

Oving with
Pitchcott
Newsletter



June 2006

Web address : www.oving.org

BIBLE STUDY

There will be a further Bible Study led by Revd. Andy Bell on the four Mondays in June. It will be at Heather and Paul Bowen's house, 10 The Pightle, Oving at 7:45 for 8:00pm.

FRIENDS OF WHITCHURCH SURGERY

Thank you to everybody who entered the "Guess the mileage on the 1932 Alvis motor car" at the May Feast. This was a great success bringing in £160 for the funds, together with £76 from our stall. The speedometer read 9,258 miles. The winner, Anne Jones, received a magnum of "fizz", the runner-up was Sheila Aubrey, and the under-18 prize was won by Jessica Rider.

Our next event, date to be announced later, will be cream teas at Hardwick Place. We shall look forward to seeing you then.

MOTHERING SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING

**(This should have gone into the May issue
but the editor had a silver hair moment, sorry)**

It was most encouraging to see so many people enjoying themselves at the Mothering Sunday coffee morning.

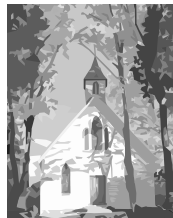
The Church became a happy bustling venue for cakes, flowers, cards and coffees.

Thank you to everyone who supported this event and helped raise £200 but especially to Caroline Jenner & Sharon Larman for all their marvellous efforts

Sunday School - June

**Sunday School will be held on the 25th June 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.**

**OVING TENNIS CLUB
WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS**
Group and individual coaching for
all ages
Small coaching groups for children
A friendly welcome at club
sessions
League tennis and club
tournaments
Very reasonable annual
subscription

For further information contact
Andrew Doncaster 01296 670252

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 2nd June

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

Oving Book Club		
Month	Book Title	Venues
08-Jun	The Farm Richard Benson	Jo Scott Church View, Hardwick
Contact Jo Scott - Church View, Hardwick. Tel: 641644 Newcomers wel- come Meet 8:00pm		

JULY 2006 CONTRIBUTIONS

Please let me have contributions for the
July newsletter
by Monday 12th June

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

**22 MILLION PEOPLE IN THE
UK VOLUNTEER**

Come and see what's available at
Vale Volunteers
Volunteers' Week Drop In
1st & 2nd June

8a Temple Square,
Aylesbury HP20 2QH
We have 600 opportunities
From Dog Walkers to Disc
Jockeys

*You'll be amazed at what
you can do!*

LADIES NIGHT

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

Or just come for a chat

The next meeting will be on
Wed. 14th June at 7:30 pm

Newcomers welcome.

Call Val on 640296 for info

Green Scene: Throwing the bath water out

This morning I tried to throw the contents of last night's bath from the upstairs window into a wheelie bin. I thought, why waste all that water when I could water my plants with it. It was a comical sight as the task was more difficult than anticipated and I gave the car a bit of wash as well as the driveway. I then tried to move a very heavy wheelie bin over cobble stones to the back of the house and realised why the idea was one of my less good ones! After four attempts, I have at last got through to the AVDC/Blackwall phone number to order more water butts Tel: 08701 646012 with an 8-12 week wait. These seem the best deal with stand and diverter kit included (£34.95 for 190 litre, £29.95 for 100 litre).

Obviously the challenge is to use and need less water. We use on average about 135 litres of water per person per day. The average person in the developing world uses around 10 litres. To complicate the picture, we are polluting our water sources. Apart from farm and industrial pollution, our domestic cleaning obsession is doing a great deal of damage. Chemical cleaning products cause algal blooms and pollute waterways and marine ecosystems. Also, as more of Aylesbury's green field sites are built on, there will be a faster run-off which will lower the recharge of groundwater.

If you want to try and reduce your pollution of water use biodegradable cleaning products. Apart from the many brands of eco-cleaners on the market, you can also clean a lot of things with lemon juice, bicarbonate of soda (you can buy large containers in a chemist) and vinegar. Pour half a cupful of vinegar into the toilet and leave overnight to remove limescale or dilute to wipe down surfaces. Sprinkle bicarb on items and scrub or dilute in water for soaking grimy clothes.

Reducing your water consumption centres around the way you wash and clean. A shower uses less water than a bath providing it's quick and not a power shower. Obviously a relaxing bath is a nice treat to be enjoyed every so often. If washing up in the kitchen sink, use a washing up bowl and chuck the water over your plants or store. Even when washing food or draining cooked vegetables, pasta etc put a bowl in the sink. You can also fix a water butt to your grey water drainpipes that come from sinks, showers and baths. This water could be used for washing the car, tools, watering non-edible plants etc.

