

THE OXHILL NEWS

December 2020 No. 553



Birth Announcement at the Coffee Morning

While joining the village for coffee grandmother Maria Robertson, great-grandmother Joan Bartlam & grandmother Julie Smart received the wonderful news that Lizzie and Sam Robertson welcomed their baby William Murdo. ~ *photo by Carol Taylor*

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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. Submissions must be received by the 15th of each month for publication in the following month.

Please email: oxhill@btinternet.com

MOBILE LIBRARY

The Mobile library will be at the Oxhill Village Hall on Tuesday 22 December 2020 for “Select and Collect” from 13:15 to 13:30

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

For further info please telephone: 01926 851031

REFUSE COLLECTION

Recycling and green waste bins (blue and green bins) will be collected on Tuesdays December 8th and 22nd.

The grey rubbish bins will be collected Tuesdays December 1st, 15th and 29th.

THE AWESOME COFFEE VAN

Hi everyone,

Well 2020 has been a strange old year! But I wanted to put a little something into the newsletter to say thank you for your continued support. Who would of thought that back in April when I first started visiting the village that 8 months later, I would still be visiting you guys on a weekly basis!

It’s been an absolute blast visiting, everyone is so lovely and we have a good old laugh! I’m truly grateful for your continued support of a small independent business during these tough times.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas whatever you are doing and that 2021 is the year of the vaccine!

Tom

The Awesome Coffee Van sets up shop outside the Peacock every Thursday morning at 11:30-ish.





ANGELA GETHIN



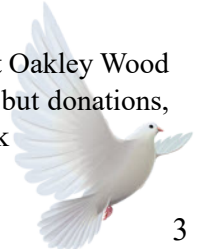
Sadly, on 11th November, after a short illness, Angela passed away peacefully in Warwick Hospital. She loved Oxhill and lived at Byways for more than 50 years.

Angela met Reg on the first day of their teaching careers at St. George's Road School in Wallasey. They "went out together" for four years and were engaged before Reg went to teach in Bermuda. Angela followed him out to the Islands and on 12th. March, 1959, and they had a Bermudian Wedding. They moved to Oxhill when Reg became a long standing head of Tysoe School, while Angela taught at Brailes School, both retiring some 25 years ago.

Angela supported Reg in all his activities, be it running the Garden Club or in his more recent prominent role with the Regent Club in Kineton. Trips, outings and holidays with Angela's sharp and sometimes mischievous sense of humour will be long remembered by their friends in Oxhill.

Reg wishes to thank everyone for their kind sympathy and offers of assistance.

Because of the current restrictions a private cremation will take place at Oakley Wood on Thursday 3rd December at 11.00 a.m. Family flowers only please but donations, if wished, for Myton Hospice may be sent via www.rlockeandson.co.uk Enquiries c/o R. Locke & Son, Brailes 01608 685 274



OXHILL VILLAGE HALL

SENIORS CHRISTMAS LUNCH

If you haven't yet replied to our invitation, or you are 65 or over & haven't received an invitation, please give Ali a call on 07970 922352 to arrange for your lunch to be delivered on Tuesday 8th December between 12.30 & 1.30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS TREE

The Village Hall Trustees are arranging for a Christmas tree on the green outside the hall. This will be a focal point for the festive season and, if permitted, there will be carols & mulled wine one evening just before Christmas. Watch out for announcements on Facebook & notice boards.

FUND RAISE FOR FREE!

We have registered the Village Hall with Easy Fundraising to help raise vital funds towards the extension and refurbishment of the village hall.

You can help raise funds at no personal cost by registering with Easy Fundraising and when you shop online, retailers will make a percentage of your spend as a donation to the fund. Registering is easy and free and hopefully at this time when we are unable, or prefer not to shop in store leading up to Christmas, this will raise some much-needed funds. Over 4,200 retailers participate, including big names such as Amazon, John Lewis, Boots, Argos, Currys PC World, M&S, Screwfix, Virgin, E-bay, Wayfair, etc. It also covers insurance, travel and utility suppliers.

You can use the link below, or go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk and search for Oxhill Village Hall.

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/oxhillvillagehall/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=cpl

Please also share with your family and friends, the more people who join in the more funds we can raise.

Thank you for your support and happy shopping!



ST LAWRENCE CHURCH IN DECEMBER



Once again our church buildings are closed, except for private prayer. But the church itself is still open. We worship wherever we are, particularly when we are surrounded by God's creation: God is not contained by a building, and we are called to be a blessing to each other in our community, not in our buildings. Jesus took the good news of the gospel out into the villages, the homes and streets where the people were to be found, and we have seen much of that in the past months.



The future is very uncertain, but Christmas is definitely not cancelled. Jesus was born into an incredibly unsettled world, where it was celebrated as light breaking through the darkness. Perhaps this year we will understand that even more clearly.

We hope to be able to offer the following services in December and over Christmas – but as you will realise, everything could change. But as you wander around Oxhill in December,

you will see Advent Windows, telling the story just as powerfully from our homes.

