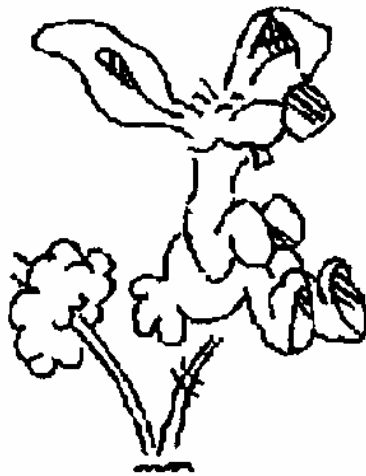


Oving with  
Pitchcott  
Newsletter



*March 2008*

[www.all-saints-oving.org.uk](http://www.all-saints-oving.org.uk)

[www.oving.org](http://www.oving.org)

**APRIL 2008**  
**CONTRIBUTIONS**



**By 10th  
March  
please**

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

**LADIES NIGHT**  
Bring along your sewing or  
knitting or whatever else you  
like to do and relax with other  
like minded ladies.

The next meeting will be  
Wed. March 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm  
Newcomers welcome  
Call Val on 640296 for info

<b>ROTAS</b>						
	11:00am	Sidesmen	Readers at 6:00pm	Chancel	Nave	Path and bins
02-Mar	Mothering Sunday Family Ser- vice	D.Jones T.Baker		M.Hodges	C.Jenner	D.Goss
09-Mar		S.Berriman S.Hodges	T.Cleaver	J.Brunswick	L.Watson	A.McGinn
16-Mar	Family Communion	C.Roberts K.Ryle		J.Brunswick	J.Smith	S.Taylor
23-Mar	Easter Day Family Communion	J.Brunswick R.Goss		K.Couper	D.Hilton- Jones	P.Berriman
30-Mar		H.Bowen D.Midwinter	P.Corbett H.Bowen	K.Couper	S.Berriman	D.Smith
06-Apr	Family Service	S.Larman J.Goss		N.Law	H.Fone	P.Goss

**Sunday School - March**

Sunday School will be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> March.  
at the Parish Church between 11.00 and 12.00am.  
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

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

<b>Holy Week 2007</b>			
<b>All Services at Holy Cross and St Mary Quainton</b>			
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	7.30pm	Holy Communion	AB
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	7.30pm	Holy Communion	PDM+JB
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	7.30pm	Holy Communion	LW
Maundy Thursday	7.30pm	Holy Communion with Hymns	DM+PJM
Good Friday	12.00 noon	Three Hour Devotion	DM
Easter Day	7.00am	The Easter Liturgy (Followed by breakfast)	PDM

Our Mothering Sunday Service is on March 2nd at 11:00am

On Good Friday from 12:00—3:00pm there will be a service at Whitchurch Parish Church. Our own Church will be open at that time for private prayer and meditation. At 3:00pm there will be a special service for children.

Easter Day is March 23rd when we will celebrate with Family Communion.

Evensong which is usually held on the 4th Sunday of the month will be on the 30th at 6:00pm

Last year we had a very successful Rogation service which we hope to repeat this year. It will be on May 4th.

### THE SCHORNE TEAM WEB SITE

The Schorne Team web site has been updated. As you will see, there's still work to be completed and additions to make which will progress over the next weeks and months. The site can be found at:

[www.schorneteam.co.uk](http://www.schorneteam.co.uk)

If you have any content to include on the site, or any feedback on what's currently there, please let me know.

Rev'd Paul Mansell  
Assistant Curate, Schorne Team

**OVING PAVILION PROJECT  
FUNDING GROUP MEETING NO 3  
11.02.08 AT 7PM IN THE READING ROOM**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Roger Ball – Chairman	None
David Smith	
Roger Hawkins	
Stephen Stokes	

**1. Note of Funding Group Meeting No 2 on 07.01.08**

This Note was approved by all attendees before circulation in the February Parish Newsletter, on the Oving Village Web-site and on the Notice Board.

**2. Banking arrangements**

Roger B has taken advice from the Clerk to Oving Parish Council about opening bank accounts for the pavilion project. New accounts will need to be authorised by the Parish Council at their next meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> March. The Parish Council will also need to consider how funds will be used if the pavilion project does not go ahead. **Roger B** will ensure these items are on the agenda.

**3. Race Night (29.03.08)**

3.1 Quainton Village Hall has now been booked for 29<sup>th</sup> March and contact has been made with Quainton Football Club about providing the kit for the races.

