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# THE OXHILL NEWS

November 2015

No. 492



Fireworks from an electrical pole on Main Street at 3:30 am on 2nd October.

*Photo by Mick Shephard*

*Editors: Vanessa Druce & Roger Goodman  
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.

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS THE 15TH OF EVERY MONTH.**

## MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library has books with **large print**, ordinary print, picture books, children's books, paterbacks, non-fiction, novels, sagas, crime, mysteries, adventures, westerns and romance. The van has talking books, cassettes and CDs.

The library van will continue to visit Oxhill every 3rd **Friday**, stopping at the Village Hall at 14:30 and staying there for 30 minutes. The van will visit us on 20 November 2015. For further info please telephone: 01926 851031

## REFUSE COLLECTION

Recycling and green waste bins (blue and green bins) will be collected on Tuesdays November 3rd and 17th.

The grey rubbish bins will be collected Tuesdays November 10th and 24th.

## WEEKDAY WALKERS

Weekday Walkers usually walk on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month. If you are interested in joining or to find out further information, please contact Jim Saxton on 680613 or [saxton@talktalk.net](mailto:saxton@talktalk.net)

## PEACOCK EVENTS THIS MONTH



*Equinox Dinner at the Peacock October 25th*



### Village Events

The village coffee morning is on Wednesday November 4th at 10:30 am

The village lunch is on Wednesday November 18th.

## SHEEP TRAILER ACCIDENT



I would like to publicly thank all the residents of the village who helped me when the sheep trailer I was towing on Whatcote Road overturned.

I was deeply touch by their sympathy and concern, and with their practical help in assisting to free the trapped sheep.

Investigation has since revealed a catastrophic failure of the trailer suspension which caused the accident.

*Regards*  
*Paul Heritage*

## OXHILL OIL CONSORTIUM

Please note that the last oil order for this year is now approaching, your order is required by 6 pm of 17 November 2015. We will be sending out the 2016 oil order dates before the end of this year, the first one of 2016 will be early in January 2016.

*Mick & Barbara Shepard*

## BONFIRE NIGHT CAME EARLY TO OXHILL THIS YEAR!



We thought we'd moved to a sleepy little village, when boom at 3am there's loud cracks, bangs and flashes of light outside. Literally the whole room would light up for a split second then we'd be plunged back into darkness, with the sound of deafening bangs. I thought the whole of the front of the house was on fire!

Wasn't sure whether to look out or not. We gingerly opened the curtains to see the pole a flame with what looked like a giant firework exploding at the top! We called the fire brigade, think most of the village did, thank goodness.

We were worried that the wires might burn through and drop onto our neighbours house. We couldn't walk round the front due to all the sparks so then we thought maybe we should hop over the 4 fences at the back to see if they wanted to come to ours, luckily the fire brigade arrived at that point so we didn't have to face the obstacle course of barbed wire. We've now swapped numbers just in case we have any more exciting end of the world events! Like us they'd never seen anything like this, however, we've subsequently heard it's quite a regular occurrence in Oxhill.

So watch out for those old pylons, you never know when they might go boom! Like our neighbours we were all kitted ready to escape out the back if need be. My hubby went outside sporting quite a combo of sunnies and dressing gown to check if it was a distraction tactic to steal anyone's oil, pretty extravagant tactics I thought! While I went to check on our bear of a dog Diesel who reassuringly wasn't bothered at all by the noise but was more upset about not being allowed out to meet everyone gathering out the front. It really was quite a show, should have sold tickets!

## THE PASSING OF A DEARLY LOVED RESIDENT



*Doreen Neal (2nd from left) with the Knit & Natter group Christmas 2013*

It is with a sad heart that we tell of Doreen Neal's passing in the early hours of October 18th/19th. Her welcoming smile and contagious giggles will be sorely missed.

