

# THE OXHILL NEWS

December 2019 No. 541



The dancers from Mrs Precious' Monday ballet and tap troupe will be touring the **Teddy Bear** in Oxhill on Monday 2nd December between 6pm and 7pm. Would you like to see the **Teddy Bear** performance? See page 3 for details.

*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.

## MOBILE LIBRARY

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 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 December 20th. For further info please telephone: 01926 851031

## REFUSE COLLECTION

Recycling and green waste bins (blue and green bins) will be collected on Tuesdays December 10th and 24th.

The grey rubbish bins will be collected Tuesdays December 3rd, 17th and 31st.

## WEEKDAY WALKERS

Weekday Walkers usually walk on the 4th Friday 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)

## THE PEACOCK

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

The village lunch is on Wednesday December 18th.





## **TEDDY BEAR PERFORMANCE**

The dancers from Mrs Precious' Monday ballet and tap troupe will be touring Oxhill on Monday 2nd December between 6pm and 7pm.

If you would like to be treated to a rendition of their teddy bear song in return for a small donation to the Air Ambulance, please leave your house lights on.

The dancing teddies will endeavour to perform at as many houses as they can!



## DEANERY NEWS

In the past month we have journeyed together in the Deanery through the brokenness of the world. At All Souls' we gathered in many of our churches to weep with those who have lost loved ones, and together with our nation we remembered the terrible effects of war. Locally we have experienced pain and brokenness within our deanery and have gathered as best we can to support one another and to pray together.

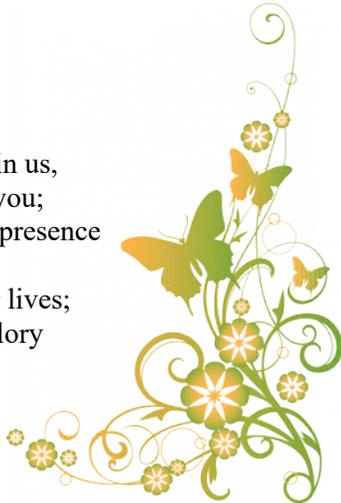
It is into this broken world that Christ came. As Christmas approaches, we traditionally use Advent to get ready to remember that first coming and to look forward to the time when all will be healed, and all reconciled in him.

Please do continue to pray for the benefices of Ilmington and Stourdene and those who support them. And in the middle of local, national and international brokenness and pain, may we witness to the coming of the Christ child.

### God in the dark

Holy God,  
before us, beside us, within us,  
there is no place without you;  
help us to recognise your presence  
in the dark places,  
the difficult places, of our lives;  
even as we sing of your glory  
in the light.  
Amen

*Chris Polhill*



**Deanery Synod** next meets on Tues 28th January at 7.30pm in St Edmund's Shipston. We will be welcoming Julie Bellamy, Director of Finance to come and speak to us.

**Paths of Joy – journeys in mental health** Our Lent services this year are on the theme of mental health with speakers who have worked extensively in the field. More details will follow in the New Year, but please book Tuesdays in Lent in your diaries. We are fortunate to have Rev Jean Fletcher in the deanery, who was a mental health chaplain and is a great resource for us.

## ST. LAURENCE'S CHURCH, OXHILL

Throughout December the Travelling Nativity will hopefully be making its way around Oxhill: if you have not already signed up, and would like to, please contact [revjill.tucker@btinternet.com](mailto:revjill.tucker@btinternet.com)



Last year we also had a Reverse Advent Calendar in the back of the Church – inviting us to donate items for the Shipston Food Bank during December. This year there will again be 24 paper bags around the font, labelled 1 to 24: it would be lovely, if you are able, to fill each of them with items of food (canned, or dry) or toiletries to help families in Shipston who will struggle this Christmas.

