

# THE OXHILL NEWS



No. 399  
February 2008

## CHURCH FUNDRAISING

### A FEW DATES FOR THE YEAR

February 23rd     Bring & Buy Coffee Morning in the Village Hall, 10.30 – 12.30

April 20th         Curries & Roast Lamb Lunch at Oxhill Manor, 12.30

June 14th & 15th   Scarecrow Weekend

September 21st    Treasure Hunt & Pig Roast

It's a bit early to talk in detail about the Scarecrows in June, but we will be having a tabletop sale in the Old Chapel. There will be a £5 fee per table per day, so, if you would like to take one, now is the time to start thinking about it. If you have items to sell please book your table early before we advertise them generally.

This year as an extra we will have a pig roast and BBQ on the Sunday. Our Scarecrow Weekend does have such a good reputation, and brings visitors into the village from far and wide. I hope that this year you will all come up with loads of bright ideas as you have in the past. We are always in need of white shirts, black trousers and black shoes for the scarecrows, so if you do have any to spare please let us have them.

And don't forget about the Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy on February 23rd. Come along for a coffee and a chat.

Further details from Lilian on 680468

## MARCH ISSUE

Please could I have all copy for the March issue by Midnight on **Sunday, 24th February**? 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

Not all birds are put off by fake herons. The one in Geoff Stewart's garden found a convenient perch earlier this month.

The photo on the back cover would look so much better in colour! Those with internet access can do so at [www.oxhill.com](http://www.oxhill.com), of course. Then you can tell that the birds feeding on the niger seeds are the somewhat endangered lesser redpoll. Grenville is reputed to be envious; he doesn't get them at his feeders, but we do.

*Editor*

## THE OXHILL NEWS

Alert readers will have noticed the addition to the front page. Issues of the News were numbered up to February 1984 but then the practice lapsed. I have been meaning to go through and check the archives ever since I took over production, and I finally got round to it last week.

Being a man, and therefore a bean counter and list generator, I also looked at those who came before me. Betty Smith started it all off, producing the first sixty-nine issues between June 1973 and January 1979. The combination of Julia Leeson and Ann Hale took over, producing fifty-three issues (February 1979 to August 1983) before they transmuted into Ann Hale and Julia Stirman. This was not, of course, an actual change of personnel but simply one of nomenclature. They soldiered on for another fifty-four issues before Julia resigned in August 1988, to be replaced by Gaynor Van Dijk.

Gaynor and Ann then worked on to June 1991, producing thirty-one issues before Ann finally decided she had had enough (and after twenty-two years who can blame her) and was replaced by Jane Moore.

Jane and Gaynor generated seventy-two issues before handing over to Russen Thomas and Debbie Harris in March 1998, who carried on until February 2003 when I took over. Russen and Debbie produced sixty issues during their reign, and this is my sixtieth.

All the early issues were produced using wet ink and a Gestetner duplicator apart from a short run printed in a garage on the Whatcote Road on a small printing press. Computer setting came in during the time Jane and Gaynor were running things, and Russen changed the format from A4 flat sheets to the folded booklet that is used today.

Spotting that Russen did exactly five years and asked if anyone else wanted a go, I feel that I should do the same. Is there anyone out there who would like to try their hand at producing the News? The job entails typing up, setting out, printing and distributing to our wonderful delivery staff. It also means, of course, that you are more or less required to be about in the last week of every month, or eat humble pie for the late appearance of the News. If you would like to take over please let me know. If no one wants to then I will just carry on regardless.