Should you wish to attend Doreen's funeral, it will be held at Chesterton Church at 1 pm on Wednesday November 4th.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

As many of you know Barbara and I are involved with Warwickshire's Police & Crime Commissioner, as Community Safety Ambassadors, for Shipston on Stour & District an area covering some 54 villages. We attend many meetings and groups, one being the main Neighbourhood meeting covering our area. With this in mind Barbara & I would like to put ourselves forward as Oxhill's Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators as we attend already. This would give Oxhill a representative. Please phone me or Barbara if you have any objections.

*Mick Shepard 07976298228  
Barbara Shepard 07976269090  
3 The Leys, Oxhill*

## KINETON VICTORIAN EVENING

We are having a stall at the Kinton Victorian evening on FRIDAY 27TH NOVEMBER to raise money for CRUSE Bereavement Care. We need bric-a-brac so if you have anything suitable would you please let us have it? Whatever we don't sell, we will pass on to a charity shop in Shipston.

Please dig deep into your attics, drawers or wherever else you keep forgotten hidden 'things'; I am sure we will be able to sell them for much needed funds to keep our work going.

If you need us to collect please call on 01295 688364 otherwise you can leave things with me at 6 Beech Road.

*Many thanks,  
Jane*

## AUCTION OF PROMISES NOVEMBER 7TH IN THE OLD CHAPEL 7.30PM

We have a number of promise forms completed. There are some interesting ones. We need more so please call me on 01295 680223 and I will email a form or drop one in, even if it's just some ironing or gardening or baking, it will all add interest to the evening. There will be a donation bar and nibbles. Catalogues will be out soon for you to peruse and posters are going round the villages. We look forward to a fun evening with your support.

*Carol Fox*

## CHURCH CLEANING

Nadia and Charles are making wonderful progress with painting the inside of the church and making improvements. We could do with help to get the church 'spick and span' for the Carol Service. Perhaps we could arrange a date for gathering up a working party on maybe Saturday 5th or 12th December. We promise to have the heating on and there will be refreshments to keep you going. Please call me with an offer of help - 680223. Time of day can be fixed nearer the time.

*Carol Fox*



# OXHILL VILLAGE HALL

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND NEWS

### **Friday 13 November - Indian Night**

Our ever-popular Indian Night is back and a selection of exotic Indian dishes will be available to tempt your taste buds on Friday 13 November. Subtly spiced starters are followed by curries and chutneys ranging again from mild to mad and delicious vegetable accompaniments with a selection of sweets to finish. Tickets are priced at £12.50 per person and food will be served from 7.30pm.

Tickets are available from Jay Roberts on 680030

**Coming soon...**

### **Monday 7 December - Oxhill Christmas Lunch**

We are delighted that this very popular event will be held on Monday 7 December at the Village Hall at 12.30pm. It is an event not to be missed. There is a welcoming sherry or fruit juice and wine served throughout the meal, with a three course traditional Christmas lunch plus mince pies and, afterwards, some entertainment. This lunch is for anyone in the village who is aged 65 or over and their spouses/partners (whatever their age!). Invitations will be distributed shortly.

As we have a number of newcomers to the village and, as you will have realised, Oxhill has the secret of eternal youth, it is difficult to determine whether many of you have reached the age of wisdom or not. Therefore if you think you are eligible and have not received an invitation and would like to come please contact me as below.



*Oxhill Christmas Lunch crew 2012*

We now have a potential 90+ people who are already on my list, so I would be grateful for your early response to the invitation and therefore ensure everyone can be accommodated. Transport to the Village Hall can be provided if needed. Call Gaynor Van Dijk on 680349

## **Friday 18 December - Cocktail Night**

Our very successful Cocktail Night to celebrate the Christmas season, consisting of a variety of delicious canapés which can be washed down with some bubbly, cocktails or a glass of beer, takes place on Friday 18 December. The Hall will be specially decorated to reflect the season and appropriate mood music will be playing softly in the background for this special posh frocks & black tie (or suits) event.