### **Sunday 1st December - Advent Sunday**

9.30 am Light in the Darkness: Parish Communion for Advent Sunday, Rev Jill Tucker

### **Sunday 8th December**

9.30am Nativity and Christingle **in The Old Chapel**, Rev Jill Tucker

### **Sunday 15th December**

9.30 am Parish Communion, Rev Jill Tucker

### **Sunday 22nd December**

9.30 am Hope in the Darkness: Quiet Communion, especially for those for whom Christmas is difficult Rev Jill Tucker

### **Thursday 19th December**

7.30pm Carols by Candlelight, followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

## **Wednesday 25th December—Christmas Day**

9.30am            Family Holy Communion for Christmas Day, Rev Jill Tucker

## **Sunday, 29th December**

11.00 am        **Tysoe Church**, Five Churches United Service, Rev Glyn Evans

## **Sunday, 5th January – Epiphany Sunday**

9.30 am        Parish Communion, Rev George Heighton

Have a wonderful, peaceful, Christmas, and wonder in amazement at the God at the heart of it.

# **CHURCH FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

## **Quiz Night**

On November 9th, the Old Chapel was full to bursting with those who had travelled from far and wide (Cardiff was the furthest, I believe) in torrential rain to take on the challenge of our first Church Fundraising quiz. Sixteen teams in all took part and we were fortunate to have secured the services of a very professional Quizmaster who certainly made the evening very entertaining. The refreshments during the break were well received, especially the liquid ones as the bar was drunk dry twice. As the quiz went into the final round, two teams were battling for first position, one from Tysoe and one from Oxhill. In the end, the Tysoe team was victorious but I hope that next year there will be victory for Oxhill. The best result was that the evening raised over £900 for maintaining the Church. Thank you to everyone who supported the event.

These events are a team effort and I want to thank Carol, Carol and Gaida for sandwich making and cake baking as well as setting up and clearing the Chapel; Jerry and Jon for table shifting, washing up and bar duties; James and Linda Synge for organising the bar, with additional thanks to James for twice braving the rain to restock the bar; Maureen for cake baking; Alice for poster design. Lastly, a massive thank you to Iain MacPherson for being an excellent Quizmaster, giving up his last free Saturday evening before Panto and bringing his own PA equipment too.

*Ruth Mercer*

# QUIZ NIGHT PHOTOS



## MADE IN OXHILL

A pop-up shop will open on Saturday 30th November between 10am and 4pm at The Old Chapel. There will be many stalls selling gifts, bags, artwork, cards, knitted goods, cushions, home produce, honey and much more, all produced locally. Please come along and have a look around. Tea, coffee and homemade cakes will be served all day long. You might be able to do all your Christmas shopping without leaving Oxhill and support local entrepreneurs at the same time!

If you would like to donate items for the home produce stall or can bake a cake for the teas, you can deliver them to me beforehand or the Chapel on the day. All donations would be most welcome!

*Ruth Mercer*  
[ruthc.mercer@btinternet.com](mailto:ruthc.mercer@btinternet.com)  
07400 615999

**MADE IN OXHILL**

**ARTS & CRAFTS**

**Pop Up SHOP**

**SATURDAY  
30TH NOVEMBER  
10AM-4PM  
THE OLD CHAPEL, OXHILL**

**TEA, COFFEE & CAKES  
SERVED ALL DAY**

GIFTS  
CARDS  
BAGS  
CUSHIONS  
ARTWORK  
KNITTED GOODS  
HOMEMADE  
JAMS, PRODUCE  
AND MORE!

**WHEN YOU BUY  
FROM A SMALL  
BUSINESS AN  
ACTUAL PERSON  
DOES A LITTLE  
HAPPY DANCE**



Instead of sending Christmas cards to our friends in the village, we will be making a donation to Great Ormond Street Hospital. Merry Christmas and happy new year.



**Great  
Ormond  
Street  
Hospital  
Charity**

*From Anne, Jo, Mike, Milo and Felix*



## **Babysitter Available!**

Freya O'Donnell – Age 14, Year 10

Children aged 3+

Available weekends during term time, evenings in the week and all week during the school holidays.

I live in Oxhill so am local.