Sunday, December 6th 11.00 am Advent Service of the Word (Jennie Rake)
There will be a Zoomed service from Brailes

Sunday, December 13th 11.00 am Holy Communion (Rev Heather Parbury)
There will be a Zoomed service from Tysoe

Sunday, December 20th 3.00 pm Crib Service – although what form this will take is far from clear at this stage! (George H and Jill)
6.00 pm Zoomed 9 Lessons and Carols

Friday, December 25th Christmas Day
11.00 am Holy Communion (Rev Heather Parbury)

Sunday, December 27th 11.00 am Zoomed Service of the Word, (i.e. not in church) (Jill)

We will do our best to keep you informed of any changes!!



And finally, a very big thank-you to Iain, for making our superb new gates..... They are amazing! It has been a long haul, thanks to Covid, but they absolutely do justice both to Iain's craftsmanship, the church itself, and the legacy of the Rodwell family who endowed the original gates.

Every blessing, Jill

DEANERY NEWS

As I write this, we are in our second lockdown and worshipping together but apart as church services go online again. However, as you read it, Advent will have begun and we may be able to be back worshipping in person again although that is by no means certain.

This year, we are offering a Deanery Advent series thanks to Jill Tucker. We hope you will be able to join us from the comfort and warmth of your own home as we look towards Christmas.

Advent Evening Prayer: a gentle evening prayer for four Thursdays in Advent, exploring themes of Expectation, Hope, Promise and Comfort.



The fourth Thursday in Advent is Christmas Eve, so Evening Prayer that day will be especially for those who find Christmas difficult: a place where, among all the festivities we can bring our pain and hurt to God, and claim the supreme promise of Christmas, that of his presence and comfort in our lives and in our world.

Advent Evening Prayer will be at 7.30 pm, until about 8pm, on:

Thursday, December 3rd, Expectation

Thursday, December 10th, Hope

Thursday, December 17th, Promise

Thursday, December 24th, Comfort.

Anyone is warmly invited to join these Zoom sessions: the link is

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9121061734>

Meeting ID: 912 106 1734



Carers4Carers

Finding support through supporting each other

Do you look after someone?

If you look after a family member or friend because of illness, frailty or disability then you are a carer. You might never have considered that this label applies to you because it's just part of being in a family. But it's important that you do recognise this because there is support available to help you.

Even before Covid-19, carers who provide a considerable amount of support may experience feelings of isolation, depression, fatigue, poor health, and financial pressures. Rural carers may also have difficulties accessing shops and services because of transport difficulties.

Carers4Carers is a peer-led support group for carers in your area which usually meets monthly at the Village Hall in Kington on the fourth Friday of the month, 10.30 – 12 noon. It is run by volunteers all of whom have experience of caring so will understand the issues you may be facing. We start with coffee and chat and then have a speaker on

a range of topics or a workshop to develop caring skills or promote carer wellbeing. Some months we have a therapist on hand to offer you some gentle TLC. A monthly newsletter keeps you up to date with events, news and relevant information.

Some carers find it hard to attend support groups because they are unable to leave the person they care for at home. Our Companionship Group runs alongside the carers' meeting for those our carers look after. They have their own programme of activities, tailored to individual abilities, and are looked after by qualified and experienced care assistants and volunteers. They have a great time while their carers take some much-needed relaxation, knowing that they are well looked after. All we ask is that you let us know in advance if you are bringing along your loved one to the Companionship Group.

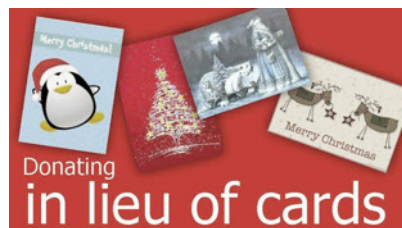
Our monthly meetings are unfortunately cancelled due to the ongoing situation with Covid-19, but if you would like to know more about the group or to receive our newsletter, you can get in touch by emailing kcarers4carers@gmail.com or by phoning Gillian on 07947 893504 (be prepared to leave a short message). Carers4Carers is a warm-hearted, friendly group and if you are a carer, we would love to hear from you.



Photo from Carers4Carers Newsletter September 2019: "We had a wonderful time at our last full meeting in July when Jasmin brought her harps, ukuleles and other instruments and we all had a ball."



Owing to the present economic climate, I am going to donate money direct to a charity this year instead of sending Christmas cards, as many are desperate for support. So it is with this, that I wish all my Oxhillian friends and neighbours a peaceful and joyous Christmas and a more positive New Year.



*Love and best wishes to you all,
Annette Bull X*



We will not be sending Christmas cards in the village this year but will be making a donation to Great Ormond Street Hospital. We wish all our Oxhill friends a Happy Christmas and hope everyone is keeping well in these challenging times.

Anne, Jo, Mike, Milo and Felix

The Way We Were



Looking down Main Street 1910



Looking down Main Street 2020

NATURE NOTES FOR DECEMBER 2020

by Grenville Moore

In 1716 the river Thames froze over:

“Musicians came, and dances were effected on the rough and slippery surface. What with the gay appearance of the booths, and the quantity of favourite popular amusements going on, the scene was singularly cheerful and exciting. On the ensuing day, faith in the ice having increased, there were vast multitudes upon it between London and Blackfriars Bridges, the tents for the sale of refreshments and for games of hazard, had largely multiplied; the swings and merry-go-rounds were added to skittles, in short it became known as the Frost Fair.