*George Adams*

# ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH, OXHILL

## SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

All are warmly welcome

Sunday 3rd	Quinquagesima	9.30	Holy Communion (ML)
Wednesday 6th	Ash Wednesday	10.30	Holy Communion at Tysoe
Sunday 10th	Lent I	8.30	Holy Communion (Rev Bill Rolfe)
No evening service at Oxhill today – 6.30 Evensong at Brailes			
Sunday 17th	Lent II	9.30	Holy Communion (Rev Bill Rolfe)
Sunday 24th	Lent III	9.30	Family Service (NM)

## CHURCH FLOWERS

Lent starts on February 6th so the last flower-arranging weekend is February 2nd/3rd. I would like to thank everyone who has helped with flowers in Church (and also to the gardener who looks after the little flower bed at the porch entrance) all through this last year and trust that everyone is happy to be on the new Flower Arranging Rota which you should all have received by now.

Easter will be early this year so March 22nd is when we will be decorating the Church for Easter Sunday. I would be most appreciative for any extra help on that day either with donations of flowers and/or foliage or sharing in the actual arranging. Just let me know what you can do with a phone call (after the end of February).

On this subject Sue Price at Whatcote (680007) is trying to bring together some flower arranging classes possibly to start in March and would be pleased to have names as soon as possible.

*Carol Fox, 680223*

## FUTURE CHURCH FUND RAISING

If you heard a whisper about a Pancake Supper, we have decided to revive this event next year. We always used to have one on Shrove Tuesday, so we will be including it in our programme of events next year.

Meanwhile Lilian will be keeping you posted about our other plans for this year.

*Carol Fox, 680223*

# NOTES OF A MEETING OF OXHILL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 8TH JANUARY 2008 AT 8.00 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

All Councillors were present

## **MATTERS DISCUSSED**

### **Precept for 2008/2009**

Expenditure was discussed and funds would be made available for: publishing the Oxhill News; help towards the cost of mowing the churchyard and Village Hall grass; annual fee for village website; grant towards needed electrical work in the village hall; statutory cost for insurance, internal and external audits and clerks expenses. The precept was agreed at £3000.

### **Winter Gritting**

Letter would be sent to the County Highways requesting Herd Hill be gritted as it is on school and public bus routes and being north facing gets very slippery in icy conditions.

### **Footway and Drain Cleaning**

A further letter would be sent to the Highways to ascertain what their policies were on sweeping roads and footways and also road drain cleaning.

### **Planning**

Hugh Rowse attended the Area Planning Meeting on behalf of Oxhill re the application for a 60m high anemometry wind-speed measuring mast at Church Farm. This application has been refused.

Permission has been granted for a conservatory at Laurel Cottage.

An application for a conservatory at The Malt House has been returned with no objections.

A Speed Limit Review is being undertaken in the county on A & B roads

Meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

## **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 11th March 2008 at 8.00 p.m. in the Village Hall

Angela Kean, Clerk

## **PUPPIES**

I have several black and white collie puppies available.

If you would like one, please contact me on 01295 680546.

*Sylvia*

## NATURE NOTES FOR FEBRUARY

February is the shortest month of the year and the one, generally, with the most unpleasant weather. However traditionally farmers welcome the snow and rain that February brings for it prepares the ground for seed sowing and germination: “February fill dyke, be it black or be it white, but if it be white, it’s the better to like”; “if in February there be no rain, tis neither good for hay nor grain”; “much February snow, a fine summer doth show”.

I expect like many of you in the village we put food out for the birds every morning. This task usually falls to Jane and should she forget, she is quickly reminded by the hoard of sparrows “calling” for their breakfast. We have a regular clientele visiting our bird table – about 20 house sparrows who live in and around the house, assorted finches and tits, a pair of very fat woodpigeons, a great spotted woodpecker, jackdaws, and now, every day, a fine cock pheasant and his two ladies. Of course it is not only in the country but also in towns and cities that people feed birds. It is quite curious how tending to the needs of wild birds seems to have become embedded in our culture, a gesture of giving. One thinks of the legend of St Francis. I must share with you this wonderful passage from *Birds in London* by W H Hudson with its strange sense of ritual; it is an account of those feeding the sparrows in the Dell in Hyde Park: *“I call these my chickens and I am obliged to come every day to feed them, said a paralytic-looking, white haired old man in the shabbiest clothes, one evening as I stood there; then, taking some fragments of stale bread from his pocket, he began feeding the sparrows, and while doing so he chuckled with delight, and looked round from time to time, to see if others were enjoying the spectacle. To him succeeded two sedate-looking labourers, big, strong men, with tired dusty faces, on their way home from work. Each produced from his pocket a little store of fragments of bread and meat, saved from the midday meal, carefully wrapped up in a piece of newspaper. After bestowing their scraps on the little brown-coated crowd, one spoke ‘Come on mate, they’ve had it all, now lets see what the missus has got for out tea’; and home they trudged across the park, with hearts refreshed and lightened.”*