For the delicate minded stop reading now. Flushing the toilet uses up to 9 litres of water depending on the age of the cistern. Dual flush mechanisms can save more than half the water used in flushing. As I have said before, the Australians know a bit about saving water. Their toilet tip is: 'If it's brown flush it down; if it's yellow let it mellow'. You can even go and spend a penny on your compost heap; pee is an excellent compost activator. Excuse the earthiness of these suggestions, but you will save water and reduce your water bill.

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

Polly's New Dolly

There once was a girl named Polly,
Who for Christmas hung up lots of holly,
The family came round,
And rolled on the ground,
Then for Christmas she got a new dolly!
By Oliver Sayer
Year 4

Pat's Cat

There once was a girl named Pat,
Who for Christmas received a new cat,
The cat crossed the road,
Ran over a toad,
So that was the end of that!
By Rebecca Rodnight
Year 4

The short fat boy

There once was a short fat boy,
Who swallowed a talking toy,
He drank some ale,
His face went pale,
And his brother laughed in joy!
By Andrew Bowen
Year 4

Fred's Bread

There was a young boy called Fred,
Who only ever ate brown bread,
He ate and ate,
Then licked his plate,
Now he feels funny in the head!
By Tilly Bailey
Year 4

**Limericks
by children
from
Whitchurch
Combined
School**

Do you need a Babysitter?
Call:

Annelise Waldron	641656
Rachel Williams	641159
Hayley Parrott	641472
Rachael Watson	641796
John Watson	641796
Jonathon Roberts	640511

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

MINUTES OF THE O Ving PAVILION WORKING PARTY MEETING
Monday 24th April 2006

Chairman Ambrose McGinn Oving Parish Council (OPC)

Attendees

Roger Ball OPC and Rec ground sub cmte Chairman

Roger Hawkins, John Palmer, Jack Peeters,

David Smith, Jason Gore, Paul Brett

Apologies Paul Bowen, Stuart Nicholls, Mark Ryan, Susie Hawkins,
Philip Shuffill Oving FC

Aim of meeting:

To prepare for presentation to Village meeting on 11th May.

Key discussion points:

- Roger Hawkins presented and the meeting discussed with Paul Brett's professional input the specification of the building. Further design details discussed and design considerations taken into account. For the presentation a number of points to be clarified and options offered for debate.
- A review of a draft presentation by Ambrose McGinn to the village took place and inputs and amendments made by all.
- It was accepted that the proposal was just that – a proposal - and that various unresolved issues did not prevent a full and meaningful presentation to the village as they were not in themselves material. Post presentation a number of elements could be refined with meaningful input from residents.
- Everyone hoped for a reasonable turnout from the village for what would be an important village meeting on the 11th May. The aim is to update on village activity from the parish council and then present Pavilion proposals for debate and discussion. Ambrose to encourage attendance.
- Action points:
 - RH/B to further discuss specification
 - A.McGinn to write to all residents to encourage attendance.
 - Jason Gore to assist in preparation of presentation materials

ROAD CLOSURE

As you may all be aware already the road from the crossroads towards Oving (Blackgrove Road) was closed for 19 days from the 8th May to allow for carriageway reaper works. It will also be closed for a further 14 weeks from the 14th August to allow for the reconstruction of the bridge embankments.

GARDEN FARM: SPRING

Well Easter came and went in a flash – and as usual I'm behind on my self-imposed regime. But I am supposed to be enjoying this so I just don't care – deadlines are for missing!

The exciting part was going to Thrift Farm just before the Easter weekend. It was a wet day so visitor numbers were down. We toured all the chickens looking at varieties – youngest son decided he wanted a white chicken and chose a Dorking cross – but there were none for sale. We saw lambs and pigs and pygmy goats. In the hatching house you can see all the shapes, sizes and colours of eggs matched up against the breeds – the blue eggs look fantastic. We bought some goose & duck eggs. I can report that one goose egg makes a big omelette!

I'd asked Sally (head chicken keeper) for some Scots Dumpies – and she had three waiting for me. Two hens and a cockerel! They are one of the rarest breeds in the UK and one of only two native Scottish breeds. They are a pure black although in sunlight the plumage has a green/violet sheen. The eggs are almost white.

It took about two weeks for all the old hens (Doris, Penny & Bob – the confused chicken) to settle down with Harris (the rooster), Skye & Rhum. The pecking order has been established – Rhum is bottom rung, Harris is top. He's quite protective of his girls and occasionally has a go at me when I let them out in the morning. The new girls lay about 3 or 4 eggs a week (the brownies lay 1 a day virtually every day) so we now have a surfeit of eggs and I've taken to selling them in the office (one free sample lead to repeat orders for the eggs with big bright yellow yolks).