Chambers Book of Days

I was thrilled the other day when a friend in the village sent me a photo taken on his lawn which showed a small covey of Grey or English Partridge (*Perdix perdix*), referred to as Englishmen, and not to be confused with its distant cousin the Red-Legged or French Partridge (*Alectons rufa*), known as Frenchmen, which were introduced to Britain in large numbers in 1770 by the Earl of Hertford, and rather like the grey squirrel pushing the red squirrel out, so the Red had pushed the Grey partridge out. I know many people reported to me having seen a pair of French partridges in their gardens over summer, obviously wandering round the village visiting our bird feeders.



Grey or English Partridge

The French partridge is a colourful bird with its bright red legs and white and red head, whereas the Grey, as its name implies, is grey with a rust-orange head. The reason I was so thrilled was that I haven't seen any Greys around Oxhill for a couple of years. The British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) had documented a decline of 91% from 1967 to 2010 and numbers haven't increased since then. It is now on the Red List of endangered birds and has been declared a UK Biodiversity Action Plan priority bird species. The curious thing is that in France the Greys outnumber the Red by two-to-one. It's hard to imagine that in the 1950s the Grey was in Britain's top 10 most common birds, and in East Anglia numbers were recorded at over one million pairs. In addition to the incursion of the Red partridge, the decline has been identified as the use of agrochemicals as the principal factor along with the loss of tussocky grass margins and beetle banks.

Of course, both species of partridge are game birds and considered by many as one of the finest birds to grace a table. However, it is extraordinary to read that at The Grange in Hampshire in 1887, 4109 birds were shot over four consecutive days and 3533 taken on three days in 1897. Grey partridge cannot successfully be bred in captivity, whereas the Red can. There is currently an argument for putting the Grey on the protected list.

By the way, partridge have never been seen roosting in a pear tree, although in 1951 three were recorded in an Oak tree and in 1976 there was an account of eleven in a Warwickshire holly!

Please remember to feed the wild birds as we go into winter. As I write this piece I can see our feeding station and have seen; blue tits, great tits, coal tits, long-tailed tits, house sparrows, gold finches, two green finches, and best of all, three male bullfinches, not forgetting the daily fly-through by the sparrowhawk, unsuccessful on this occasion.

On Boxing Day tradesmen, servants and children went 'boxing', soliciting Christmas tips from householders they had served during the year. These were put into slitted earthenware 'Christmas boxes'.

*When Boxing Day comes round again
O then I shall have money
I'll hoard it up, and Box and all
I'll give it to my honey*

(if only he would – Jane Moore)

Merry Christmas





QUIET SUNDAYS

Village residents are respectfully asked, where possible, to avoid the use of loud machinery (chainsaws, motor driven mowers/strimmers, etc.) after 1300 on Sundays to allow all village residents to enjoy a quiet period in the afternoon. We understand that inclement weather and other reasons may well make this unachievable for villagers who work Monday to Friday but every effort to work within these guidelines will be appreciated.

The Parish Council

OXHILL GARDEN CLUB

AN UPDATE

In view of the current lockdown and Covid restrictions, and since we have not been in touch for a few months, we thought we should let all our members and friends know how the future now looks for our village club.

Crystal ball gazing is about the best we can currently do and there does not seem any possibility of meetings until maybe the Spring of next year. At least there is some new optimism that an effective vaccination is not far away. A very few of the local garden clubs have been using Zoom meetings, but we do not think that this is feasible for our club, unless any of you have a different view.

The plant sale outside the village hall in September was certainly a success and it should be feasible to do something similar in the Spring, almost like normal !

Your committee will keep alert for any further possibilities and keep in touch with any such news.

Martin Hunt – Chairman

Peter Rivers Fletcher – Programme co-ordinator



IN ERRATUM

In the November Oxhill News issue the article ‘Thanks for the Memories’ states that Janet Gardner did her WREN training in South Africa. That is wrong. Janet Gardner did her WREN training in the UK.

~ ed.

This film is part of Free

Kineton Signal Box

Dr Beeching has ensured that the last train has now departed from Kineton so what is there to do but drink tea and enjoy the quiet life?

Non-Fiction / 1965 / 4 mins

From the collection of:



Watch for free

KINETON SIGNAL BOX

Pat Crowther sent us a link to a BFI (British Film Institute) wonderful short video from 1965 about the Kineton Signal Box. Pat wrote: “this may interest local rail enthusiasts and historians.”

You can view the short film here: <https://player.bfi.org.uk/free/film/watch-kineton-signal-box-1965-online>

The film description is:

David Lloyd visits Kineton on the railway line between Stratford-upon-Avon and Fenny Compton where, thanks to the Beeching Report, no more trains will ever run. This lack of activity makes for a quiet life for the signal box staff who are surprisingly still required to work twenty-four hours a day. Twelve hour shifts through the night with just a book to read, tea to drink and a few routine equipment tests makes for a tedious job.