Now with all this talk of feeding birds, I have had a report of an unusual visitor to the bird table of our Editor – a redpoll. There are three redpolls that visit (and two breed) in Britain; the lesser redpoll (which is a regular breeder), its larger cousin the mealy redpoll, and a rare visitor, the Arctic redpoll. From George’s description it is almost certainly the lesser redpoll, a member of the finch family. It is the smallest finch and looks very like a twite or a linnet, being marked not unlike a sparrow, but with a pale breast flushed with pink, and characteristically a red forehead and black chin. It is a seed-eating bird that favours woodland with alder, birches and larches. Sunflower seeds apparently will bring them into your garden, and Gwyn reported them eating the niger seed.

This year we have February 29th – Leap Year day or Job’s birthday and a horrendous day for single men! Leap Year’s day is particularly ill-omened and this is said to be because it was Job’s birthday which the prophet blighted when he ‘cursed the day he was born’. In his mercy however, the Lord only allows it to occur every four years!

*“Ladies have full and absolute license to propose marriage to single gentlemen on this day, and if the gentleman is so rude as to refuse, he is infallibly bound to give the spurned lady a present; which is traditionally a pair of gloves on Easter Day.”*

Footnote: Jane proposed to me on February 29th 1976. Unfortunately for her I accepted – she was only after the gloves!!

*Grenville Moore*

## MOBILE LIBRARY VAN

Can we encourage more people to join our excellent library service?

We have a splendid new van with many new books. You may even order books without charge for the service. The van is equipped with computers providing quick access to a range of useful sites, and if you find it difficult to get out to the van there is even a home delivery service for books. For more details phone there enquiry line on 01926 851031. You can use the same number to renew books between Mobile visits.

We just need to remember that the van calls on Tuesday mornings in future, every three weeks:

Cleopatra Route G							
The library will run on these Tuesdays 2008:							
Jan	8, 29	Apr	1, 22	Jul	15	Oct	7, 28
Feb	19	May	13	Aug	5, 26	Nov	18
Mar	11	Jun	3, 24	Sep	16	Dec	9

Timetable					
Stop No	Location	Stop Name	Arrive	Depart	Sta
1	Oxhill	Opp. the Peacock Inn	10:15	10:40	25
2	Oxhill	Village Hall	10:45	11:10	25
3	Whatcote	Royal Oak	11:20	11:35	15

Happy reading! Joyce McKail

## FLOWER ARRANGING CLASSES



Do you like flowers? Would you like to be able to arrange them to enhance your home? – Or perhaps the Church?

I am arranging a class, (or a series of classes if the interest is there), in St Peter's Community Centre, Whatcote, for all abilities – beginners or the more experienced.

The date will be in mid to late March, (to be confirmed). If you are interested please contact me Sue Price. tel 01295 680007.

## NEWS FROM THE PEACOCK

Pam and I would like to thank all of you for the very warm welcome you have given us and for the terrific support for the coffee morning and village lunch, 36 lunches were served!

As you know the last few weeks have been fraught with difficulties but there is a light at the end of the tunnel, the kitchen will be completed by the 4th February ready for our launch party on Thursday 7th February from 7.30 p.m.