The price will be £12.50 per head and includes a selection of delicious canapés and two drinks. Additional drinks will be available. The evening will start at 8pm. This is a great way to start the Christmas season and meet up and socialise with your friends.

Tickets, which should be ordered in advance, from Tricia Harbour on 680676.



*Constructing bird boxes at OWLS 2014*

## **KNIT & NATTER**

Our October sessions have been well supported and in November we have meetings on Thursdays, the 5th and 19th, starting at 2.00pm.

Any Mums with babies are welcome to join us, even if it's just for a cup of tea and a change of scenery.

Please feel free to come along for a cup of tea and to 'Knit & Natter'. Also don't forget the BOOK EXCHANGE. If you'd like to know more, then call Tricia Harbour on 680676 or just turn up and join in.





## **OWLS (Oxhill Wildlife Society)**



**Invite you to a fun afternoon of  
BIRD BOX PAINTING  
22 November at 3.00 pm  
in Oxhill Village Hall**

**Everyone welcome**

**Entry free for children      £2.50 per adult  
(includes a drink and cake)  
Bird box kits including paint and brushes £5  
Paint a beautiful bird box to take home**

# ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH

**Sunday 1st All Saints:** 9.30am Parish Communion (ML)  
4.00pm Bereavement Service for All Souls (JT)

**Sunday 8th Remembrance:** 9.30am Village Remembrance Service (JT)

**Sunday 15th Trinity XXIV:** 9.30am Parish Communion (ML)

**Sunday 22nd Christ the King:** 9.30am Family Service (NM)

**Sunday 29th Advent I:** 11.00am United Benefice Communion at Tysoe

*For other benefice services see porch notice board*

## VICARAGE NOTES

Dear friends,

### **Harvest Thanksgiving**

Special thanks to all who decorated St. Lawrence's for the Harvest Festival – it looked wonderful, particularly with the new chancel “uplighting” fitted by Charles! The tinned and dried goods donated went to Coventry foodbank and the collection and mini auction proceeds to Farm Africa.

### **Thought for the month**

November is, as always, the month of remembrance and there is the special Service at 4pm on the 1st: a reminder of All Souls Day on the 2nd. The Village Remembrance Service is on the 8th, and all are very warmly invited.

An 8th century requiem:

*Thou hast come safe to port, I still at sea,  
The light is on thy head, darkness in me.  
Pluck thou in heaven's field violet and rose.  
While I strew flowers that will thy vigil keep,  
Love, in thy last repose.*

Best wishes and God bless,

Nicholas Morgan 01608 685230

[braileschurch@gmail.com](mailto:braileschurch@gmail.com)

# Auction

St. Lawrence Church Oxhill

## AUCTION OF PROMISES

Saturday 7 November 2015

7:30 pm

The Old Chapel, Oxhill

Catalogues available 1st November, price £1

01295 680223, 680215 or 680958

Something for Everyone!

Proceeds to St. Lawrence Church Oxhill



## **“MY BUCKET LIST” BY PETER NUTALL**

### **U3A**

#### **Shipston-on-Stour and Area**

An inspiring talk was on the agenda at the last meeting by Peter Nutall from Chipping Norton U3A. Entitled “My Bucket List” it represented the list of things he wanted to do from the day he retired and included a desire to go on a round the world sailing-boat trip. He decided to apply for the Atlantic leg of one of the boats in the Clipper Race, as this was the most energetic and extreme form of sailing. Ten boats were in the race from all over the world, and he was accepted.

Setting off from Liverpool for Brazil he was with 17 others in the crew, some experienced but many novices. They were to live in a very confined space, with 4 hours on and 4 hours off duty, for between 4 to 5 weeks, often with the boat tilting at 45 degrees. The position of each of the other boats had to be always plotted.

Food had to be always eaten from a bowl with a spoon, and a cup of coffee could only be delivered half full. Some of the tasks, such as pulling on ropes, were very physically demanding, and the constant dressing and undressing of the many layers of clothing took much time and effort, but the most difficult he found was to achieve full co-operation with such an assorted crew, especially in bad weather.