My hives have arrived and been built and painted. I've been slow on getting the bees, partly because the season is late this year (or if you are my age or older the season is back to normal). Anyway they should arrive any day now and with so much blossom and oil seed rape around they will have plenty to keep the busy.

I went to the BBKA Spring Convention at Stoneleigh with youngest son in late April – mostly because it is one of the few times all the suppliers compete with each other and you can buy equipment at good prices. I was optimistic and bought a gross of honey jars!

The fencing for the veg plot has proved to be a problem – I found a willow hurdle company online with good products and great prices. Locally I have seen 6' x 4' hurdles at £50-60 – online they were £27-35. However the first company in Somerset couldn't deliver so I found a company in Cornwall that could and in the end the hurdles including delivery cost £37 each. I have just started installing them around the veg plot to keep the wind off and larger animals out.

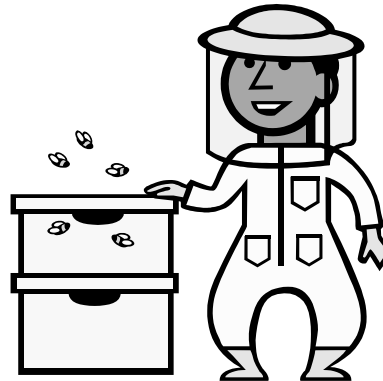
Talking of which, the newly tilled soil has sprung to life – mostly with nettles! I'm keeping them at bay and have planted all the seed potatoes – a total of 80 potatoes. The onions (180 of them!) have already grown quite large and I have some leeks and some seeds to get in.

The water butt is installed near the chickens with a hose up to one of the butts at the house. It is not yet a permanent hose connection but will be shortly – I think it will be a good idea to collect water this year. While I was doing that we reduced the height of the hedge – which has improved the light and the view, and installed an extra piece of fencing above the compost bins where the chickens had threatened to jump into the road.

I've also built some bark paths down the edge of the veg plot. I'm really pleased with them – they look like something the National Trust would build!

I have been reading a book by Ben Law about woodland management (the Permaculture Way). You may know Ben from Grand Designs – he built a house in a wood from timber grown and felled locally and lined the walls with Straw Bales. The woodland management book is superb – I can highly recommend it, and if you have a small piece of woodland you would like to coppice it is a great guide – it has made me want to get my own piece of woodland!

A.P.R.E.
 May 2006
 apre@oving.org



ROTAS					
	04-Jun	11-Jun	18-Jun	25-Jun	02-Jul
11.00 am	Family Service		Family Communion		Family Service
Sidesmen	C.Jenner N.Shields	H.Bowen D.Fagg	R.Firth G.Ponsford	D.Midwinter S.Hodges	C.Roberts K.Ryel
Readers at 6.00pm		R.Parrott		J.Peeters J.Brunswick	
Chancel	J.Brunswick	J.Brunswick	M.Hodges	M.Hodges	K.Couper
Nave	J.Smith	C.Jenner	L.Watson	H.Fone	S.Berriman
Path and Bins	R.Smith	E.Watson	J.Peeters	P.Goss	S.Taylor

Rambling Jack's Marathon

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Three years ago I proudly watched daughter Claire complete the London Marathon on a lovely spring day in 4 hours 38 minutes. It was a memorable occasion with a carnival atmosphere and, in a mad moment, I announced that I would quite like to have a go.

Last year the same daughter was looking for a volunteer to enter the 2006 race and try to raise money for the project she runs helping disadvantaged young people and suddenly I found myself wishing I'd never been so keen.

Following advice in Marathon magazine my first day of training, back in October consisted of four two minute runs with four three minute walks but over the next few weeks the runs got longer the walks got shorter and my legs started hurting. I thought perhaps I should have stuck to rambling. By this time though, I had acquired a few sponsors so I had to keep at it and soon found myself spending Saturday mornings being driven further and further from home, shoved

having to run back. A race I ran home from seemed a very long miles less than a

On the day, fuelled by evening and a hearty thirty five thousand drizzle which lasted proved a godsend, on every corner and an enthusiastic and constantly clapping crowd standing six deep for the whole circuit, including children handing out sweets and fruit to replenish our energy, we were urged forward. For about fifteen miles I can honestly say I was enjoying the experience but gradually the mileposts seemed further apart and the last five felt like fifteen.



out of the car and fortnight before the near Bicester. This way but was still ten marathon.