We have taken on board all your comments and suggestions and we hope that they are reflected in our new menus for bar and restaurant meals. The complimentary buffet on our launch night will be based around the new menu so it will give you a chance to try the dishes out. We shall have our full wine list again reflecting new pricing with house wine from £2.65 a glass; there will also be a bigger selection of wines by the glass. On the beer front we shall be keeping Timmy Taylor's as a regular and then ringing the changes with two guest ales, at present Abbots and Old Hooky, with Adnams and Bombardier coming online in due course.

We have some special events planned for February and March, here's our diary of events

### February

Tues 5th	Pancake Day
Wed 6th	Coffee Morning - £2.50 for coffee and cake
Thurs 7th	Launch Party from 7.30 p.m.
Fri 8th & every Friday	Fish on Friday – delicious selection of market fresh fish
Sun 10th	Sunday Lunch from 12 noon till 8 p.m. (From 6 p.m. all real ale £2 a pint)
Monday 11th & every Monday	Casserole night - £7.95
Thurs 14th	VALENTINE'S NIGHT – Wine and Dine with a delicious Valentine's menu
Sun 17th	Sunday Lunches 12 noon – 8 p.m.
Wed 20th	Village Lunch
Sun 24th	Sunday Lunch 12 noon – 8 p.m.

### March

Sat 1st	TASTE of WALES - £18.95 - 3 courses plus coffee featuring a delicious menu based on classic Welsh dishes and Welsh produce
Sun 2nd	MOTHERS DAY LUNCH 12 noon – 8 p.m. Booking recommended. 3 courses with coffee £19.95 (children under 10 - £10)

If there are any special events you would like to see at the Peacock let us know; we want this to be your local and to be part of village life.

We look forward to seeing you all. Cheers!

*Yvonne and Pam*



## FILMS IN THE HALL

There was a wonderful turnout for Atonement. My heartfelt thanks to all those who came, and my humblest apologies to those who were forced to turn back at the door. Do I need to make a 'House Full' board? Probably not, but we will see.

The film in February will be Ratatouille and the screening will be on Wednesday 20th. Ratatouille is the story of a rat who sets out to become a chef. It is a Disney/Pixar cartoon and although nominally for children it has been well received by adults. There are some notable names doing the voicing – Ian Holm, Peter O'Toole and John Ratzenberger amongst them.

I am currently intending to screen at 8 p.m., but if you would like an earlier time to suit children **please** let me know. I am quite happy to bring the time forward if that would be more suitable. The running time is 111 minutes. If there are any changes to the screening plans I will distribute flyers warning you all about them.

*George Adams*

## WEEKDAY WALKERS

In spite of the wet weather we did manage one of our walks in January, from Honington to Whatcote and back, and were rewarded with several sightings of the Roe deer.

Our walks for February are as follows:

### **Friday 8th February**

Illicote to Halford, a 5.5-mile walk with 150 feet of ascent and lunch at "The Halford Bridge". We will leave Oxhill at 10:30 a.m.

### **Friday 22nd February**

St. Dennis Farm round Brailes Hill to Upper Brailes, a 6.2-mile walk with 320 feet of ascent and lunch at "The Gate Inn". We will leave Oxhill at 10 a.m.

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

## SALE OF CHRISTMAS PUDDINGS 2007



I would like to thank our regular customers and some new ones for supporting our Christmas Pudding sales, which this year made a profit of £461.62 from 168 puddings sold.

On behalf of the PCC of St. Peter's Church, Whatcote may I wish you all a very happy New Year.

June Wreford – Secretary to Whatcote PCC

# SHIPSTON DEANERY LENT SERVICES 2008

## 40 years of Deanery Lent Services

As in previous years we will be holding a series of services during Lent followed by refreshments.