3.2 Ticket sales have commenced, and it seems likely that the original print run of 50 will all be sold. **David** will therefore arrange for a further 50 tickets to be printed, as a maximum of 100 is considered appropriate.

3.3 Sponsorship of £100 per race has now been secured for all six races.

3.4 Louise Davies will provide the catering, while David has applied for the necessary alcohol licence.

3.5 **David and Roger H** will arrange the printing of the programme, and the staffing requirements for the night.

**4. Other planned events**

4.1 The Oving Villages Cup Final will take place on Easter Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> March, five days before the Race Night. Both David and Roger B have spoken to members of the Villages Cup Committee, and there is no objection to fund-raising at the event. However, it was agreed that there is insufficient time to arrange a full catering facility, although the sale of snacks and soft drinks could be organised. **David** agreed to speak to Tony Skeggs, the Villages Cup Secretary to suggest that Oving Football Club may wish to help with fund-raising at this event.

4.2 Clive and Maxine Myatt at Church Farm have offered to organise a nature quiz with cream teas at the farm in the summer. It was felt that we may be able to combine this event with another fund-raising activity to maximise the attraction of residents of surrounding villages to Oving. **David** agreed to speak to Clive and Maxine about the arrangements and a possible date.

4.3 Roger H has now agreed with David Hayle, the landlord of the Black Boy, that a Book Sale will be held at the pub on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May. Food will be available and proceeds will be shared with Macmillan Nurses. **Stephen** will seek to publicise this event in the local media.

4.4 Stuart Nicholls, a Parish Councillor, has advised the Group that Aylesbury Rotary Club have about 30 dart boards available for hire if we wish to arrange a sponsored darts marathon. It was agreed that we would keep this in mind for fund-raising during the winter months.

4.5 Roger H reported that he has spoken to the publishers of the Guinness Book of Records, and they are preparing detailed guide-lines for the record-breaking attempt at the Bucks County Show. Proceeds are likely to be shared 50/50 with the Show organisers.

4.6 No further progress has been made regarding the car-boot sale.

#### **5. Aylesbury Vale Funding Day (11.03.08)**

**Roger B** has registered his intention to attend this event, and is making appointments to speak to WREN (Waste Recycling), AVDC and Bucks Community Action. He is also co-ordinating an entry for the WRG Communities Challenge organised by WREN.

#### **6. Date of next Meeting**

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2008 at 7pm in the Reading Room.

#### **CHURCH PLANT SALE**

The Church Plant Sale will take place on Saturday 19th April on the Village Green as previous.

Those gardeners with plants to donate for sale will be very welcome on the day.

In addition parishioners who have plant pots surplus to their own requirements should leave them in the Church porch or under my car port, for which many thanks.

Phillip Corbett.

#### **GLASS RECYCLING**

Collection date this month is Wed. 5th March

BOOK CLUB – 1 <sup>st</sup> THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH		
DATE	HOST	PHONE NO
March 6th	Radha	641191
April 3rd	Pollie	641721
May 1st	Kit	641694
June 5th	Elaine	641516
July 3rd	Ann M	641322
July 31st	Ann R	641314

New book lovers welcome.  
Reading list details available from anyone in the above list.

***A Good Walk in the Country***  
***TO ALL COUNTRY WALKERS***  
*The March walk will be on 2nd Friday in March (14th)*  
*and not the usual first Friday (7th.)*  
*Assemble in the usual place (The Pightle)*  
*at the usual time (9.30 am).*  
*If in doubt phone 641738.*

***Grendon Rangers Football Club***  
*Grendon Rangers Football Club is looking for yet more players at all age groups, but especially for the youth teams from U6 to U15. We continue to move from strength to strength and are expanding out of our base at Grendon Underwood to also utilise pitches at Brill, Ashendon & Waddesdon. This growth means that we can offer both opportunities for new players at all ages and also a fun way to keep fit and make friends. We want to win, but emphasise the responsibilities & spirit that come from team games. Interested players (& parents) should contact us on [players@grendonrangers.co.uk](mailto:players@grendonrangers.co.uk) or visit our website [www.grendonrangers.co.uk](http://www.grendonrangers.co.uk)*  
 David Evans,  
 Manager U14s & Welfare Officer, Grendon Rangers FC  
 07880 551277 [www.GrendonRangers.co.uk](http://www.GrendonRangers.co.uk)

## Oving Village 'race night'



Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2008

Quinton Memorial Village Hall

Tickets £10 to include supper

7.30pm Bar available. 18+

Proceeds to the Oving Recreation  
Pavilion Fund.