The slides he showed made the audience feel part of it. For himself the literal high point of the voyage, at the top of the mast, was a sublime experience.

### **Would YOU like to know more about the U3A?**

Please contact our Membership Secretary Jackie Finlay –  
[jandb@finlay.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:jandb@finlay.fsnet.co.uk)

## DEANERY NEWS FOR NOVEMBER

If you are reading this in October, there is still time to say that Bishop John will be leading a Quiet Morning at The Old Chapel, Main Street, Oxhill, on Saturday, October 31st. The morning runs from 10.00am until 1.00pm: coffee will be available from 9.30am onwards, and a light lunch will be available afterwards for any who can stay.

It will be wonderful to welcome Bishop John: do feel able to come even if only for part of the morning. Coming and going is quite permissible!

On November 10th Bishop Christopher will be spending the day in the Deanery: you may just encounter him in the afternoon as he is out and about. In the evening, there will be an Open Meeting to meet, listen and talk to him in Pillerton Priors Village Hall, 7.15pm for 7.30pm. Entitled 'Meeting the Bishop, Sharing his journey, everyone is very welcome – and refreshments will be provided.

November is very much a month for remembering: remembrance Sunday at the beginning of the month, and then All Souls/All Saints at the end of the month. These are words that are often used at times of remembering:

All our laughter, all our sadness  
Safe now in God's hands.

All our anger, all our gladness  
Safe now in God's hands.

All our stories, all our memories  
Safe now in God's hands.

Those we remember, those we love  
Safe now in God's hands.

*Saying Goodbye, Ruth Burgess.*

As November looms upon us, could I remind you about some of the special events that will be happening in the next couple of months:

- On Sunday, November 1st there will be a special Service of Remembering, for those who have lost loved ones at any time, in Oxhill Church at 4.00pm. This will be a time of quiet reflection, with words, music and prayers, and a chance to light a candle in memory of those we have lost. Anyone from across the villages is invited to join us. There will be lists in the back of our

churches a week or so beforehand: if you would like a name to be read out during the service, please add them to the list.

- November 29th is Advent Sunday, when there will be a United Benefice Communion Service for Advent Sunday in Tysoe Church at 11.00am. The Benefice Choir will be leading the worship, and the music will include part of the Shipston Mass, written by Julian Harris for the visit of the previous Archbishop of Canterbury. We want to welcome, and involve, everyone from across the villages.
- To prepare for that (and looking ahead to Christmas), the Choir will begin rehearsals on The Old Chapel, Oxhill, on Wednesday, November 4th, at 7.30pm.
- From Advent Sunday until Christmas, the Travelling Nativity will once again be going around Oxhill and Whatcote: we will be looking for homes for Mary and Joseph for one night, as they move from house to house – so look out for an invitation to join up.
- Finally, Oxhill is this year once again to have a Nativity Play. It will be on Sunday, December 13th at 9.30am in church, and there will be a ‘rehearsal!!’ the Friday beforehand, in church at 6.00pm. Anyone is welcome to join in with that – again, please look out for the invitation to take part.

Any queries, to Jill Tucker, 01295 688193, [revjill.tucker@tisali.co.uk](mailto:revjill.tucker@tisali.co.uk)

The Rhythm of Prayer continues in our Parishes with services of Holy Communion on Wednesday mornings at 10.00am as follows:

- Wednesday, November 4th, Oxhill, Janet Gardners’ home, Oddcot.
- Wednesday, November 11th, Tysoe Church
- Wednesday, November 18th, Whatcote Church
- Wednesday, November 25th, Tysoe Church.

Three Together in Fellowship will be continuing its exploration of The Lord’s Prayer on Monday, November 9th at 7.30pm in The Old Chapel, Oxhill. Anyone from across our churches is welcome at any of these.

*Blessings, Jill*





**Shipston Home Nursing** are holding their popular annual shopping events just in time for Christmas!

And more good news!

