

Oving with
Pitchcott
Newsletter



February 2006

MARCH 2006 CONTRIBUTIONS

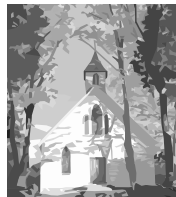
Please let me have contributions for the
March newsletter
by Friday 10th February

Many thanks, Valerie Adams,
12 The Pightle, Oving 640296
Email:- valadams@waitrose.com

Methodist Services	
05-Feb	Revd. A Varker
12-Feb	At Parish Church
19-Feb	Mr D. Neville
26-Feb	At Parish Church

Sunday School - February

Sunday School will be held on the
12th and 26th February at the
Parish Church between 11.00 and 12.00.
All children between the ages of
5 – 11 are welcome.



If you would like more information then
please contact Jeremy Shields on 641020.

**My apologies
for the omission
of the
Schorne Team Rota
this month
as it missed the
deadline for printing**

A good walk in the Country

*If you fancy fresh air and healthy exercise every now and then why not
join us on the first Friday of each month for a good walk and a pub lunch.*

*We'll pick a different walk of around 6 miles each month, ending at a
pub, but suggestions would always be welcome*

The next walk will be on Friday 3rd January

*If you're interested phone Jack or Mary on 641738 or email
j.peeters@btinternet.com*

Glass collection day in February is Wed 8th

Dear Diary...

With the coming of dawn on New years day a certain melancholia settles and I set to thinking deep thoughts : *'how far have my fortunes and misfortunes over the past year been shaped by my own actions and how far have they been shaped by world events or things outside my control? How far have the hopes I set out with last January been realised? What hopes have I got for the coming year?'*

Most of us will have a crisp new dairy with its blank pages all waiting to be filled – but what will fill them I wonder? Some of those pages will be filled by joyous things of our choosing and other pages will be filled for us as the tidal waves of world events reach out and touch us. And then there's just the ills and accidents of everyday living – how will they disrupt our personal organisers? What waits for us as we turn those pages of this coming year of our lives? Because actually we are not as in control of the diary of our lives as we like to think we are.

Someone or something will reach out and rip some of those pages from us and lead us in directions we didn't want to go – separate us from people we don't want to loose – block the paths we want to take. There is no certainty about New Year in spite of the confidence of our NY resolutions.

Of course, Jesus too lived his life in exactly the same way as we do and spent his life being at the mercy of others and of world events and met a sticky end. On the face of it, the benefits of becoming a Christian wouldn't seem desperately attractive because it doesn't seem to offer to make a significant difference! And yet it makes all the difference in the world. The Christian hope is a realistic one – Christianity is not some sort of fantasy where God protects and heals us from all our ills or isolates us from world events– despite what some of the more enthusiastic branches of the church will tell you! But it makes all the difference in the world to Christians that God is with us in every page of the diary of our lives, good or bad, planned our unplanned. We believe God is with us and dwells in us and that that makes all the difference - although it's very hard to see sometimes!

And so may God be in the diary of the pages of your life as they unfold for you in 2006.

Winter Blessings Revd Andy Bell

Green Scene: The CO2 diet for 2006

The new year has just begun as I sit down to write this article. I am listening to a radio discussion on air transport with the airline spokesperson and the environmentalist poles apart. It is tempting to buy cheap flights, though most people recognise the harm that air travel causes in terms of carbon dioxide production and noise pollution. To live in a more environmentally sustainable way, you don't have to do without, but you do have to go for moderation and adjustment. Many changes you can make will benefit your fitness and your wallet. On average each one of us creates 11 tons of CO2 a year. You can offset some of this CO2 by planting trees and investing in renewable energy projects. If you go to www.climatecare.co.uk you can calculate how much CO2 you have produced by a particular flight or from driving 4000 miles and invest in projects to offset your CO2 emissions. In 2006, try a UK holiday or go to mainland Europe by Eurostar instead of flying.

Many of us will have put on a little weight over Christmas and walking or cycling to nearby locations is a great way to get fitter and shed the pounds. A short journey by car produces a disproportionate amount of CO2. SUVs/4WDs seriously damage the health of the planet. I find it difficult to comprehend why going shopping in a tank that guzzles loads of fuel, is difficult to park and expensive to run, appears so cool. Also slow down when driving – a car going at 50mph uses 30% less fuel than a car going at 70mph.