Please email me if you are interested:

[freyaod5@gmail.com](mailto:freyaod5@gmail.com)





## OXHILL KNIT AND NATTER GROUP

Anyone welcome and the £1 charge includes tea and biscuit.

Our next meetings are November 28th in Oxhill Village Hall then December 12th at Struan, Whatcote Road.

For those who haven't managed to get to Knit and Natter this Autumn, we are having a table at the Craft fair on 30th November in the Old Chapel Oxhill. We are making anything to go on it - cards, knitted/crocheted toys, scarves etc. A donation will be made to Oxhill Church and remaining proceeds will go to Guide Dogs for the Blind.

For further information contact Jane 07530 629114



## SAVE POSTAGE STAMPS FOR CHARITY

If people save their postage stamps and pop them through my letterbox, I will take them to Redwing Horse Sanctuary.

*Gwyneth Adams*



## **NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR**

I am pleased to announce that Reuben Connolly has volunteered to fill the advertised vacancy on the Oxhill Parish Council.

Reuben and his wife Lisa have lived in the village for 5 years and will be known to many of you who see them walking their dog, Zeus around Oxhill. His interests include him having an encyclopaedic knowledge of the world of Whiskey and a keen sense of community. His profile will be on the PC website ([www.oxhillpc.uk](http://www.oxhillpc.uk)) with those of all of the councillors along with the dates of the forthcoming meetings, etc.

Reuben's role as a Councillor will be formalised at the next meeting on Tuesday, 3 December at 8.00pm in the Village Hall – all are welcome.

*Derek Harbour, Oxhill PC Chair*

# OXHILL VILLAGE HALL NEWS AND EVENTS CALENDAR NEWS UPDATE

**The Curry Night on November 16th** was a roaring success, with 50 people enjoying eight or more home-made curries, which were pronounced as good as those available at The Indian Queen!



*Curry Night*

**Have you seen this blackboard?** In mid-October, OVH Committee purchased a super-duper new board to publicise events. It was put in the lobby of the Hall until needed. By November 4th it had disappeared. If anyone has borrowed it or has any knowledge of its whereabouts, please contact Dominic Connolly on 07774 081067.



## **MONDAY DECEMBER 9th OVER 65s CHRISTMAS LUNCH at 12.30pm:**

Last year, this event was over-subscribed and in our enthusiasm to accommodate everyone, the Hall was full to capacity and a little beyond. This year the serving arrangements will be a little different and everyone should be more comfortable. Jo Collings is taking the bookings, so don't delay! Contact her on [itsjocollings@gmail.com](mailto:itsjocollings@gmail.com) or on 680215 and when booking, tell her about any Special Dietary Requirements.

## **FRIDAY DECEMBER 20th BEER AND BUBBLES AT 7.30pm**

Self-explanatory really! A pre-Christmas Black Tie and Posh Frocks event, with canapés, to get in the Christmas mood. Tickets are £15 and include 2 free drinks (Prosecco, beer, wine or G&T) and a copious variety of canapés. Pre-order your tickets so we know how to cater by contacting Sarah Bracher on 680927 or 07758 280273 or [sarahbracher01@gmail.com](mailto:sarahbracher01@gmail.com)

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

### **Saturday January 25th: Burns Night Dinner at 7pm for 7.30 dinner.**

A chance to share a traditional evening with friends. Tickets will be £17.50 to include 3 courses and a dram! Booking details to follow in the January News.

**Tuesday February 11th at 7.30pm: A talk by Prof John Hunter** (Emeritus Professor of Ancient History and Archaeology at the University of Birmingham). More details in January.