## The Armscote Tulip has arrived!

A half of all proceeds from the sale of the bulbs will go to Shipston Home Nursing in memory of Deborah's brother Leighton.

Bulbs can be bought from Whichford Pottery, Talton Mill, Bumble and Wild Shipston- on- Stour or directly from Armscote Manor.



Hospice at Home  
in Shipston, Wellesbourne and Kineton

## Designer Sale

Don't miss this amazing annual sale of fabulous designer clothes and accessories

**THURSDAY 5th November 6pm - 8.30pm**

**FRIDAY 6th November 9am - 4pm**

at

Darlingscott Farm Darlingscott Shipston-on-Stour  
Warwickshire CV36 4PN

with grateful thanks to John and Maggie Sargent

*Up to 80% off previous Autumn/Winter collections!  
Incredible prices!*



Armani Collezione

Armani Jeans

Temperley

Paul Smith

Diane Von Furstenberg

Joseph

Moschino

Paule Ka

Red Valentino

Marc Cain

Libelula

Lamberto Losani knitwear

Vivien Sheriff and Philip Treacy Hats

10% of all proceeds to Shipston Home Nursing Hospice at Home

**SHIPSTON HOME NURSING**  
invite you to a

**CHRISTMAS**

**GIFT FAIR**

More  
NEW STALLS  
this year!



**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 6pm to 9.30pm**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 9.30am to 3.00pm**

**Entry £4.00** includes home made biscuit and coffee  
returning to

**The Townsend Hall, Sheep Street**

**Shipston-on-Stour CV36 4AE**

## *Oxhill Garden Club*

On Thursday 15th October, shortly after the various local harvest festivals where home grown fruits and vegetables were very much in evidence, the Garden Club was treated to a talk by Richard Baldwin on 'Vegetables for the Smaller Garden'. Having spent time (in the nicest possible way) at our very own HRI at Wellesbourne, Richard moved to Pershore College where, prior to retirement, he held the post of Senior Horticultural Lecturer with responsibility for the intensive vegetable production unit.

Our speaker hailed from the West Riding of Yorkshire and a major element of his talk was on how to grow quality vegetables successfully but inexpensively. He, himself, pressed all manner of containers into service and showed members slides of the fruits (sorry, vegetables) of his labours grown in everything from old buckets to lavatory pans taken out of service and, hopefully, sterilised before use!

Richard devoted quite a lot of time on extolling the virtues various feeds and the benefits of using moisture retaining beads of gel that reduce the need for watering in dry spells. Although cost conscious, his adage was that money was always well spent on feeding / supplying plants with their very individual requirements for certain minerals and nutrients. What is certain is that members' horizons were widened with a very different slant on producing a succession of fresh vegetables in a relatively small space – enough for a household to be virtually self sufficient over an extended growing period.

- o -

The next meeting of the Garden Club is, as ever, at 7.30pm on the third Thursday of the month in November (the 19th) when guest speaker Graeme Mitchell of Brightwater Holidays will give a talk on 'A World of Gardens'.

*Douglas Nethercleft*

## *An Extra Curricula Activity*

At the crack of dawn (well, 10.30 am actually) on Saturday 10th October, six stalwarts from the Oxhill Garden Club assembled at the Village Hall to plant daffodils in the grassed-over old school playground. Permission had been given by the Village Hall committee for the planting on the corner of Main Street and the Whatcote Road. To this end, six three-kilo bags of ‘Carlton’ daffodils – some three hundred bulbs – had been purchased by the Club together with a tool to remove a six inch plug of turf into which hole a single bulb was to be buried.



It was not known if the asphalt from the old playground went to the end of the plot under the turf, but in the event the ground was found to be virtually free from impediments to hole-making and, indeed, comprised a good loam in which the daffodils should naturalise readily. With six eager workers and the slowness of the hole boring, spades were soon brought into use and turf removed (and replaced) wholesale to expedite matters.