Try to buy food grown in the UK. The average meal travels 1000 miles before it reaches your plate. It doesn't make sense to buy apples flown from New Zealand when we produce our own excellent apples. UK organic food uses less energy intensive methods and has higher animal welfare standards. Your 'carbon diet' could include growing your own vegetables – potatoes are an easy starter crop. If you buy locally grown food it amounts to eating seasonally, supporting the local economy and reducing transport miles. Local fruit and vegetables are frequently tastier and fresher than an overseas equivalent.

With your own domestic electricity remember to turn off unnecessary lights and don't leave your computer, TV etc on stand-by. "If you are not in the room, turn the lights off". Replace your most used bulbs (those not on a dimmer) with an energy saving light bulb. They last 10 times as long as a normal light bulb but only use a fifth of the energy. Finally switch your energy supplier to a company that buys its energy from a renewable source. The price is similar, but you will be supporting renewable energy projects e.g. Ecotricity Tel: 0800 0326100 Good Energy 0845 4561640.

And finally.... decline plastic bags at shops and take your own reusable bags. Every person in the UK uses up to 134 plastic bags a year and they end up sitting in a landfill producing tons of methane gas and decaying very, very slowly over 500 years!

Rachel Gershon – Aylesbury Vale Friends of the Earth
Tel: 01296 640967 Email: info@avfoe.org.uk

Coffee morning

Pam Heeley would like to start an informal coffee morning once a month starting on Friday 24th February

If you would like to join in please call 01296 640158

The venue will be No 17 The Pightle from 10-12:00am

Whitchurch and Oving
Parents and Toddlers
(Babies Welcome Too)
Every Wednesday
British Legion Hall
10am - 12pm,
Oving Road, Whitchurch
£2.00
Tel. Jenny on 641513
or Zantie on 640427

Whitchurch and Oving Youth Club
Dates for opening until March 2006
February – 10th + 24th
March – 10th + 24th
If you would like to know more
Please ring Neil on 640225

Month	Book Title	Venues
02-Feb	Mrs Kimble Jennifer Haigh	Pam Peartree
02-Mar	Property Valerie Martin	Ann Rowsell
06-Apr	Kathy Reichs	Kit 14 The Pightle
Contact Jo Scott - Church View, Hardwick. Tel: 641644 Newcomers welcome Meet 8:00pm		

LADIES NIGHT

(Quilting, stitching, knitting,
whatever takes your fancy)

Or just come for a chat

The next meeting will be on
Wed. 8th February at

7:30 pm

Newcomers welcome.

Call Val on 640296 for info

Carol Singing

Our annual carol singing around the village was well supported by children and adults, and we collected the wonderful sum of £197.

This has been shared between The Children's Society and The National Children's Homes. Thank you to all who sang and to all who gave so generously.

Church News

Dates for your diary – oncoming events for 2006

Sat 25 th March	Plants, cakes, coffees/teas for Mothering Sunday 26 th
Fri 19 th May	Germaine male voice choir with refreshments.
Fri 30 th Jun	Church fête. More information to come

DOG FOULING

Complaints have been made with respect to incidences of dog fouling in the vicinity of the Church.

There has also been a report of a dog being allowed out unescorted.

In the interest of the community and health and safety in our village would all dog owners please ensure that their dogs are only allowed out on a lead and that any mess is collected and disposed of in the doggy bins around the village.

THE FRIENDS OF WHITCHURCH SURGERY

The Annual General Meeting will be held at
10.00 am Saturday, 11th February 2006
at Whitchurch Surgery,
Oving Road, Whitchurch.
Everyone is welcome –
please come along, enjoy a cup of coffee,
and see items bought during the past year.

Outside at school...

Outside at school I hear children slipping on the cold ice
Outside at school I hear frosty wind howling.
Outside at school I hear frosted leaves dancing in the freezing wind.
Outside at school I hear children rushing into school to get their hat and gloves and scarves.
Outside at school I see ruby red chest robins looking for food.
Outside at school I see children skidding across the ice
Outside at school I see trees with a sparkly white coat on
Outside at school I see children making angels in the snow.
Outside at school I feel the cold freezing wind gliding through my body.
Outside at school I feel glittering, frosty snowflakes dancing on my head.
Outside at school I feel wind swirling around me like a whirlwind so I hug myself tight
Outside at school I feel the cold frosty wind in my face
By Amy Jones (Year 2)



An Open Invitation for Potential Volunteers & Supporters



Sunday 5th February 2006, 3pm at Woodrow High House, Amersham

Activenture has run residential activity weeks for disabled/special needs young people for 30 years in Sussex, and after successful trials at Woodrow High House, Cherry Lane, Woodrow, Amersham, we are pleased to expand our operation to your area. The weeks are conducted during school holidays, and are only made possible by the hundreds of volunteers of all ages playing their part.