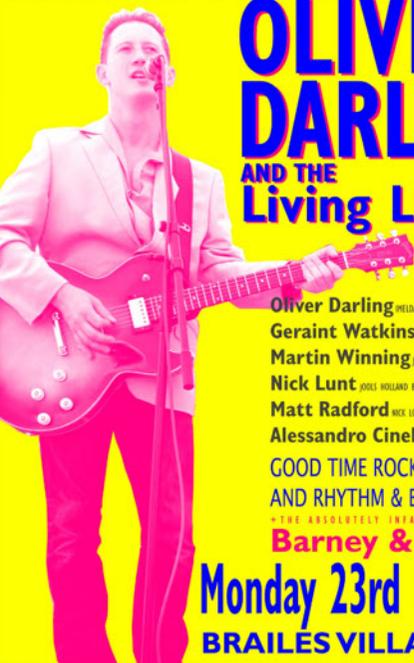
## LILIAN'S FUNERAL FLOWERS

Thank you Carol Taylor for taking these photos of the wonderful flowers at Lilian's funeral.





# BRILES CHRISTMAS BASH



## OLIVER DARLING AND THE Living Legends

**Oliver Darling** (MELBA RHY BAND)  
**Geraint Watkins** (IAN MORRISON / NICK LONEY / STUART DODD)  
**Martin Winning** (JOHN MARTIN / SANTA TOGGAN)  
**Nick Lunt** (JOEL HOLLAND BAND)  
**Matt Radford** (NICK LONEY / HOLLY GOLIGHTLY)  
**Alessandro Cinelli** (MATT SCHIFFIELD / CONELLI BROTHERS)

GOOD TIME ROCK & ROLL, SWING,  
AND RHYTHM & BLUES

~ THE ABSOLUTELY INCREDIBLES  
**Barney & Jerv**

**Monday 23rd December**  
**BRILES VILLAGE HALL**

Doors open 7.30pm homemade mince pies

Tickets £15 under 16s £5 telephone 01608 685332

A FRIENDHOODLY DARLING PRODUCTION

## CHRISTMAS EVENTS IN AND AROUND OXHILL

Here are a few events you may wish to attend this December, whether it be jiving to Oliver Darling, do a bit of crafting by making wreaths and helping the wonderful charity Shipston Home Nursing, or enjoying a Christmas Fete in Tysoe.

Whatever you do, may your Christmas season be full of joy, peace and love.

~ Vanessa, ed.



## CHRISTMAS DOOR WREATH MAKING

**Monday 9th December**

By kind permission of Anthony and Sue Forsyth



6.00pm Start

6.15pm Demonstration

7.00pm-9.00pm Workshop

Moorlands Farm, Little Kineton CV35 0EA

**£45 per ticket** - includes all materials plus nibbles and a drink on arrival. **Limited places, please book early**

Traditional mixed evergreen doorwreath workshop. All materials supplied, take home your completed wreath - Ready to hang on your door for the festive period.

For more information and to book, please call Sarah Irwin on 01926 651364 or Nicola Loades on 01926 651453

Visit [www.shipstonhomenursing.co.uk](http://www.shipstonhomenursing.co.uk) for more details

Many thanks to Flower Thyme, Kineton



CHRISTMAS  
CHOCOLATE GIFTS  
& CARE ORDERS  
FROM:  
  
Shipston Home Nursing

**BUY YOUR  
RAFFLE TICKETS  
FROM SCHOOL  
OR TYSOE SHOP**

FRIENDS OF  
TYSOE SCHOOL

**CHRISTMAS FETE**  
**SATURDAY 7TH**  
**DECEMBER**  
**VILLAGE HALL**  
**1PM - 3PM**

HEAD BOPPERS  
ON SALE

CHILDREN'S  
LUCKY DIP

ADULT &  
CHILDREN'S  
TOMBOLA

GAMES:  
PULL A BOTTLE  
BUZZ BAR  
HOOK A BAUBLE  
PLUS LOTS MORE

VINTAGE HANDBAGS  
& ACCESSORIES  
FOR GIRLS & LADIES

**MAKE YOUR  
OWN REINDEER  
FOOD**

REFRESHMENTS INC  
MULLED WINE

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS  
CRAFT ROOM  
£2 FOR 3 CRAFTS

**RAFFLE -  
1ST PRIZE £50 CASH  
PLUS LOTS MORE  
PRIZES**

ADULTS  
& ENTRY  
CHILDREN  
FREE

# TYSOE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NOVEMBER UPDATE

Tysoe C of E Primary School welcomed Ofsted on Wednesday 25th September. The staff and Board of Governors are delighted that the inspectors recognised the many excellent aspects of the school and the grade of good has been maintained.