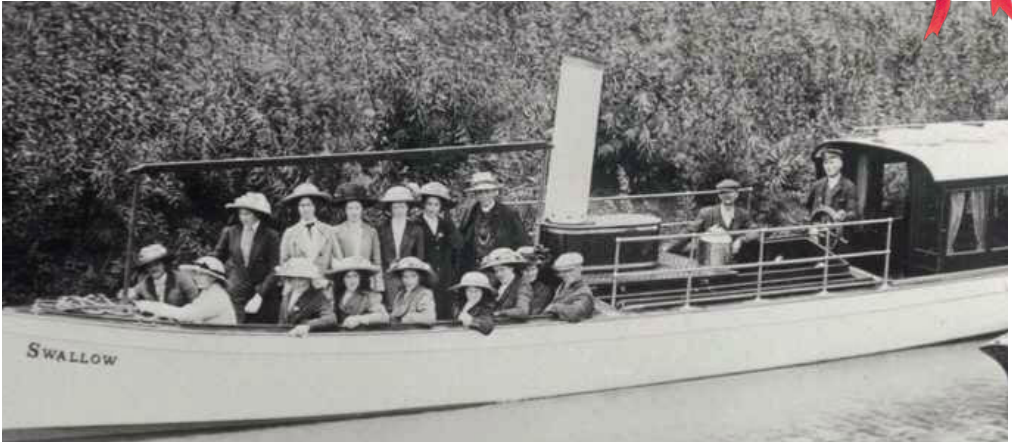


VILLAGE GROUPS AND SOCIETIES

CHURCH CHOIR



by Ann Hale, published July 2001



Choir outing from Pershore to Tewkesbury, 1913



It appears that even in those early days, women far outnumbered men in the choir! Even so, there was not always one in existence, and none is remembered for many years following this photograph. In the early 1970s the choir was revived again by Mrs Jessie Foot, taken on later by Ann Hale, until numbers dwindled so low that it was no longer viable.

In the mid 1980s, in a new venture, William Hale formed the Oxhill Festival Choir, a group of singers who performed principally at Christmas, bringing in some of William's schoolfellows from Warwick School to supplement the still thin numbers of the tenors and basses. This was continued in due course by David Brown, son of the Rector, Roy Brown, and at the time of the Millennium is now run by Jill Tucker.

The Choir performs at more of the Church Festivals, and is well supported with the male reinforcements coming from among the Shenlow Singers.

*William Hale, Festival Choir
Director, 1986*



Oxhill Festival Choir, 1986

Left to right: Back Row - James Sargent, Oliver Hume, Julian Phillips (all from Warwick School). Front Row - Sophie Jowett, Heather Milsom, Ann Hale, Ruth Emms (Shipston), Jessie Foot.



Left to Right: Joy Bloxham, Myrtle Knight, Angela Rowse, Briony Emmerson, Andrew Emmerson, Thomas Rowse



Christmas Choir, 2013

Left to right: Back Row - Alan Headley, Peter Rivers-Fletcher, George Henry. Front Row - Sue Price, Gaynor van Dijk, Debra Collins, Jill Stewart, Ruth Gibson



*Rev. Nicholas Morgan,
Christmas Carol Service, 2013*



Christmas Tree at Carol Service, 2015



Benefice Choir, 2015

Left to right: Back Row - Bill Voysey, Chris Gibbs, Carol Taylor, Jane Kaye, Christ Paxton, Pam Hatchett. Front Row - Margaret Rivers-Fletcher, Pauline Wyatt, Gaynor van Dijk, Myrtle Knight.



Left to right: Back Row - John Bayliss, James Synge, Alan Headley, Peter Rivers-Fletcher. Front Row - Debra Collins, Jill Roache

OXHILL ADVENT WINDOW DATES

Oxhill advent windows will be opening each evening from the 1st - 24th December, please see below for the locations on each date. As we will be in lockdown for part if not all of this period please make sure that you observe the COVID guidelines in place with regard to social distancing and meeting people from other households.



As you can see, we have had an amazing response and have an advent window plus, which will help to make the village bright and cheerful during the gloomy days and dark evenings of December and over the Christmas period. If anyone else would like to take part with either a decorated window or outside decoration please let me know which of the 7pm slots you would like.

*Best wishes to everyone,
Lis Lis.stuart@outlook.com or 07538 865789*



My YouTube Christmas Gift to all residents of Oxhill - Alma Deutscher, English composer, concert pianist and violin virtuoso.

Enjoy!

Douglas Nethercleft



the
migraine
trust

Mike and Heather Bridgman would like to wish all residents of Oxhill an absolutely wonderful Christmas, especially as it has been such a difficult year for all.

We won't be sending any Christmas cards this year and instead making a donation to the NHS Covid-19 Appeal and the Migraine Trust Charities. Wishing everyone a better 2021!