These services will be held at 7:45pm on the following Tuesdays in Lent:

February 12th	Pillerton	Norman Warren	
February 19th	Whichford	John Irvine	
February 26th	Ilmington	Anthony Wells	
March 4th	Oxhill	Richard Cooke	
March 11th	TBC		
March 18th	Long Compton	David Evans	(Holy Communion)

The theme this year is 'Calling' based on the book by Robert Warren and Kate Bruce.  
(Published by Church House Publishing ISBN 978-071514137-3 if you want a copy)

## PETTY VANDALISM IN OXHILL

It has been reported to us that two houses on the Whatcote Road were pelted with eggs between 11:30 p.m. and 12:30 a.m. on the Friday Night/Saturday Morning 18/19th January. If other residents of the village have suffered any similar disturbance they are asked to call Warwickshire Police HQ on 01926 415000 to report the matter mentioning Incident Number 8 of the 19th January 2008 and also pass the details on to the editor of the News.

The culprits were observed to be two older teenage males who were able to disappear in the area, quickly without trace. Therefore parents with children of that age might like to consider if they know the whereabouts of their offspring at the time in question particularly if they are aware that they had eaten curry that evening!

Villagers might also want to be extra vigilant over the coming weeks so that the community can stop this type of anti-social behaviour before it gets out of hand by reporting any similar incidents, vandalism or unusual activity in the village directly to the police.

*Editor*

## WANTED

Do you by any chance have the odd chunk of stone lying about unused in your garden?

I am building a very small raised bed and have run out of larger pieces.

*Myrtle Knight, 680 555*

# SHIPSTON HOME NURSING

## Fundraising Events

Complementary Therapies Day, Saturday February 23rd 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Lower Farm Barn, Great Wolford.

£20 per head to include healthy refreshments, tea, coffee, homemade biscuits and soup.

Also included are 3 x 15 minute sessions with 3 therapists of your choice:

Aromatherapy massage, Bowen, Meditation, Indian Head Massage, Reflexology, Hand Massage, Acupuncturist

Call Rebecca on 01608 674929 to book.

Cottage Pie Dance, Saturday 26th April

Ettington Community Centre, 7.45 p.m. – 1 a.m.

£20 per head to include 2 course supper and dancing to DJ Gavin Townsend

To book tickets call Rebecca on 01608 674929

Plant Sale, Saturday 17th May

Norgren Social Club, 10 a.m. - 12 noon

Ample parking

Please contact Sonia 01608 661459

Family Day, Sunday May 18th

Marquee in Willington      Bring your own picnic      Entertainment provided

Punch & Judy, Face Painting etc.

For further details please contact Rebecca on 01608 674929

Champagne and Shop, Tuesday 3rd June

Burmington Grange, 10 a.m. - 4.30 p.m.

by kind invitation of Patrick and Fudge Ramsay

Obviously there will be other events organised through the year but for now these are the important ones!

Please come and support us.

Rebecca Mawle, Fundraising Co-ordinator, Shipston Home Nursing

Tel:01608 674929

Mob:07940 716354

## OXHILL FESTIVAL CHOIR

Apologies for the late entry, Christmas was so busy I missed the deadline.

Well done everyone! The Christmas Carol service was wonderful and the choir's anthems went very well indeed. It was particularly noticeable that with our new male recruits the balance of the four parts was much better than in previous years when the ladies have greatly outnumbered the gentlemen. Thank to everyone who made valiant efforts to attend the rehearsals. Particular thanks must go to Joyce who put us through our exercises with such enthusiasm and dedication, to Sophie and John Roberts for their brilliant accompaniment on the organ and trumpet and also to Jill Tucker for lending us the chapel, the piano and even herself for our rehearsals. I am sure everyone will agree that it was well worth all our efforts.

Someone left a purple robe at my house after the choir party. If it is yours please let me know, otherwise I will keep it for next year. I would be grateful if everyone with a robe could contact me so I can keep a tally of who has one and who does not. I might be able to arrange to get a few more if they are needed as our choir continues to grow.

Remember to keep Tuesday nights free in November for this year's Carol Service!!

