed to the use of her field, the Old Chapel has been booked for the weekend and provisional bookings have been made for a marquee, live entertainment and catering.



The meeting concluded that the next step was to hold a further meeting to confirm dates and develop an outline programme and start to assign responsibilities. This meeting will be held at 8pm on Wednesday 3rd August at the Village Hall. It is hoped that more people will come along to find out how they will be able to help make the Diamond Jubilee weekend a memorable one for Oxhill.

*Any questions at this stage please contact Mike Collins on 680564.*

## THE PEACOCK

### Quiz Night

Quiz night on Sunday 7th August at 8pm.

### Village Events

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

### August Bank Weekend

Come join us for end of summer fun!

- Friday - Karaoke at 10pm
- Saturday - 60's Dance and Disco
- Sunday - Jazz Duo in the Garden at 3pm
- Sunday - Frank Sound at 8pm (local band!)
- Monday - Live music & BBQ



# LOST

## £100 Reward

**Lost on Monday 4th July  
Stonecroft House  
Oxhill**

**Please call  
01926 642565  
07772 819795**



## WOT2GROW COMMUNITY ORCHARD

### **The WOT2Grow team requires a Part-Time Orchard Supervisor**

As you will be aware, the WOT2Grow Orchard project has received funding from the Big Lottery Fund and the land has been secured and planting of soft fruit has begun. We are now ready to move to the next stage and recruit a Part-Time Orchard Supervisor for a fixed term, not to exceed 3 years.

We estimate that the role will require the appointee to spend an average of 2+ hours per week on the various tasks allocated to this post. Responsibilities will include 'walking the orchard' to assess its condition and organising parties of member volunteers to undertake the work required, according to the season. The key objective is to deliver a 'Work Plan' and set of written procedures for a calendar year that will enable the Orchard to be effectively run by volunteers once the external funding phase is over. Some relevant horticultural experience is required.

The role reports to the Board of the WOT2Grow Community interest Company (CIC) and monthly reports on activities and outcomes will be required. We have budgeted to pay the successful candidate up to £220 per month for the duration of the 3 year period, starting on 1 August, 2011.

Please send a brief summary of your relevant experience showing clearly why you feel that you will be suitable for the role to the WOT2Grow CIC Chairman:

Derek Harbour, Laurel Cottage, Blackford Way, Oxhill, Warwick, CV35 0QY

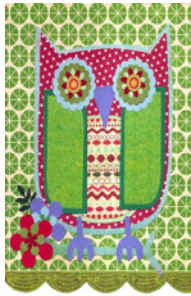
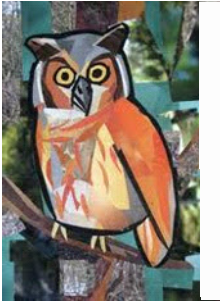
*If you require more information please contact one of the team:*

*Liz Atkinson (680045), Paul Sayer (680451), Derek Harbour (680676), Sue and Mike Sanderson (688080), Graham Collier (680127), Julia Stirman (01608 686776)*



# OWLS

## Photographic and Art Competition 2011



**It's time for all you creative Oxhill people out there to get busy!**

This year we are inviting you to submit any creative media such as paintings, collages, sculptures or photos.

There are two categories:

- Local nature: Oxhill wildlife, landscapes and people in their natural environment
- British nature: wildlife

Open to 2 age groups (12 & under and adults).

Entries, which cost 50p each, should be submitted to Rhian, Weavers Barn, Rouse Lane, Oxhill (680574) or to any other OWLS member.

(Please state which category you are entering!)

Entries will be exhibited and judged in the Village Hall on Sunday 9th October, 4pm till 6pm.



Hosted by OWLS



## STOUR SINGERS The 36th Season

Stour Singers, Shipston-on-Stour's Choral Society, is devoting the forthcoming season to the music of Handel & Haydn. On Saturday 3 December 2011 at 7.30pm a performance of Handel's *Messiah* will be given in St Edmund's Church, Shipston with the Cherwell Orchestra and distinguished guest artists: Cheryl Rosevear (soprano), Shelley Coulter-Smith (mezzo-soprano), Nicholas Hawker (tenor) and Rodney Clarke (baritone.) The conductor, of course, is Richard Emms, the society's founder-director, who has developed the Singers from small beginnings to recognition as a major choral force today. Make a note of the date in your diary now – an opportunity to hear *Messiah* live in Shipston is a rare treat.

The Spring concert, also in St Edmund's with the Cherwell Orchestra conducted by Richard Emms, is on Saturday 5 May 2012 at 7.30pm. The programme includes Handel's Chandos Anthem No.11 ('Let God arise') and the main work is Haydn's *Creation Mass*, not perhaps as well-known as the oratorio of similar name but very lovely hear – and to sing. The guest soloists for this event are: Robyn Allegra Parton (soprano), Cathy Bell (mezzo-soprano), Julian Forbes (tenor) and Jon Stainsby (baritone).