OXHILL ADVENT WINDOW SCHEDULE

Date	6.30 pm - Location	7 pm - Location
1 st Dec	3 The Leys, Whatcote Road (Mick & Barbara)	
2 nd	Blackford House, Main Street (Liz & Brian)	
3 rd	Medway, Green Lane (Ann & Jim)	3 Orchard Close (Rachel & Geoff)
4 th	15 Leys Field (Sam)	10 Leys Field (Rosie)
5 th	Feldon House, Whatcote Road (Hannah)	Merrilees, Main Street (Catherine)
6 th	The Homestead, Main Street (Selina)	2 Peacock Cottages, Main Street (Helen)
7 th	Binswood, Main Street (Lucy)	
8 th	1 Orchard Close (Sue)	
9 th	Fern Cottage, Main Street (Celia)	
10 th	Tehidy, Green Lane (Morna)	
11 th	The Old House, Back Lane (Jill)	The Fellows, (Lynn)
12 th	4 Orchard Close (Kate)	3a The Sett (Angela & Stewart)
13 th	Oakwoods, Green Lane (Wendy)	Stable Croft, Green Lane (Pam & Peter)
14 th	Hillox, Whatcote Road (Jane & Duncan)	
15 th	2 Groves Close (Fiona & Jeremy)	
16 th	The Malt House, Back Lane (Eileen)	Spring Field, Main Street (Barney & Pip)
17 th	Short Meadow, Whatcote Road (Chris)	
18 th	The Old Rectory, Main Street (Val)	Fexloe House, Main Street (Roz)
19 th	2 The Leys, Whatcote Road (Verity & Freya)	
20 th	Oxhill House, Main Street (Diana)	
21 st	Appletree Cottage, Blackford Way (Elaine)	
22 nd	Peacock House, Main Street (Grenville & Jane)	
23 rd	Hares Breath, Whatcote Road (Carol)	
24 th	Oak View, Green Lane (Lis & Adrian)	





Orchard in Autumn Colours

WOT2GROW COMMUNITY ORCHARD



A glorious month of autumn colour is now ending with the leaves being stripped from the trees by the high winds! The plums etc lost their leaves some time ago but the yellow and gold of the nut trees and Medlar in particular have been spectacular.

All the apples have been picked and after all the harvest has been pretty good. The early dry and hot weather did us no favours after the late frost so a lot of the fruit was quite small and a bit misshapen. However the taste was good! The Bramley's did well and produced the largest fruits we have seen.

Pruning will continue through the winter with a lot still to do so may the weather be kind and dry. The hedges have all been cut back and the, hopefully, final cut of the grass is done. Also the wildflower strips have been strimmed off ready for their first low cut next spring.

There is still plenty of evidence of wild life in the orchard, such a difference from when the orchard was planted in 2011. The number of birds increases year on year and also the moths, butterflies and insects although this was not a great year for ladybirds.



Medlar in Autumn



Silver Birch in Autumn

The Community Orchard is just behind the allotments on the Shenington Road in Tysoe.

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

website www.wot2grow.co.uk



OXHILL PUBLIC FOOTPATH WORKS

By Geof Beesley and Reuben Connolly

What is there not to like about living in Oxhill? For me, one year and a few weeks later I am still trying to find even one reason. One of the many benefits of residing in Oxhill is the wonderful network of public footpaths that run through and around the village. However, some of these paths, over the years have become clogged by undergrowth rendering them at best difficult to navigate and at worse, impassable.



***Before photos:** footpath stiles and bridges before they were cleared of brambles and thorny bushes.*

Earlier this year the Parish Council established an initiative to address some of the footpath problems. This initiative has now been developed, encompassing the Warwickshire County Council's Volunteer Partnership scheme which enables volunteer groups to work on such areas as public footpaths with the authority of the Council.

Cutting to the chase, using the WCC Partnership scheme, a small group of us villagers deployed in October to clear a section of undergrowth from the path (ref SS15) which runs from the layby at the top of Whatcote Road towards Oxhill Hill. To our great and pleasant surprise, much of the undergrowth had already been cleared – so many thanks to the landowner (we assume) who did a sterling job.

Fast forward to November and a pair of volunteers deployed to tackle the footpath loop (Ref SS14/SS14a) leading up the farm track opposite the Village Hall and looping around to the back of Whatcote Road. Again the local land owners have been extremely accommodating and had cleared much of the bulk of brambles and thorny bushes



After photos: Footpath stiles and bridges after clearance.

themselves. The team proceeded to finesse the areas around stiles and bridges to ensure a nice clear path for the next few months at least.

Separately a number of issues with local footpath bridges have been reported and the WCC Rights of Way team are due to get them repaired or replaced in due course if they cross a natural water course. If they cross a drainage ditch then in principle it remains the responsibility of the respective land owner(s). For now we do not recommend using the dangerous bridge leading from Back Lane to the open fields through the garden of The Old House (Ref SS36).



On a side note the Parish Council are also working with land owners, Highways and Severn Trent to clear the culverts and gullies which run down Whatcote Road to Kineton Road to hopefully ensure the lay-by mentioned above remains drained and the entrance to the footpath becomes a lot less marshy. Again this will take some time.