It had previously been decided that the bulbs should be planted in a two foot swathe next to the iron railing fence so as to minimise disruption to the mowing of the grassed area in general. Random planting within this narrow strip was assured on the day by the disparate natures of those involved, their varying gardening skills, and the variety of tools used!

Come the Spring, Oxhill residents and visitors should see ‘a host of golden daffodils’ welcoming them to the centre of the village. Watch this / that space!

*Douglas Nethercleft*

# EDGEHILL BELLRINGERS

## Ringling Competition

The Coventry Guild of bellringers held their 8 bell striking competition at Kineton on the 3rd October with 5 teams competing. The Stonemasons portacabin in the churchyard proved a useful home for the judges who declared the Coventry District winners! After copious cakes and tea the ringers went on to have their half yearly business meeting and plan for 2016 events. Plans are afoot for performances in 90 Diocesan towers to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday.

## Harvest & Weddings

There has been the usual ringing for weddings over the summer with Ettington again holding the record for numbers this year. Most bells were rung for harvest services, the most special being the annual Harvest celebration at Chadshunt when once again the church was beautifully decorated with produce.



## Queen's Longest Reign

Some towers were able to ring on the 9th September to celebrate this and special performances were rung at Shipston and Tysoe.

## Training

Our Thursday morning group continue to meet at the Training Centre at Kineton as well as a lot of individual tuition. Steady progress is being made towards achievement using the 'Learning the Ropes' training scheme.

A new booklet for beginners to ring or for those interested has been produced by The Association of Ringing Teachers – Discover Bellringing. This is available from their website shop.

## Horley Tea

Horley has been the centre of attention too. One of the Horley ringers - Macer Gifford – was married there in August and staged a memorable – indeed surreal



- reception in his garden. The following day the Edgehill group met for afternoon tea and cakes hosted by the Tite family. No need for dinner after that!

### **Battle tour**

On the 17th October, to coincide with the opening of the Battle of Edgehill display at Radway, we held a Battle tour ringing at some of the villages involved in the battle. The day had been researched by Ralph Holtom and we rang at Cropredy, Kineton, Chadshunt, Burton Dassett and Radway just prior to the opening of the display. Two of our number were brave enough to dress up for the occasion –cavalier costume - so fitted in well with the manikins on display at Radway.

*Edgehill Bellringers – follow us on Facebook!*

## **KINETON SURGERY** **Old School, Market Square**

Have you booked your Flu Vaccination?

If not please contact the surgery on 01926 640471 to book your appointment.

### **Young People**

We will in the next few weeks be running a young person's afternoon clinic. This for a younger patients to see a GP to discuss problems like Acne, Stress feeling low or any health related issues that as a young person you are experiencing. We also have a Young Persons Web Page on our website please visit [www.kinetonsurgery.org.uk](http://www.kinetonsurgery.org.uk)

for more information on our new clinic and also to find lots of help and advice for teenagers and young people.



## **Teenage Health Clinic**

### **Tuesday Late Evening Surgery**

The surgery is open until 8.30pm on Tuesday evenings with Dispensary and Reception services available. Please note that our phones still go over at 6.30pm so to access these services please visit the surgery in person.



## WHATCOTE CHRISTMAS PUDDINGS - 2015

St Peter's Church, Whatcote is again selling Christmas puddings to help church funds.

Although there has been a very small increase in the price from the makers, the price to our customers remains the same: - 454g. (1lb.) £6.00 the 908g. (2lb) £10.00. They are great puddings and make excellent Christmas gifts for family and friends.

Last year the puddings were all sold by early December, so please get your orders in without delay by telephoning me on 01295 680294, or you can e-mail me at [junewreford@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:junewreford@hotmail.co.uk)

All the profit goes to St Peter's Church, Whatcote.

The puddings can be delivered by arrangement, or collected from me at Church Cottage, Whatcote.

*June Wreford*

## KINETON AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY NOVEMBER PLAY

Our next production is "THE ACCRINGTON PALS" by Peter Whelan.