Ticket price has been held at £12.50 for this new season (accompanied children free) and tickets may be obtained 4 weeks before each event from choir members, R. Clarke, 27 High Street, Shipston, & at the door on concert days.

Rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings from 7-9pm in the Community Lounge of Shipston High School, Darlingscote Road, Shipston starting on 8 September 2011. **There are vacancies in all 4 voice parts - no auditions!** So if you have always wanted to sing *Messiah* do come along then. It is a friendly choir. Richard Emms has a rare ability to include novices together with experienced singers to everyone's enjoyment so 'be not afraid'! School students wishing to gain experience of a choral society (with parental consent) are welcomed as members free of charge.

*For further details please contact Vic Twyman (choir manager) on tel: 01451 870361*

# NOTES OF MEETING OF OXHILL PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON TUESDAY 12th JULY 2011 AT 8.00 PM  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Apologies were received from Carol Taylor.

## **MATTERS DISCUSSED**

### **Finance**

Final account of £144.94 was received from George Adams for producing the Oxhill News from March to June inclusive. Copy of bank statement sent to Stratford District Council for auditing our council precept.

### **Planning**

Application for tree pruning at the Old Rectory was returned with no objection. Application to fell plum stems and Leylandii at April Corner had been granted. Further application for two storey extension at Brook House received enclosing energy statement, returned with no objection.

### **Highways**

Potholes by the Village Hall still need filling in. Highways to be contacted again. A request would also be made for the section of road through Honington to be repaired as it is in a very poor state.

### **Highway Verge Cutting**

Warwickshire County Council is holding a meeting at the end of September to review verge cutting.

### **Parish Council Notice Board**

Quotes are being sought to either refurbish or replace the notice board.

### **Winter Grit Bin**

A bin will be purchased and placed by the field gate behind the tree in Beech Road.

### **Election of Chairman**

The meeting discussed a memo circulated by the existing Chairman, David Hill, to agree a policy whereby the Office of Chairman would be for no more than 3 years, and the ex Chairman would then only be eligible for re election after one year of stepping down. The Parish Council adopted this policy unanimously.

## **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 13th September 2011 at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall.

*Angela Kean, Clerk*

## TOOLS WITH A MISSION (TWAM) UPDATE

I wish to thank all of those who have kindly donated tools to TWAM. We are about to send off to the Coventry branch 12 sewing and 4 knitting machines plus many power tools and boxes of spanners, chisels, hammers etc.

As a reminder these tools are refurbished and then put into trade packs, e.g. carpenter and shipped to third world countries, to enable individuals to establish themselves with a trade and a living. Visit [www.twam.co.uk](http://www.twam.co.uk) for more details.



**It is not too late to donate!**

Please contact

Jim Saxton

01295 680613

WE HAVE A SPARE BLUE TOP AND SPARE GREY TOP WHEELIE BIN left by someone who has recently moved from The Sett. Does anybody want them?

Judy Badger

01295 688010

# WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND OXHILL

## August

Tuesday 2nd		Green & Blue bin collection
Wednesday 3rd	10:30	The Peacock - Village Coffee Morning
Wednesday 3rd	20:00	Village Hall - Queen's Diamond Jubilee Meeting
Sunday 7th	20:00	The Peacock - Quiz Night
Tuesday 9th		Grey landfill bin collection
Friday 12th	09:30	Weekday Walkers - see page 2 for details
Saturday 13th	15:00 - 17:00	The Old House - Deanery Garden Party
Tuesday 13th	20:00	Village Hall - Parish Council Meeting
Monday 15th		COPY DEADLINE FOR THE OXHILL NEWS
Tuesday 16th		Green & Blue bin collection
Wednesday 17th	10:00	Village Hall - Mobile Library
Wednesday 17th	12:30	The Peacock - Village Lunch
Saturday 20th	13:00	Village Hall Maintenance Day & BBQ (starting at 18:30/19:00)
Tuesday 23rd		Grey landfill bin collection
Friday 26th	09:30	Weekday Walkers - see page 2 for details
Friday 26th	22:00	The Peacock - Karaoke
Saturday 27th		The Peacock - 60's Dine & Disco
Sunday 28th	15:00	The Peacock - Jazz Duo in Garden
Sunday 28th	20:00	The Peacock - Frank Sound (local band)

## September

Sunday 4th	9:00	Honington Estate - car boot sale for Shipston Home Nursing
Thursday 8th		Stour Singers Rehearsals start - Shipston High School
Thursday 15th	14:00-16:00	Village Hall - Thursday Afternoon Social
Saturday 17th		Village Hall - Skittles and Pig Roast
Saturday 24th		A Tapas Safari - see page 17 for details
Wednesday 28th		The Peacock - Bordeaux Evening
Thursday 29th	14:00-16:00	Village Hall - Thursday Afternoon Social
Thursday 29th		Closing date Oxhill Garden Club photographic competition

## October

Sunday 9th	16:00 - 18:00	OWLS Photographic and Art Exhibition
------------	---------------	--------------------------------------