We are particularly pleased the inspectors recognised the good Quality of Education across the school. 'The staff know pupils well and care for them. 'Staff expect pupils to do their best and pupils rise to meet these high expectations.' The inspection also noted that the children behave well and are considerate of each other's views. Our pupils 'feel safe and secure' and 'enjoy coming to school.' The 'many opportunities for pupils beyond the subjects they study' were also recognised during the inspection. Tysoe 'is a school at the heart of its community' and is 'a welcoming and friendly community of pupils and staff.'

The Board of Governors and all of the staff also acknowledged the many years of hard work from Mrs Coates. Mrs Coates ensured there were strong foundations in place at Tysoe for the staff to continue to build upon.

We are all very proud of our school, our staff and our pupils

We recently enjoyed a class assembly from Silver Birch. They have been learning about World War II and were lucky enough to receive a copy of the first ever Tysoe School magazine from 1942. Dr. Stuart Owen-Jones found an original copy among papers at his home and kindly forwarded it to the children - all the way from Wales. The children have enjoyed studying the magazine and learning about Tysoe during the war years.

Years 4, 5 and 6 pupils attended the service at the War Memorial on 11th November and read poems and prayers which they had written themselves.



# REDWINGS HORSE SANCTUARY

## OXHILL CENTRE

Still looking for those last minute Christmas gifts? Why not support a charity and buy your Christmas cards, diaries, calendars and stocking fillers from Redwings Horse Sanctuary?

Redwings is a national animal welfare charity, responsible for over 2,000 rescued horses, ponies, donkeys and mules across the UK. We rescue neglected, mistreated and abandoned equines, giving them a safe place to live and providing essential veterinary treatment, rehabilitation and lifelong care. We also look to rehome those who are capable of living outside of the Sanctuary and currently have 700 horses living in loving Guardian homes.

Redwings Oxhill, near Banbury, is one of five Redwings visitor centres across the country where you can meet some of our rescued residents and hear their stories. Here you can also purchase items from our gift shop, and all sale proceeds go towards our work.



**Redwings Oxhill, in Banbury Road, Kineton, CV35 0RP, is open every Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, between 10am and 4pm.**

Entry is free and dogs on leads are welcome too!

If you'd like to find out more about Redwings or purchase gifts online, head to [www.redwings.org.uk](http://www.redwings.org.uk).





# Carers4Carers

Finding support through supporting each other

Friday 13th December 10.30 – 12 noon: Carers4Carers monthly meeting at Kineton Village Hall. Please join us for our Christmas meeting with seasonal refreshments and activities, together with lovely TLC treats from Anita. Please let us know in advance if you would like us to look after your loved one in our Companionship Group.

For more details, including help with transport, please phone Gillian on 01926 640203/07947 893504.



## **Hello dear friends of Oxhill.**

Once again we have decided not to send Christmas cards to our friends in the village but instead we are making a donation to Target Ovarian Cancer.

We would like to wish you and your family a healthy and Happy Christmas. We would also like to wish you all the best for 2020.

*With love and hugs Elaine and Ed Morgan*



*S. Swan  
Singers*

## FANTASIA ON CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Swan Singers & Friends welcome you to an afternoon concert of Christmas songs and carols featuring the Fantasia on Christmas Carols by Ralph Vaughan Williams.

The concert is in St Peter's Church, Kineton, on Sunday 8th December at 2.30pm, and will be followed by seasonal refreshments. The concert is free with a retiring collection. Everyone is very welcome to join us for this prelude to Christmas. Contact: [admin@swansingers.uk](mailto:admin@swansingers.uk) for details.

