

Oving with
Pitchcott
Newsletter



June 2007

www.all-saints-oving.org.uk
www.oving.org

JULY 2007
CONTRIBUTIONS



**By 12th
June
please**

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

LADIES NIGHT
(Quilting, stitching, knitting,
whatever takes your fancy)
Or just come for a chat
The next meeting will be on
Wed. 13th June at 7:30 pm
Newcomers welcome.
Call Val on 640296 for info

ROTAS					
	03-Jun	10-Jun	17-Jun	24-Jun	01-Jul
11.00 am	Confirmation Service at Whitchurch		Family Communion		Family Service
Sidesmen		J.Goss H.Bowen	J.Brunswick C.Jenner	D.Midwinter S.Hodges	S.Berriman D.Jones
Readers at 6.00pm		R.Parrott Galations 2, 15-21		P.Corbett 1 Kings 19, 1-15, 19-21 H.Bowen Luke 9, 51-62	
Chancel	K.Couper	M.Hodges	M.Hodges	J.Brunswick	J.Brunswick
Nave	H.Fone	S.Berriman	D.Hilton-Jones	C.Jenner	L.Watson
Path and Bins	D.Smith	J.Peeters	R.Smith	E.Watson	P.Goss

Sunday School - June

Sunday School will be held on the 10th and 24th 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.



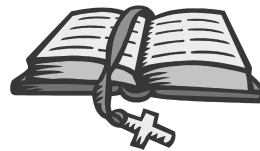
CHURCH NEWS

Our Rogation Service was blessed with dry weather so that we were able to hold most of it outside, finishing at Roy and Janet's where we enjoyed the beautiful view, their lovely garden.....and bacon butties!

The collection for Farm Africa was £112 which represents 14 bee hives. A magnificent result.

Thank you so much to all who gave so generously.

There will be no Family Service at Oving on June 3rd. But we are all invited to be present at the confirmation Service at Whitchurch when Oscar will be confirmed.



BIBLE STUDY

The successful
Oving Bible Study Meetings
will take place again with
four Bible Studies in June
Beginning Monday 4th June
at 7:45 for 8:00pm at
Heather and Paul Bowen's house,
10 The Pightle.
They will be led, as usual, by the
Revd. Andy Bell.

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 1st June

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

Thank you

A big thank you to all those who contributed, in all fundraising events, to the income of the Church during the last year.

Church expenses are ever increasing and the continued support of all concerned is very much appreciated.

Oving with Pitchcott Parochial Church Council

Summarised Receipts and Payments Account for the year 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007

Receipts	£	£
Bank Interest	692.04	
Donations	487.50	
Gift Aid	1,780.75	
Income from	2,684.80	
Income from	942.00	
Income from	<u>7,867.52</u>	
		<u>14,454.61</u>
Payments		
Church Floor	250.87	
Events Expense	401.33	
Fire Safety	76.14	
Grasscutting	168.00	
Insurance	564.45	
Oxford Diocesan Board of Fi-	8,629.00	
Printing of	409.93	
Schorne Team	1,741.50	
Utilities	646.07	
Website	<u>35.25</u>	
		<u>12,922.54</u>



**All Saints Church
Traditional Summer Fete**

**Friday 29th June 6 – 8pm
In the Recreation Ground**

**Children's Pet Show
Teas and cakes
BBQ
Chocolate Fountain**

If you would like more information, have gifts
to donate or would like to lend a hand please
call Tessa Baker on 01296 641301

Garden Farm: Spring into Summer

If you read enough gardening books you will end up believing that there is only one, or maybe two, ways to do things properly. If like me you find there is never enough time to do all that you want, you end up making compromises. So it is with planting vegetables!

The books tell me I should have done certain jobs by mid-April – I didn't manage it but did them anyway at the end of April. Seeds were planted late – or in some case early, potatoes went in the ground late – or early. Basically I do what I can when I can and by and large the plants seem to sort themselves out.

I did get a helping hand this year by buying some vegetables as “plugs”. This means that I get a set number of ready started plants, at the right time, ready to pot up or plant in the ground. It seems quite common now – I got mine from Dobies. So far I've had cucumbers – which were transferred to pots a few days after arrival, and leeks which are all in a bunch in a pot of compost. I meant to plant the leeks over the holiday weekend and forgot! They'll be in the ground soon.

I've started a lot of seeds – all in trays first and then transferred to pots when they get established. As I don't have a greenhouse they have all been done in a shed – there's not enough light really but they soon grow on quickly when they get planted out. So at various stages of development I now have carrots, parsnips, lettuce, tomatoes, squash, runner beans, mini-cucumber and some house plants – mostly mimosa (the touch sensitive plant – for fun) and celisia (sp?) – Prince of Wales feathers which provide colour.

In the ground are potatoes, onions, chives (from last year – they made it through the mild winter), garlic, celeriac and swiss chard – the last two were presents from a gardening friend in Weedon. So far so good! The dry April made things harder but the rain that started Bank Holiday weekend at the start of May has given everything a growth spurt – including the weeds – time to get active with the hoe.

I've also had my first vegetable harvest of 2007! Hold the fanfare, it was just two leeks left over from last year. In truth they were sitting neglected in a raised bed. As soon as the weather got brighter they put on a growth spurt (they went into the ground very small and very late and survived the winter again because it was so mild. All wrong according to the books but who cares?)

I am pleased to say that the new pear tree has grown leaves and some blossom. Having arrived as a dead stick and gone in the ground a bit crooked, so far it seems none the worse for it.

There is an old bee-keeping saying:

A swarm of bees in May is worth a load of hay;
A swarm of bees in June is worth a silver spoon;
A swarm of bees in July is not worth a fly.