Pasta the previous breakfast, I joined others in a steady the whole race and

keeping us all cool. With a band on every corner and an enthusiastic and constantly clapping crowd standing six deep for the whole circuit, including children handing out sweets and fruit to replenish our energy, we were urged forward. For about fifteen miles I can honestly say I was enjoying the experience but gradually the mileposts seemed further apart and the last five felt like fifteen.

At the end though the sense of elation easily overcame the tiredness and when presented with a medal it felt like an Olympic gold. What made the experience all the better was the fact that I raised over £1500 for Claire's good cause - thanks in large part to the fantastic generosity of Oving people. Also a special thank you to my coach Roger and running partner Brenda. Claire is not altogether pleased though. I beat her time by two minutes!

Jack

KIT's TRAVELS (continued)

Day two

I am staying in a small, quiet, friendly, original Ecuadorain hotel. Taking things easy today, should be picked up at 5.00p.m. tomorrow to go to Spanish School. Spent morning and early afternoon walking around Quito. A nice, feel-safe, city. I only heard 2 English speaking voices, at a very wide traffic junction. Husband saying to wife 'Don`t go now'! There was a dance festival in the central park. Traditional costumes, lots of women with the bowler hats and babies strapped in shawls on their backs. Unfortunately did not have my camera with me. Number one rule don`t leave base without it in future. Quito is 2820 metres above sea level, mountains loom large around. No symptoms of altitude sickness yet. Temperature about 22c^o, not as hot as you would expect on the Equator, but we are at height. I am enjoying myself, everything going well. Let's see what tomorrow brings.

Day three

This travelling lark certainly hones your IT skills, grappling with a Spanish computer, all by myself. How`s that! Even managed to recharge the Ipod last night. I know all this is overkill, but it is unlikely that I will get access to a computer for the next week or two, as I only have one night between Spanish school and the Galapogos. Hope pussies are behaving, if not, tell them I will stuff them like they do the guinea pigs here.

Arrived in Sangolqui, a town outside Quito for Spanish school. I am sharing a room with Bev and Gillian. The owners of the house we are staying in, Mariagloria and Santiago are very young, in their 20's.

Day four

6.00a.m. breakfast then taken to a local school. Lessons start at 7.30a.m. I am working with Crozeskaya, the English teacher. I have been thrown in at the deep end and there I am at the front of the class teaching children aged 6-10yrs. It is a very large school on a split site with 48 classes. There is an average of 46 children per class. I taught 6 classes and finished at 12.30p.m. I was shattered. After lunch Bev and I had 4hrs intensive Spanish tuition. Tutor Lilia is great, learnt a lot, but brain dead by the end. After dinner watched film Motorcycle Diaries about the journey through South America by Che Guavara as a young man before his Cuba time.

Day five

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After breakfast walked to school, it was a special day, marathon running around the streets. Hot and sunny spent 2hrs cheering everybody on. Only taught 1 lesson, and then all the staff, 50 teachers and I went over to the adjoining school to play bingo. We all paid a dollar and there were 5 prizes to be won. I nearly won the first game. Then they came round with coca cola and a ham roll. Really weird, we were all having a party and the children were in the playground, but it was great fun. Then I went over to the kindergarten and we had a lovely time teaching colours and singing songs; Head shoulders, knees and toes, etc. Finished at 11.30a.m. and went for a walk round Sangolqui market, whole roast suckling pigs, smelt gorgeous. Weather is weird, morning sunny and warm, temp 25c, but clouds over in the afternoons and gets really chilly in the evenings. Town surrounded by mountains. Before dinner they had organised a Salsa dancing lesson for the 5 of us, in the house. A dance teacher came to the house and we rolled back the carpets and shimmied. Dinner then homework, would you believe it? This is turning out to be hard work, 15 sentences using the verbs we had learnt. Came to the conclusion I've left it too late in life.

Day Six

Up at 6.00, school at 7.00 taught 6 classes through to 12.30, hard work but enjoyable. Sunny and hot had our Spanish lesson in the garden for the first 2hrs then the clouds came rolling in. My brain feels like mush, I'm glad I've only signed up for 1 week. At 6.00p.m. 6 of us went for a walk round the town. Typical Sth American town everone on the streets, food stalls, smells, music blaring out etc. Good news I am not going to school tomorrow, there is a teachers meeting for Crozeskaya, but I have to do my homework, write a story in Spanish.

A BIG THANK YOU FROM THE PCC

The P.C.C. would like to thank all the wonderful people who work hard over the year to keep the church open and running smoothly. Without your continual support and committment our village church would not be the success it is. As with all volunteers, you can never have too many so if you feel able to offer a few minutes a week or a month please let us know.

Contact	Linda Ponsford	641560
	Jeremy Shields	641020
	Janet Brunswick	641399