*S. Swan  
Singers* and Friends

Seasonal selection of Christmas music, songs,  
poems and readings featuring

## **Fantasia on Christmas Carols**

*by Ralph Vaughan Williams*



Sunday 8th December at 2.30pm

St Peter's Church, Kineton

**Refreshments**

**Retiring collection**

# TWAM | Tools with a Mission



## TWAM – TOOLS WITH A MISSION – APPEAL

The charity TWAM provides trade packs and training in third world countries. The usual tools for Carpenters, Car Mechanics, Taylors are always required.

But bearing in mind Black Friday, TWAM is desperate for laptops Windows 7 and above. So for peace of mind, your old laptop will be completely cleaned of all data by the professional TWAM team.

Please contact Jim Saxton [jimsaxton@btinternet.com](mailto:jimsaxton@btinternet.com) 07748 324934 ☐





## WOT2GROW COMMUNITY ORCHARD

What a month of rain! We always need water at the orchard as the ground is free draining unlike the heavy clay in most of the surrounding areas. But most people agree we have had more than enough. The main entrance from the road has been flooded several times to a depth such that wellies were nearly filled!

We continue to gather windfalls and also pick apples from the later varieties. The cider apples are beginning to fall which is the perfect time to gather them up. This is the first year we have had a good crop of Bramley apples, about 75kg so far! The leaves are also falling but enough remain to make it very damp if trying to do any maintenance work. Pruning the fruit trees will start in the new year when hopefully it will be a bit drier and snow free.



*Medlar Apple Tree in Autumn Colours*

Wassail is happening again on Saturday 18th January from 4:30pm. This fun event is open to everyone so do come along and hear about the tradition we are keeping alive. Stout boots are necessary and bring a torch and something to make

a noise to scare away bad things and be prepared for the gunshots that ring out over the orchard!!

The AGM is on Tuesday 21st January at 6:45pm in Tysoe Village Hall, again all are welcome as it is your community orchard.

The Community Orchard is just behind the allotments on the Shenington Road in Tysoe and is open 24/7! But why not come along and help out, even half an hour can make a difference.

More information?

Liz Atkinson (680045), Paul Sayer (680451), Sue and Mike Sanderson (688080) or see the website [www.wot2grow.co.uk](http://www.wot2grow.co.uk)



*Misty Autumn Morning*



*Flooded footpath*

## WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND OXHILL

### December

Monday 2nd	18:00	Teddy Bear Touring Performance to Oxhill homes with lights on!
Tuesday 3rd		Grey landfill bin collection
Wednesday 4th	10:30	The Peacock - Village Coffee Morning
Saturday 7th	13:00	Christmas Fete, Tysoe Village Hall
Sunday 8th	14:30	Swan Singer, St Peter's Church, Kineton
Monday 9th	12:30	Christmas Lunch, Village Hall
Monday 9th	18:00	Christmas Door Wreath Making, Moorlands Farm, Little Kineton
Tuesday 10th		Green & Blue bin collection
Thursday 12th		Knit & Natter, Straun, Whatcote Road
Friday 13th	10:30	Carers4Carers, Kineton Village Hall
Sunday 15th		Oxhill News submission deadline
Tuesday 17th		Grey landfill bin collection
Wednesday 18th		The Peacock - Village Lunch
Friday 20th	14:30	Village Hall - Mobile Library
Friday 20th	19:30	Beer & Bubbles, Village Hall
Monday 23rd	19:30	Oliver Darling & the Living Legends, Barney & Jerv, Brailles Village Hall
Tuesday 24th		Green & Blue bin collection
Friday 27th	9:30	Weekday Walkers
Tuesday 31st		Grey landfill bin collection

### January

Saturday 18th	16:30	Wassail, WOT2Grow Community Orchard
Tuesday 21st	18:45	AGM, WOT2Grow Community Orchard, Tysoe Village Hall
Saturday 25th	19:00	Burns Night, Village Hall

PC Meeting 3 December at 8.00pm in the Village Hall