This play is set in the early years of World War One. It depicts the experiences of the men going to the front line and the women left behind in a Lancashire mill town.

Performances will take place in Kineton Village Hall at 8:00pm on 26th, 27th and 28th November 2015.

Tickets will be available from "Flower Thyme", Banbury Road, Kineton from early November, or can be reserved by calling Jane on 01789 841730, or on the door.





## WOT2Grow Community Orchard

What glorious autumn weather we have had and despite the chilly nights the raspberries continued fruiting until mid-October! We then started on the maintenance of the summer canes and it is very satisfying cutting out the old fruited canes and clipping in the ones for next year's fruit. The neat rows show just how much you have achieved!

We are picking apples – nature is wonderful in making sure they don't all ripen at once on a tree so unlike commercial operators we have the luxury of picking only the ripe ones. Some of the varieties are not commonly seen in the shops or even local gardens so it is good to be able to taste them. There are a few cider apples but some time before we are making a lot of cider!

Apple Day on the 17th was an overcast and none too warm afternoon but that didn't stop the enthusiasm of the attendees. It was good to have many children running around carrying, chopping, scratting and pressing as well as finding time to kick a football about! We had two presses set up and production was non stop giving us many, many litres of fresh apple juice. This year's juice was deemed to be some of the best with a depth of flavour due to the fantastic apples we were given and also some from the orchard itself! Refreshments were available and plenty of delicious cake was consumed as well as taken home to be eaten later. We are very grateful to everyone who contributed to the success of the afternoon in so many ways.



*Cider pear tree in Autumn colour*

Contact one of us as to find out why we have the orchard and what we are doing!

Liz Atkinson (680045), Paul Sayer (680451), Sue and Mike Sanderson (688080)

### MAJOR EXHIBITIONS

#### *Periodic Tales: The Art of the Elements*

Saturday 3 October – Sunday 13 December 2015



The iconic periodic table represents the ultimate expression of order, containing the volatile elements in rows and columns. For centuries artists have explored the cultural symbolism of the elements and you can experience them in unique and unexpected ways through historic and contemporary works by artists including Antony Gormley, Cornelia Parker, Marc Quinn and Thomas Heatherwick. Ticket included in exhibitions, collections and grounds admission.

**BOOK** - [www.comptonverney.org.uk/book\\_online](http://www.comptonverney.org.uk/book_online)

**IMAGE** - Marc Quinn, *The Etymology of Morphology*, 1996, (c) Tate, London 2015

### EXHIBITION EVENTS

#### GEOMETRY: THE HIDDEN CHEMICAL ELEMENT?

Fri 6 November 2015, 2.30pm

As an element of the *Periodic Tales* exhibition this talk, by Oxford University's renowned Inorganic Chemistry Professor Andrew Goodwin, reveals how and why chemistry is the art of combining elements in order to produce useful compounds. During his fascinating lecture, Andrew will also consider what matters more: how we use the elements? Or their shapes, properties and how we arrange them?

**BOOK** - £25, Concs £23.50, Members £10, includes exhibition, collections and grounds admission. Call 01926 645 500 to book your place.

#### TALK, TOUR AND TEA - THE AUSPICIOUS METAL

Thurs 19 November, 2.30pm

Compton Verney's Chinese collection expert, Morgan Jones, and exhibition Co-Curator Penelope Sexton bring their vast knowledge to this fascinating talk on the use of copper alloy and the technology of Chinese bronzes in relation to *Periodic Tales*. This will be followed by a tour of the exhibition and a yummy Afternoon Tea.

**BOOK** - £30, Concs £28.50, Members £15, includes exhibition, collections and grounds admission. Call 01926 645 500 to book your place.

### FAMILY EVENTS



#### TEENY WEDNESDAY WEDNESDAYS

Every Wed during term time, 11am – 3pm

Allows you and your little one to have fun, play and learn in a uniquely stimulating environment. Enjoy soft play with colourful blocks and shapes. Suitable for pre-school children. Included in collections and grounds admission.