Gathering swarms was a common way to get new bees, now with the virtual extinction of wild bees we are dependent on other beekeepers for new colonies of bees. The old saying says nothing of a swarm in April – yet we had one! With work I wasn't able to do anything about it – it appeared one afternoon in a bush and by the next evening had gone – who knows where? I checked my hives – one is thriving still, one is looking less active, but neither seemed to missing bees so I don't know where they came from!

You will recall that I have had 3 gallons of cider in the loft in the garage – waiting for the spring fermentation which converts it from alcoholic apple juice into real cider. This happens when there is a sustained daytime temperature above 15°C. Well we easily achieved that towards the end of April and the evidence of “malo-lactic” fermentation was clear – a thin layer of bubbly froth appeared. So now it's ready to be bottled, and of course drunk. I'll report next month if I can still type!

A.P.R.E.

May 2007

apre@oving.org

Find your 'Perfect Volunteering Partner'

If you have been thinking about volunteering for ages, but aren't quite sure what to do, or which charity to support, then this is a fun way to get started.

Volunteering can help you as well as the projects you support, so why not give it a try?

Just book on our speed matching session and give 20 local Charities 3 minutes each to impress you. Anyone already familiar with the idea of speed dating will know how this works. If it's a new idea to you, please don't worry, because help will be on hand.

We guarantee there will be something of interest for you - no matter what your interests, passions or time commitments.

Will you have to sign up to volunteer on the day?

Not necessarily. Taking on a voluntary job is not something to rush. Our event is a fun way of getting people interested. We will help you to make your decisions – maybe on the day, or maybe a while later once you have had time to think about it.

Green Scene: Tackling climate change in your community

Even if the Government managed to produce a good Climate Change Bill (it is currently in draft form), it would also need each and every individual to change their behaviour to affect the carbon footprint of the UK. A bottom up approach is being taken by whole communities in the UK. These communities are not your sandal wearing dreadlock communes, they are ordinary villages. Chew Magna near Bristol, Blisland in Cornwall, Harlow North near Chester, Belstone on Dartmoor and Ashton Hayes near the Welsh border have all decided to tackle climate change.

Last year a couple of villagers in Chew Magna set up a project called GoZero. The aim was to turn the village into a zero-waste village. Zero Waste is not a concept, it is a real way of living and operating that seeks to reduce, re-use and design out waste. It has been signed up to by whole businesses, cities and countries around the world e.g. Canberra, Toronto, the state of California and New Zealand.

In Chew Magna, residents did home energy audits for everyone in the village, restored the local watermill with eco-materials and turned it into a zero carbon base for the project. They produced a local food guide, organised a car-share scheme and negotiated with the local council for better public transport. To find out more go to www.gozero.org.uk and www.goingcarbonneutral.co.uk

You may have heard about a family on the edge of Whitchurch, Bucks who have applied for planning permission to erect a wind turbine. Having visited this windy site and heard that the turbine would not even be overlooked by any dwelling or seen from Whitchurch High Street, I cannot fathom why anyone would object to someone spending a considerable sum of money to reduce the carbon footprint of their new home. Would residents and parish councils who have raised concerns prefer a series of pylons across this beautiful landscape instead of a landmark of sustainable energy on a hill side? Wind turbines are dotted across many countries on the continent and no one even raises an eyebrow.

Last year, the village of Stewkley lost its library, weekly GP visit and post office in one go. If we are to tackle climate change and accessibility, we have to have services nearby. Modern technology allows many of us to work from home – could you work at least one day a week from home? I am optimistic that village life will come full circle. Villagers will find a way to bring back local services and shops and work closer to home.

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

KIT's TRAVELS (continued)

Day forty seven

The train journey to Macchu Pichu was really good. Pullman type coaches, attendants with food and papers. The route followed the river, which fed from the Andes soon became a swirling torrent. I was met at the station at Aqua's Calientes and taken to my hotel. Outside my window roared yet another river, the noise was deafening. This little village has grown because of Macchu Pichu. It is a tourist trap, small hotels craft shops and hot springs. The main street is the railway track served by the local's train, tourists are not allowed to travel on it. I watched it pull in and disgorge the passengers, all in national dress, piled high with goods wrapped in shawls across their backs. For dinner, I found a local non-tourist restaurant. Not many diners, just a German couple and myself. After they left, the owner shut the premises and invited me to join the family and staff for the rest of the evening, seated on sofas around an open wood fire. It was amazing; I couldn't imagine that happening in the UK.

Day forty eight

Up at 5:00am. to catch the bus up to Macchu Piichu, jammed packed with tourists. I waited at the end of the trail for the group, Paul and Rob were the first to finish and Anna was the first girl. It was raining and as they all completed they looked like drowned rats, but everybody made it in one piece. We all tucked into bacon rolls and dried off. Then Caesar their guide took us into the ancient site. This is one of the wonders of the ancient world, high in the Andes with the mist swirling, it made the hairs on the back of your neck stand up. How this settlement was ever built, defies the imagination, and you can understand why this was a special place for the Incas. (This is a place for your someday list). Six hours later we caught the bus back down to Aqua's Calientes for a meal, before the return journey to Cusco. However, because it had been raining so hard there had been a landslide on the track and no trains could run. Unlike British Rail work gangs were mustered and five hours later the track was cleared. The train was packed when we left. The Inca Trail porters were allowed to get on the tourist train and they sat or slept on the floor. We all emerged at Ollantaytambo in the dark, where the railway company had organized mini-buses to get us back to Cusco. We arrived at 10:00pm. Quick shower as we all were due at a restaurant for a celebratory meal. It was cuy on the menu (roasted guinea pig, to you) It was not nice, (I will not be serving that on Christmas or New Years Eve). Most of the group then went on to a club, I went to bed, but not for long. Woke up at 5:00am and was violently sick, the guinea pig bites back.

To be continued