### **FREE INSULATION FOR OVER 70's**

100% grant funded loft and cavity wall insulation is now available to all residents aged 70 years and above. This offer, which became available earlier this year, is made irrespective of your income and savings and whether or not you are in receipt of benefits. In fact, the only requirement is proof of age and name and address.

For most households, insulating has never made better financial sense. Following autumn's record oil prices and surging wholesale gas and electricity prices, insulation could be our last best defence against rising energy bills in 2008.

All homeowners and private tenants qualify for discounted loft and cavity wall insulation. Fully insulating your home could easily reduce your fuel bills by £100 a year. The payback time is typically short and the long term financial and environmental benefits are high.

For more information, contact the Energy Efficiency Advice Centre  
on **0800 512 012**.

## **KIT's TRAVELS (continued)**

### **Day seventy-five**

Set off at 7:30am for a three hour walk to the hanging glacier. The trail was very difficult in parts, scrambling over fallen trees, but it was a beautiful walk through dense forests, trees laden with lichens and ferns, glades that should have had fairies and leprechauns living there. Eventually we arrived at the boulder scree below the glacier, a beautiful sight. We then travelled on to Coyhaque; A small working town, but at least there was a decent supermarket, as I am cooking tomorrow night.

### **Day seventy-six**

Left camp at 7:30am. The desert stretched for a few hundred miles, scenery very different from yesterday. This is scrubland, no trees, barren and the wind constantly blowing. It is a hot wind, searing and burning, and at times difficult to stand up. Whilst I was squatting on a loo stop, the wind blew my toilet roll away and it unravelled and flew over the desert. So somewhere in the Patagonian desert is thirty feet of loo paper. We are travelling to El Chalten. This is in the Los Glaciers National Park, renowned to trekkers and rock climbers the world over. This is the fantastic mountain range, The Fitz Roy, it is evidently a famous postcard scene, and when we were approaching, it was in clear view.

### **Day seventy-seven**

Arrived at El Chalten at 3:00pm. The park ranger station welcomed us and explained all the trails. Seven of the group are setting off at 7:00am to do a fourteen hour trek to visit the glaciers, high in the mountains. There are lots of trails of various grades of difficulty. I intend to do an easy one. The campsite is very good, but after a terrible meal last night, I decided that it was time for another Argentinean steak. Went out for dinner with Beverley and Paul, (they have booked into a hotel.) The steaks were huge and the meal cost 16 pesos, about 3 pounds sterling. More amazing, was that the restaurant we chose, wasn't open when we arrived. We then found we may not have had enough money on us as there were no banks or ATM's, but the owner opened up for us and we found that we had enough for 3 steaks with chips and 3 bottles of wine, that was alright! We then caught up with rest in a local bar, and a long happy night ensued. The weather has changed and it rained and was windy all night.

### **Day seventy-eight**

Kim, my tent buddy left early at 6:00am to walk the longest trek. I slept in until 10:00am, by then everybody had left to do their various treks. Beverly and Paul came back to the truck. It was their cleaning duty. I retired to a local cafe for breakfast and then started out on my trek. A four hour round trip up the mountain to a viewpoint of the glacier and a walk round Lake Capri, I was hoping that the weather would change for the better, but it started to snow, and I began to worry. Yesterday, Beverley got her final joining instructions for the Antarctica trip, and it turns out she and I are sharing a cabin. That should be very interesting for the rest of the passengers, as she is very posh/loud and completely mad, however we get on well and we will have a brilliant time. Beverley is 63yrs old, red streaked hair, very elegant - always looks as if she has stepped out of Vogue Magazine. She is a widow with 2 daughters and lives in central London. Her husband was Lord Annely, and she has lots of anecdotes of social high life in London. So I should have plenty of tales to tell you when I get back.

To be continued

## OVING WILDLIFE

### Peregrine Falcons

I've never been a great fan of the County Council Office tower, to put it mildly, but I have recently heard of at least two individuals who think its excellent; it has become home to a pair of Peregrine Falcons, among Britain's most amazing and skilful birds of prey. Evidently they agree with me that the building is rather like a towering cliff face, but to them it's an ideal nest site. Apparently they sit up there in their eerie and rarely come to ground level. (the birds that is, not the County Council's employees!)