#### MAD SCIENCE DAY

Sun 15 November, 11am – 4pm

Your chance to unleash the bonkers and brilliant boffin in you! Be amazed by the crazy demonstrations of Mad Science. Take part in hands-on experiments in the pop-up lab and add your own personal touch to the Art-Science project! Included in exhibitions, collections and grounds admission.

## FOREST SCHOOL for EARLY YEARS

Every Thurs until 10 December, 12.30pm – 2.30pm

Back by popular demand! Perfect for families with under-5s, join us for two terrific hours of play and discovery in the woods. All sessions are run by a qualified Forest School Leader and allow children to develop new skills and creative thinking through outdoor activities. These sessions take place outdoors in all weather conditions so please dress appropriately.

**BOOK** - purchase your tickets from the Shop (the Ticket Lodge is closed) as they will be checked by the Forest School leader upon entry to the site.

## GET ACTIVE

### TAI CHI

Sat 21 November, 11.15am

Harmonise the beauty of Compton Verney's Capability Brown landscaped grounds with flowing, graceful movements of the body, nourishing body, mind and soul. Join *Swan Tai Chi* and experience this wonderful form of exercise, while immersed in our scenery. The final class of the year will take place outside, so please dress appropriately.

**BOOK** - £6 plus admission. Members and Season Pass holders £6. Call 01926 645 500 to book your place.

## SPECIAL EVENT



### THE TEXTILE FAIR

Sat 7 November

The annual *Textile Fair* returns bringing beautiful vintage clothes, specialist dyed threads, hand-made stuffed toys and, of course, sumptuous materials from around the globe. The backdrop for the fourth edition of this increasingly popular and important event - that also showcases both traditional and modern sewing, dress-making and tailoring techniques - is the spectacular Adam Hall and ground floor. Enjoy displays of work from over twenty, industry-leading firms and individuals and do some early Christmas shopping! Included in collections and grounds admission.



### SEASONAL STORY SUGGESTION

*Trapani Nativity Group*, Italian. Coral, silver, gilt-copper and enamel, 1650- 1700

With Christmas approaching, why not consider a story about this ornate and beautiful Nativity scene from the Compton Verney collection?

The fashion for recreating Nativity scenes reached the height of popularity in Naples and Sicily in the early 1700s.

Coral was a popular medium as it was thought to symbolise the blood of Christ. Red Mediterranean coral – as used in this 57cms high Nativity Group - was plentiful off the coast of Sicily and from the 1400s to the 1700s. The province of Trapani was well known for coral craftsmanship.

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## WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND OXHILL

### November

Tuesday 3rd		Green & Blue bin collection
Wednesday 4th	10:30	The Peacock - Village Coffee Morning
Thursday 5th	14:00	Knit & Natter Village Hall
Saturday 7th	19:30	Auction of Promises - The Old Chapel
Tuesday 10th		Grey landfill bin collection
Friday 13th	9:30	Weekday Walkers
Friday 13th	19:30	Indian Night - Village Hall
Sunday 15th		OXHILL NEWS SUBMISSION DEADLINE
Tuesday 17th		Green & Blue bin collection
Tuesday 17th		Deadline for Oxhill Oil Consortium order
Wednesday 18th	12:30	The Peacock - Village Lunch
Thursday 19th	14:00	Knit & Natter Village Hall
Thursday 19th	19:30	'A World of Gardens' Garden Club speaker
Friday 20th	9:30	Weekday Walkers
Friday 20th	14:30	Village Hall - Mobile Library
Sunday 22nd	15:00	OWLS bird box painting - Village Hall
Tuesday 24th		Grey landfill bin collection
Friday 27th		Kineton Victorian Evening

### December

Monday 7th	12:30	Oxhill Christmas Lunch - Village Hall
Friday 18th	20:00	Cocktail Night - Village Hall