Looking ahead, further works are planned for the New Year to address other overgrown paths around the village. If anyone is interested in lending a hand or wants additional information – especially the landowners around the village, then please do not hesitate to contact either Geof Beesley or Reuben Connolly via the messenger function of Facebook (Oxhill Village Community Facebook site).

Finally, as noted above the respective Oxhill landowners/farmers have been extremely helpful and indeed proactive, saving a huge amount of effort and time in clearing a number of footpaths – so our heartfelt thanks to you all.



Tysoe Tennis Club

www.tysoetennisclub.co.uk

Just as we started the winter matches, in came lockdown yet again! The men managed a derby match and Tysoe A played Tysoe B in the Banbury Mixed Winter League. It was a wet and windswept October morning and hardly tennis weather but the consensus was we should play as who knows what would happen next in these strange times. How right we were! In a competitively fought match, played with terrific camaraderie, the A team emerged as being better able to handle the horrible conditions and were simply too strong for the Bs on that day. All matches have now been stopped but the Bs hope to get their revenge come January.

JUNIOR TENNIS

The new lockdown has obviously affected activities but we hope that Friday afternoon and Sunday coaching will resume after 2nd December so that we can fit a couple of sessions in before Christmas. The winter league has also stopped, so the planned Orange (under 9) and Red (under 8) team matches have been postponed. Hopefully, we will be back to normal after Christmas. For more details contact Debbie at admin@tennisolutions.co.uk or Nicki Campbell on nicki@tysoe.net

LATEST GUIDELINES

Despite the LTA and tennis community making a strong case to Government, we can confirm that the new restrictions mean that tennis activity in England is not permitted for the duration of the national lockdown, as a result of the closure of all outdoor and indoor facilities. The only exceptions to this are for elite tennis players and for tennis activity in schools, colleges and other educational establishments as part of education. Whilst we are disappointed with the outcome, we must urge all involved with tennis in England to adhere to the decision that the Government has taken.

Club Secretary Carol Spencer: carol.spencer234@hotmail.co.uk



MADE IN OXHILL ARTS AND CRAFTS POP-UP SHOP

Oxhill Makers have been busy this year, firstly preparing for Made in Oxhill Pop-up Shop during the postponed Scarecrow Weekend, and secondly preparing for the late November event at The Peacock, cancelled due to Government restrictions.

Now with Lockdown 2.0, they have plenty of stock and no events, so we are going virtual, but with real cakes! Each stallholder has created a page including contact details, showing the beautiful things that you can buy in the village, following all Covid restrictions. Not only will it save you going out shopping, but you will be supporting local craftspeople. This is definitely the year to Shop Local. All stallholders are operating within current Covid-19 government advice and no one will be baking anything if they have been told to isolate because of possible contact with someone infected, or if they have any symptoms.

I do hope that you will be able to support this venture in some way. All proceeds from the cake stall will be donated to the Church of St. Lawrence, Oxhill.

Thank you.

*Ruth Mercer 07400 615999
ruthc.mercer@btinternet.com*

Local Oxhill Honey



1lb jar of Oxhill runny honey £5
4oz jar £2

**Happy to deliver to a socially
distanced doorstep!**

Contact Douglas Nethercleft
07850 352905
djnethercleft@aol.com





KNIT AND NATTER

Prices (clockwise from top left)

Octopus small £2.50, large £3.50

Baby jacket £6

Pencil case £2.50

Child's purse £2.50

Hanging tealight holder (includes tealight) £4.50

Fingerless mitts/wrist warmers £3.50

Peg bags and oven gloves £2.50

Knitted toys £3.50

Ear warmers £2.50

Fluffy socks £2.50

Cafetière cosies £3.50

Crocheted doll with school bag £5

Table mats £1.50

Bookmarks 50p

Coasters £1

Knitted robins £1

Crocheted throws £7.50

Embroidered cards £2



Please contact Jane Smith if you would like to purchase something.

Email: smithje@btinternet.com

Mobile: 07530 629114

All proceeds will be donated to Guide Dogs, specifically to name a Guide Dog for Oxhill.





Made in Oxhill Virtual Pop up Arts and Crafts Shop Cake Stall

How it works!

1. Choose a cake from the list below
2. Contact Ruth Mercer on 07400 615999, ruthc.mercer@btinternet.com or through Messenger to reserve the cake and arrange to pay
3. Ruth will give you the contact details of the baker and you can then arrange a mutually convenient time for the cake to be baked and collected / delivered

Chocolate Guinness sandwich cake, 9", filled and topped with whisky cream icing: £10 ½ cake: £6,
¼ cake: £3

9" Carrot cake, cream cheese frosting: £7

9" Carrot and walnut cake, cream cheese frosting: £7

Spanish Orange and Almond cake (gluten free): £7 ½ cake: £4

8" lemon drizzle sandwich, filled and topped with lemon buttercream: £7

½ cake: £4. ¼ cake: £2

Apricot jam Swiss Roll (different jam fillings available): £3

Lemon Drizzle loaf cake: £5 ½ cake: £3

6 cupcakes, topped with buttercream: £3

Large Strawberry and fresh cream Gateau: £10

Large fruit Pavlova: £10

Lemon sandwich sponge: £7 ½ cake: £4 ¼ cake: £2

Victoria sandwich 8", filled with jam and buttercream and topped with glacé icing: £5

Coffee Cake, with or without walnuts: £7 ½ cake: £4 ¼ cake: £2

6 cinnamon buns (available at weekends only): £5

6 pieces of Millionaires shortbread: £3

Local honey flapjacks: £3 for 4 very large portions.