What, I hear you ask, does this have to do with Oving. Well the Falcons have to eat and they dash off from the tower and soar over the surrounding countryside seeking food, usually birds on the wing. On at least two occasions sharp-eyed Oving residents have seen the spectacle of the Peregrine hunting over the southern part of our parish. From its observation position high above its prey, the Peregrine folds its wings back and plunges into a sky dive of tremendous speed and power (up to 180 miles per hour) to strike its subject with a foot armed with a sharp hind claw. At least the victim does not suffer for long.

Peregrines were the Falcons of Kings and Nobles in the middle ages and were protected by royal decree. They had, however been declining in numbers throughout the middle part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, reaching an all time low in the mid 60s. Most people believe that the main reason was the high level of pesticides in seeds digested by the smaller birds on which they feed and that the reduction in pesticide use has allowed them to recover. Farmers, pigeon fanciers and game keepers were also blamed for much of the decline but there is more tolerance now to our raptors and Peregrines are protected by law. We have been fortunate enough in this parish in recent years to see kestrels, sparrow hawks, red kites and buzzards adding interest to our rambling, and now we can add the Peregrine Falcon, thanks to the County Council. (Never thought I'd utter those last five words).

Rambling Jack

Whitchurch & Oving  
Mother & Toddler group  
Wednesdays 10am until 12 noon.  
Legion hall, Oving road.  
1<sup>st</sup> session free then £2 per family  
each subsequent session.  
All welcome! Contact Melanie on  
(01296) 640071



### **Uproar in Wing over the A418**

Imagine hundreds of angry Wing and Rowsham residents fed up with increasing traffic through their villages, cram them into a hall with standing room only and tell them that their longed for bypass has no chance of getting funding for a decade. Then tell the residents that a report commissioned to look into the alternatives to road building showed that a more sustainable package of measures outperformed the bypass, and sparks are sure to fly. This was the “lively” experience I witnessed as I sat on the panel in Wing Parish Hall on the 15<sup>th</sup> January.

The ‘A418 Improvements’ scheme was a large consultation exercise carried out by Bucks CC in 2006 to build dual carriageway roads around Wing and Rowsham. Aylesbury Vale FOE and South Beds FOE commissioned a report by a leading Government transport advisor in 2006 which noted that Bucks CC’s work on the ‘A418 Improvements’ had not adequately considered the alternative non-road building measures. It is a requirement by Government that all scheme promoters consider all options. Friends of the Earth and Bucks CC had called this meeting in Wing to release the findings of a large report on the ‘Alternatives to the A418 Improvements’.

Most unusually South Beds FOE and Bucks CC decided to jointly commission an ‘Alternatives Report’ to see whether other measures would be able to tackle the issues in a more cost-effective manner. This most unusual collaboration meant each party contributing £20,000 (a considerable fundraising undertaking for a voluntary organisation like South Beds FOE).

Tom Cohen from Steer Davis Gleave was the consultant who had the unenviable task of explaining that the dual carriageway scheme came off worse than packages of more sustainable transport measures in terms of meeting the objectives and constraints for the area. The Report concluded that an ‘ambitious’ package, including East West Rail linking Aylesbury to Milton Keynes, a huge improvement in bus services, tackling the school run, work place travel plans, safe cycleways and traffic calming in the villages was better at alleviating traffic, supporting the economy and limiting CO2 emissions.

The options compared in the ‘Alternatives Report’ are:

- Dual carriageway ‘A418 Improvements’ (bypasses around Wing and Rowsham) together with a bypass around Bierton to join the A41 (£130million)
- A single carriageway bypass option around Wing and Rowsham (£35m)
- Three levels of alternatives packages from modest (£12m) to ambitious (£92m). These included walking and cycling facilities, public transport improvement, ‘Smarter Choices’ (personalised travel planning and travel plans) and limited highway and engineering works.
- ‘Do minimum’ option

Each option was then fed into a multi-criteria computer analysis which measured the above options against weighted objectives and constraints and gave a clear audit trail of the decision making process. The objectives and constraints within the Alternatives Report are the same essentially as those of the road scheme, except that unlike the road scheme they include non car accessibility (social inclusion).

This means considering the transport needs of the village residents not just the needs of the A418 corridor. At present many young and elderly people are very isolated in the villages as bus services are poor and many of the rural roads are very unsafe for walking and cycling. The 'A418 Improvements' in their present form would not address these problems and the Alternatives Report is the very first time that ways to fund a better bus service and improve cycling and walking facilities for the area have been examined.