*Gaynor Van Dijk*

## VILLAGE HALL

The New Years Eve party went with a swing and participants reported enjoying the evening greatly. Many thanks to Angela for her arrangements and the usual suspects for the decorations.

The Hall will be out of commission for a week in February while the remaining windows are replaced. This should make sitting near the door end a warmer experience.

Films in the Hall will continue through March, as reported elsewhere. There will be an Italian Dinner on Friday 9th May. Further details on this later, but the proceeds will be earmarked to help repairs to the hole in the roof.

The Annual General Meeting this year will be on Tuesday 29th April.

*George Adams*

## THOUGHT FOR A NEW YEAR

I cannot understand how we put a man on the moon before we realised that it would be a good idea to put wheels on suitcases.

*Richard Allinson, January 1st 2008*

## VICARAGE NOTES

### Thought for the month

Forty days and forty nights – so begins the traditional Lenten hymn. It is of course based on the story of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness and the challenges he faced before embarking on his ministry. "Giving up" is a reflection of the ancient discipline of fasting – "Taking on" is the other side of the coin and can be much more positive.

But if you do give up chocolate during Lent, put the money saved towards a favourite charity – you're then achieving both ends! For church members the Lent themes encourage us to look at our lives and learn to follow more nearly and to love more dearly – day by day.

### Lent 2008 – Tuesdays at 7.45 p.m.

All are warmly invited to the Deanery Lent services – these have been held for 40 years now, and they still enable the local churches to come together both to worship and to be encouraged in faith. The first is on the 12th at Pillerton Church, and Oxhill will be the host on Tuesday March 4th – do come if you can. Flyers and posters with full details are in Church.

### Diary Reminders

Monday February 18th: St. Lawrence's P.C.C. (Oxhill Manor)

Saturday February 23rd: St. Lawrence's Coffee Morning with Bring and Buy (VH) – see you there!

### Stainer's Crucifixion

Miss Maddy Evans is directing this sacred oratorio at St. George's Brailes at 6.30 p.m. on Palm Sunday March 16th. If any singers would like to take part in this please contact me or take one of the leaflets from church. There will be a full rehearsal during the afternoon of the 16th and 2 prior rehearsals available.

Best wishes and God bless,

*Nicholas Morgan, 01608 685230.*

## COMPTON VERNEY EXHIBITIONS

### March – September 2008

15 March – 1 June 2008: Alberto Giacometti

15 March – 1 June 2008: James Coleman

21 June – 7 September 2008: The Fabric of Myth

For more information contact Ina Cole, 01926 645540, [ina.cole@comptonverney.org.uk](mailto:ina.cole@comptonverney.org.uk)

## WI REPORT

January 2008

Mrs Ann Hepworth told us about the hard work and the joys of owning racehorses. The afternoon flew by as we listened to one tale after another. First being 'bucket lady' wielding sponges and mops to prepare show horses, then her love-hate relationship with Chester, who was seen in the local lanes pulling a trap. Next, rising at 3 o'clock to show in hand at Moreton followed by acquiring and breeding from a racehorse mare. Richard Johnson won his first race at Warwick on her horse Persian Sword. She missed watching some wins when she toured with the RSC production of Two Gentlemen of Verona. She was chaperone to Woolly, the acting dog. We look forward to hearing of the success of 'Honey makes Money'

Oxhill cup: sweet pea seeds were distributed. Judging will be at the September meeting.

Serious Science lectures: Forensic Science; Stargazing; Fantastic Plastic

The County Show schedule was displayed because instead of the Spring Show May's meeting will be a lunch out.

Belinda Keep and Kath Silman served refreshments.