We have the following volunteer opportunities available: **Residential Helpers** (aged 14+ and adults), **Qualified Nurses, Waking Night Staff** (aged 18+, for the occasional night), **Fundraising Team Members**. Please note that we fund the accommodation, meal and activity costs for all volunteers staying with us. No previous experience is required as training will be provided.

If you would like to find out more about these opportunities, please come and meet us. We will give a short introduction to Activenture, a brief tour of the house, and would be pleased to answer your questions.

For further information contact: Les Pond on 01342 828218 (les@hindleap.com)

Visit our web site www.londonyouth.org.uk/activenture

OVING PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met on 10th January and discussed the following key items. Formal minutes, when agreed, can be found on the website at www.oving.org.

BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL: The meeting was addressed by the BCC local member Quintin Ing-Chambers who highlighted a number of county wide issues which may impact on local services. The most significant related to the budget challenges faced for the next financial year which meant that many services were likely to be impacted adversely. Mr Ing-Chambers also debated with the council the forthcoming traffic problems on the A413 at Watermead and the Horse and Jockey roundabout. The council made it clear to Mr. Ing -Chambers that there had been extremely poor liaison on this matter and that the implications of significantly more traffic on the Whitchurch / Waddesdon road had not been adequately taken into account. It is hoped that a temporary traffic order introducing the proposed lower speed limits on this road will be enacted ASAP, given the rise in vehicle numbers on this road during rush hours and Mr. Ing-Chambers committed to following this matter up, prior to the public meeting to be held at Watermead Parish Hall on the 19th January. The council brought to the attention of Mr. Ing-Chambers the slowness of response of BCC in dealing with routine matters which he agreed to take up on our behalf.

FINANCE: The meeting discussed the projected outturn for this financial year against the original budget together with proposals for the budget for 2006/7. This years spend will be around £13329 funded by an income of £14024 of which £9500 is the precept charged to Oving households. The income is supplemented by a carry forward from the previous year, vat reclaimed and various other items. The budgeted expenditure for the next financial year was proposed to be £15550. This sum allows for covering the costs of a clerk, maintaining the village amenities to the standard expected and providing enough funds to improve the street lighting when defective, which given its age is an ever occurring problem. Additionally, in keeping with everyone, energy costs have doubled and this has a material impact. The Expenditure is planned to be funded from a precept of £12500 which is higher than previous years due to a lower carry forward into this coming year. Various other items contribute to an overall income to match the expenses.

Whilst it is recognized that the precept is seeing a material increase, this needs to be put into context. The average house will pay this year just £46.36 for the Parish Council activity. Less than a pound per house per week. Next year the increase will add a further £15 per property each year taking the total cost of OPC to each household in 2006/7 to £61 or £1.17 a week.

The council considered the proposal carefully, noted that it was average for a village of its size and similar amenities in the Vale and felt a prudent approach must be taken. It agreed the precept and budget plan for the next financial year.

PAVILION IMPROVEMENT: The council took a verbal update on the background work, which is continuing to ascertain likely costs of improvement. It is anticipated that a full set of options and costs will be available for consideration by the working group at its meeting on the 6th Feb. in the reading room.

A number of miscellaneous items were dealt with including consideration of planning applications which the council did not object to.

DATES FOR THE DIARY: The Pavilion Working Group 6th Feb. The Parish Council meetings will be, 7th March, 9th May (AGM), 11th July, 11th September and 7th November. The Annual Village meeting will be 11th May. The REC ground committee meeting will be on the 24th April and the 19th September. All meetings in the Reading Room at 8.00pm unless otherwise notified.

Ambrose McGinn
Chairman
Oving Parish Council

ROTAS					
	05-Feb	12-Feb	19-Feb	26-Feb	05-Mar
11.00 am	Christingle Family Service		Family Communion		Mothering Sunday Family Service
Sidesmen	D.Fagg C.Jenner	J.Brunswick S.Berriman	R.Firth N.Shields	D.Midwinter H.Bowen	C.Roberts T.Baker
Readers at 6.00pm	United at Chapel D.Midwinter	G.Ponsford 1 Corinthian 9 v24-27	United at Chapel P.Bowen	M.Ponsford 2 Kings 2, v1-12 J.Brunswick Mark 9 v2-9	United at Chapel E.Corbett
Chancel	J.Brunswick	M.Hodges	M.Hodges	N.Law	N.Law
Nave	L.Watson	S.Berriman	H.Fone	D.Hilton-Jones	J.Smith
Path and Bins	A.McGinn	R.Smith	P.Goss	S.Taylor	E.Watson