The other objectives of the 'Alternatives Report' included alleviating the negative impact of traffic on settlements on the A418; improving the walking and cycling environment in the villages; reduction of rat running; increasing the predictability of journey times; and assisting Aylesbury's economy. Constraints comprised minimising cost; preserving the landscape; minimising carbon impact; preventing traffic generation; and avoiding harm to other local communities.

The greatest weighting was given to alleviating the negative impacts of traffic along the A418, minimal cost and helping the economy of Aylesbury. With this model different weightings were examined. Even if the constraints were given a very low weighting and alleviation of traffic was given the highest weighting, the ambitious package still came out best.

The study has raised considerable interest at a national level, both for transport practitioners and the Department for Transport. It demonstrates a much clearer and fairer way of making decisions on transport than the present system. It also highlighted that the overall system and means of applying for funding makes the Government favour road building over sustainable transport improvements. The present system of funding makes it very difficult for councils to fund small interventions such as speed limits or cycle bridges unless they are part of a package of alternatives.

There are currently few ways of obtaining sizeable amounts of revenue funding which are pretty essential for more sustainable transport options. This means that where initiatives require year on year investment, particularly for public transport, smarter choice initiatives and maintenance for footways and cycle paths, this money is hard to source, although the Report does make several suggestions

Whilst there may be a very slim chance of a dual carriageway scheme entering the South East Regional Funding Allocation after 2016, there is no promise at all that if the road is built there will be any improvements to the local buses or that cycling could become less dangerous. This failure to incorporate improved walking and cycling facilities at the same time as road building is nowhere more clearly demonstrated than on the new Western Linslade bypass. Wing residents who wish to walk or cycle into Leighton Buzzard have had their village severed by the bypass, because no bridge has been forthcoming despite local campaigns.

So where to now? Bucks CC is committed to doing further modelling work on the Alternatives. They are also lobbying the Government for changes to funding mechanisms. Whatever decision is made by Bucks CC and the South East Regional Assembly, it is clear that Wing and Rowsham residents have to accept that sacrifices have to be made and that not everyone will benefit from any one solution.

To see the Report look on [www.southbedsfoe.co.uk](http://www.southbedsfoe.co.uk) and on the Bucks CC website Rachel Barnett – Aylesbury Vale Friends of the Earth

So here I am, writing my “piece” in February on a sunny Sunday. It’s 13°C outside and I’ve been digging over the ground in my shirt sleeves. There are daffodils flowering – together with crocus, snowdrops, tress coming into bud and a lot of confused wildlife. My brain still thinks it is winter – that I have plenty of time to prepare the ground, trim the hedges, put more paths down and all that other stuff you get to do when nothing is growing.

So since I haven’t really done that much since last month except basic preparatory stuff and I haven’t ordered all my seed potatoes and vegetables, I thought I’d ask a simple question. Could Oving be self sufficient in meat and vegetables? My thinking has been spurred on by the recent television programmes about chicken – Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall and Jamie Oliver both had a go about the ethical treatment of chickens. And on a small piece of land we are pretty much self sufficient in potatoes, onions, runner beans and celery. So just for the sake of discussion, supposing there are 340 people in the village, how much land would you need, and how much produce would you require to be moderately self-sufficient?

This is not fully self-sufficient – but suppose the village could produce 1/3 of its own needs in food how many car journeys would that save? And how much packaging? Of course we have local farmers who (for instance) produce potatoes, but what about other vegetables? Just a thought....

The greenhouse didn’t get done - so definitely this month. I also wanted to move the bee-hives but didn’t so that needs to be done whilst the weather is cold (ha ha). I also need to either build or get cold frames – in fact I’ve been offered one by a friend in Weedon so that would solve the problem.

Interestingly, my chilli pepper plants from last year have started bearing fruit (as it were). They were late to germinate and spent most of the latter part of last year in the kitchen – warm and watered but barren. Now they have started flowering and we have had our first 4 chillis! We also still have some leeks in the ground which seem to be bulking up, and the Swiss Chard has carried over from last year and with the warmer weather has started growing quickly.

I think a degree of re-organisation is also called for – partly to make things easier to access, but also to expand the space I use for vegetables – I tried a huge variety last year but started too late for some. The omens are not good in terms of timing, and the weather did not help last year but I do want to expand my repertoire – particularly because I only managed to grow half a dozen misshapen carrots and two parsnips!

We also acquired another water butt courtesy of freecycle which I need to get plumbed in - although if we have a summer like last year I might not have to worry!

**A.P.R.E**

**February 2008**

**apre@oving.org**