The flower of the month: 1st: Kath Silman, 2nd: Ann Been/Sue Price

*B. Keep*

## OXHILL GARDEN CLUB

The Club's 2008 meetings began with a visit from Reg Moule who came to speak on Houseplants. Reg trained many years ago at Pershore College and at present works for a Garden Centre in Worcestershire as well as regularly contributing to a local radio station. His talk was very informative and demonstrated how to keep our plants healthy and where to look for signs of pests and diseases and how to prevent or combat them. He then went on to show us how cutting back orchid stems, once they have flowered, would promote a new stem to grow and flower; this could happen in several places in succession until you got down to the crown of the plant. The evening finished off with Reg inviting questions from the floor on all aspects of gardening; his knowledge of all things horticultural was certainly very extensive.

The next meeting will be on 21st February at 7.30 p.m. when David Arthey, from Willersey, will visit the Club for an illustrated talk on Flowers of the French Alps. Visitors and new members will be most welcome to attend.

*Anne Netherclef*

## OF COURSE IT'S TRUE

An American decided to write a book about famous churches around the world so he bought a plane ticket and took a trip to China. On his first day he was inside a church taking photographs when he noticed a golden telephone mounted on the wall with a sign that read '\$10,000 per call'. The American, being intrigued, asked a priest who was strolling by what the telephone was used for. The priest replied that it was a direct line to heaven and that for \$10,000 you could talk to God. The American thanked the priest and went his way.

Next stop was in Japan. There, at a very large cathedral, he saw the same golden telephone with the same sign under it. He wondered if this was the same kind of telephone he saw in China and he asked a nearby nun what its purpose was. She told him that it was a direct line to heaven and that for \$10,000 he could talk to God. "O.K., thank you," said the American.

He then travelled to Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Russia, Germany and France.

In every church he saw the same golden telephone with the same '\$10,000 per call' sign under it. The American, upon leaving Paris decided to travel to the UK to see if the British had the same phone.

He went to Beverley and again, in the Minster, there was the same golden telephone, but this time the sign under it read '20 pence per call.' The American was surprised so he asked the priest about the sign. "Father, I've travelled all over world and I've seen this same golden telephone in many churches. I'm told that it is a direct line to Heaven, but everywhere I went the price was \$10,000 per call. Why is it so cheap here?"

The priest smiled and answered "You're in Yorkshire now, son - it's a local call."

*Anon.*

## AND FINALLY

There are some places that are just way out.....



# WHAT'S ON IN OXHILL

## February

Wednesday 6th	10.30	The Peacock – Village Coffee Morning
	2.30	Tysoe Village Hall – W.I. – Penny Varley; 'Pottery'
Thursday 7th	7.30	The Peacock – Official Launch Party
Friday 8th	10.30	Weekday Walkers – see inside for details
Thursday 14th		The Peacock – Valentine's Day Special Dinners
Wednesday 20th	8.00	Village Hall – Films in the Hall; Ratatouille
Thursday 21st	7.30	Village Hall - Oxhill Garden Club - David Arthey - Illustrated talk on Flowers of the French Alps.
Friday 22nd	10.00	Weekday Walkers – see inside for details
Saturday 23rd	10.30	Village Hall – Church Bring & Buy Coffee Morning
	10-3	Lower Barn Farm, Great Wolford – Shipston Home Nursing, Complementary Therapies Day
Sunday 24th	23.59	Copy deadline for The News

## March

Saturday 1st		The Peacock – Taste of Wales Special Dinners
Wednesday 5th	7.30	Tysoe Village Hall – W.I. - Mr P Warrilow; 'The RNLI'
Tuesday 11th	8.00	Village Hall – Parish Council Meeting

## April

Sunday 20th	12.30	The Manor – Curries & Roast Lamb Lunch
Saturday 26th	7.45	Ettington Community Centre – Shipston Home Nursing, Cottage Pie Dance
Tuesday 29th	8.00	Village Hall – Annual General Meeting

## May

Friday 9th	8.00	Village Hall – Italian Dinner
Saturday 17th	10-noon	Norgren Social Club, Shipston – Shipston Home Nursing Plant Sale
Sunday 18th		Willington – Shipston Home Nursing Family Day