Boiled fruit cake 8": £7

Fruit cake 8": £7

Chocolate fudge cake, 7": £5

Victoria sponge, 7": £5

Banana loaf cake: £5

12 Red velvet cupcakes, cream cheese frosting: £6

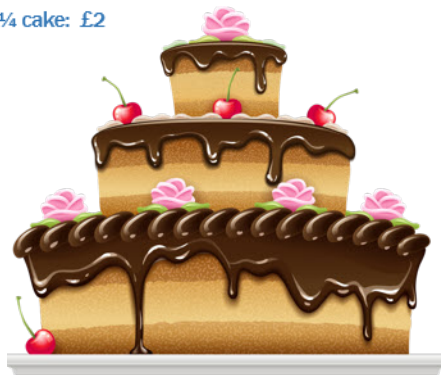
Chocolate sandwich cake, 8", iced and topped with Button and Maltesers: £7

Chocolate Brownies: 4 large pieces £3 6 large pieces £4

8 large scones supplied with jam and clotted cream: £5

Date and Walnut loaf cake: £5

1 dozen mince pies: £5 6 mince pies: £3





CARDS

£2 each / 3 for £5

GIFT WRAP

£2.50 per 2 sheet pack

MOUNTED GICLÉE PRINTS

10x12" Print ● £16

12x12" Print ● £20

Contact: Ruth Mercer - 07400 615 999

SCENTED HOMEMADE DECORATIONS AND FIRELIGHTERS



SCENTED FIRELIGHTERS

£3 PER BAG

EACH BAG CONTAINS 3 HOMEMADE
FIRELIGHTERS, HIGHLY SCENTED,
& A WONDERFUL GIFT!



BEAUTIFUL SCENTED CHRISTMAS DECORATION

£7 EACH

MOSTLY LOCALLY FORAGED,
SCENTED KINDLING
WHICH IS ALSO A BEAUTIFUL
DECORATION.

APPROX 50 X 20 X 15 CMS.
EACH ONE UNIQUE!!



CONTACT JUDE MACDONALD

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HOME: 01295 680150

EMAIL: JUDEMAC07@BTINTERNET.COM

WILLOW BROOK, BACK LANE.

MADE IN OXHILL - OXHILL ALPACAS

CRAFT ITEMS (MADE FROM OXHILL ALPACA WOOL AND LOCALLY SOURCED NATURAL DYES)

- Hanging Decorations; Birds, alpacas, bears, gingerbread men £2.50
- Large alpacas, gingerbread men £3.50
- Magnetic alpacas, sheep, gingerbread men £3.00
- Alpaca Wool Soap (good for gardeners) £3.50
- Snoods (chunky knitted) £25.00
- Woolly hats £25.00
- Chunky alpaca wool balls (beige or dark brown) £22.00

BUTTERS £3 each or 2 for £5

- Unsalted butter 200g
- Salted butter 200g
- Garlic and herb butter 150g
- Chilli, lime and ginger 150g
- Butter milk (e.g. for pancakes, scones) 25p

OTHER ITEMS (FROM OXHILL ALPACAS)

- Alpaca fertilizer for house plants etc (400g bag) £5.00
- Alpaca sausages £6.00 per kg
- Alpaca mince £5.00 per kg



Craft items available to view at Oak View, Green Lane, Oxhill.

Please arrange a viewing or order by phone 07538865789 or email oxhill.alpacas@btinternet.com

ALPACA



£65

Olive and May produces hand printed textiles from our own drawings taking inspiration from living in the countryside. Our range includes sumptuous feather filled cushions made from Irish linens and cottons, Linen cross back studio aprons and 100% cotton tea towels, all are screen printed by hand in our home studio. To view available products and prices please go to our etsy shop:

<https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/OliveandMayDesign>
or contact Lynsey on 07960783080
for free local delivery.

Olive & May



£15



www.instagram.com/olive_and_may



£65

www.oliveandmay.com

East Meets West Interiors

Unique, vibrant, one-off pieces, designed and made by me from fabric I chose in Southeast Asia.

I design, produce and sell a variety of items such as:

- cushion covers £20-30
- lavender sleep pillows £8
- yoga bags £25
- large tote bags £20
- face masks £8 each/3 for £20
- doorstops £15

Items are made from high quality washable cotton, are ethically sourced and created to make the perfect gift for a loved one or for yourself.

For more information, please see www.eastmeetswestinteriors.com or visit my Facebook /Instagram pages @eastmeetswestinteriors
Bespoke orders can also be arranged.

Please message for orders and free local collection/delivery.

Happy shopping! Love Helen X
07715107176

eastmeetswestinteriors@gmail.com





SMALL CHARMING PORTABLE CHICKEN COOP



Villagers David and Helen Spink have set up *The Little Coop Company*. As Helen writes:

Our coops are handmade from sustainable wood, with waterproof lining, they have wheels so no one section of the garden is taken over by the chickens, they also feature a drawbridge opening to let the chickens in and out with ease and a removable draw on the bottom of the henhouse to allow for easier cleaning and replacing bedding.

The henhouse includes a roosting bar and two nesting areas large enough to house 3/5 chickens depending on size. The roof covers the henhouse and half the run to provide shade and weather protection to chickens when they are using the outside space. The roof can be lifted and propped open for easy access.

Measurements:

Height: 104cm

Length: 262cm

Width: 100cm

The chicken house itself measures 80cm wide and 73cm deep.

Delivered fully assembled (can be taken apart if required for access).

We wanted chickens for a long time and as we got our first hens we found many coops on the market were too large and too permanent. So we decided to design our own including some adaptations we have found helpful when keeping our chickens, we hope you enjoy the style and function as much as we do.

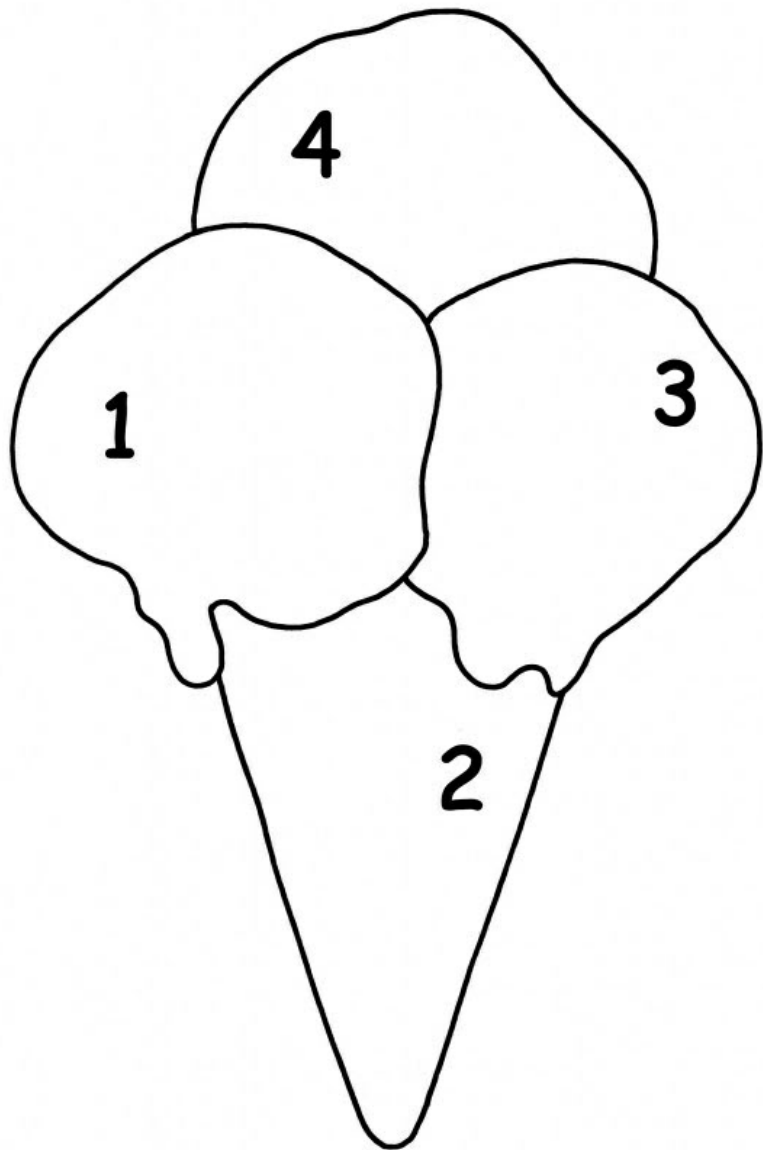
Should you need any further information or would like to come and see our chickens and coops in person please contact us and we will be happy to arrange a time.

You can also see the coop with our silkies on our **Instagram @thelittlecoopco**

Email: thelittlecoopco@mail.com



Colour by Numbers



WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND OXHILL

December

Tuesday 1st		Grey landfill bin collection
Tuesday 8th		Green & Blue bin collection
Tuesday 8th	12:30	Seniors Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 15th		Grey landfill bin collection
Tuesday 22nd		Green & Blue bin collection
Tuesday 22nd	13:15 - 13:30	Mobile Library, outside Village Hall
Tuesday 29th		Grey landfill bin collection

The date of the next PC Meeting is Tuesday, 12 January at 8.00pm. It is unclear, at present, whether this meeting will be held at the Village Hall or virtually by Zoom. More details will be in the Agenda for the meeting which will be shown on the PC Website or a physical copy will be displayed on the Notice Board by the Peacock a few days before the meeting.



Best wishes this holiday season to all of the Oxhill News contributors and distributors. Thank you for all you do for the Oxhill News. ~ editors