

Oving with  
Pitchcott  
Newsletter



*October 2008*

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

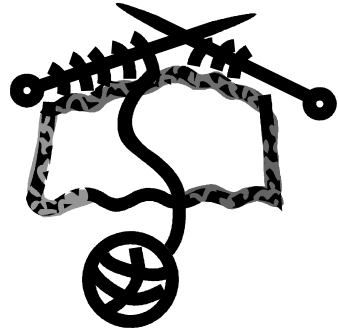
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**NOVEMBER 2008**  
**CONTRIBUTIONS**



**By 10th  
October  
please**

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



**LADIES NIGHT**

First of all I must apologise for not being able to host the monthly meeting in September. A big thank you to Pam Heeley for stepping in and to Lynn Hilston for helping to organise the change of venue.

Lynn has kindly agreed to host the next meeting on Oct 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm at her house and the plan is to agree a rota for future venues. Please bring your diaries with you that night so we can organise it.

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

Newcomers welcome - Call Val on 640296 for info

<b>ROTAS</b>						
	11:00am	Sidesmen	Readers at 6:00pm	Chancel	Nave	Path and bins
05-Oct	Family Service	R.Firth K.Ryle		K.Couper	C.Jenner	D.Smith
12-Oct		S.Berriman D.Midwinter	R.Parrott Phil.Ch 4, 1-9	K.Couper	D.Hilton-Jones	J.Peeters
19-Oct	Family Communion	J.Brunswick K.Hinds		C.Roberts	H.Fone	A.McGinn
26-Oct		R.Goss S.Hodges	P.Corbett Lev.19 v1-2, 15-18 H.Bowen Matt 22 v34-46	C.Roberts	S.Berriman	S.Taylor
02-Nov	Family Service	J.Goss T.Baker		N.Law	L.Watson	P.Berriman

## **A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY .**

November 8<sup>th</sup>

A "Fettling" day, led by David Jones will take place in the Churchyard. The Church is an important part of the village community, so it is hoped that everyone who is interested in the maintenance and upkeep of the churchyard will come. Your help will be much appreciated.

More details next month.

### **THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2008**

The Remembrance day parade will take place in  
Oving this year on 9<sup>th</sup> November.

The Poppy Appeal is the major single source of revenue for the Royal British Legion benevolent fund and each year more people come to the Legion for help and the cost of that help is continually increasing. Daily we see and read of young Servicemen and women employed in peace keeping duties in many parts of the world, often in considerable danger and this means that there will always be a need to provide help for them and their dependants when they themselves no longer can. That is why it is so important that the Legion can continue with its vital work.

The Whitchurch Branch includes Oving, Hardwick, Pitchcott, Weedon & Cublington) We have a very good record of support for this appeal and last year all records were broken to the sum of £2725.25. As in previous years collectors will be calling on door to door basis in your area from the 26th Oct to 8th Nov 2008. Thank you on behalf of those who will benefit from your support.

Yours Sincerely, Harold Newman 614328  
Poppy Appeals Honorary Organiser.

### ***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 3<sup>rd</sup> October***

*If you're interested phone Jack or Mary on 641738 or email [j.peeters@btinternet.com](mailto:j.peeters@btinternet.com)*

## OVING PAVILION LOCATION AND DESIGN GROUP MEETING NO 12

### ACTION NOTE

**Present** Jack Peeters (chairman), Elaine Conway, Kit Couper, Stuart Taylor, Paul Waldron, Steve Baker, Philip Shuffill, Julian Bamford, Frank Bennet

**Minutes of previous meeting.** Agreed

#### **Events and actions since last meeting**

Jack reported that the funding bid to WREN had passed through the first stage, but there was a long way to go.

Jack had written to four Architectural practices to ask for quotations for the design work and to produce detailed cost estimates and contract documentation. The responses would be reported back to the group but the Parish Council would appoint the Architects at the appropriate time if satisfied with their quote and subject to further progress with the funding bids.

A report was made on the recent Parish Council meeting at which further representations had been made by some residents about the proposed location of the pavilion.

It was decided that an informal meeting would be held between members of the group and members of the Parish Council to discuss the issues raised.

**Next meeting:** To be arranged

BOOK CLUB – 1 <sup>st</sup> THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH		
DATE	HOST	PHONE NO
Oct 2nd	Polly	641721
Nov 6th	Radha	641191
Dec 4th	Christmas Meal	
New book lovers welcome.		
Reading list details available from anyone in the above list.		

## **Garden Farm – Summer?**

It's a good job I like butterflies, because I've certainly done my bit for the three types that like brassicas – my cabbages and broccoli have vanished under a carpet of Cabbage Moth, Large Cabbage White and Small Cabbage White caterpillars. Now I do know that you are supposed to put these things under fleece or fine mesh, but I didn't. In fact this year I have been hopelessly disorganised – planting things late or not at all, not keeping the plot clear of weeds, forgetting to pick vegetables and generally being a bit neglectful. Having given up a job in the City and starting a new business (again!) my attention has been elsewhere and time passed quickly.

It takes planning and organisation to get everything ready and in the (prepared) ground at the right time, and dedication and attention to keep a plot clear of weeds, vermin and insect predators. Attributes I possess but have not applied.

Yet here we are coming to the end of another growing season and despite a somewhat haphazard approach we have still managed to produce our own vegetables and fruit, have had some bumper crops and still have more to come. I did say earlier in the year that the rule books may be technically correct but neither lack of space or lack of time should prevent anyone from “growing their own”! As with most things in life you need a little luck (a wet summer helped weeds and vegetables alike) and with a bit of knowledge you make your own luck.

Just as a for instance, my runner beans were grown in grow pots and not planted out until the beginning of July – way too late in anybody's book. Yet the plants have flourished in the rain. There are beans growing and unless we have a snap frost we will be eating runners this month and next. It helps to know that once they get going they just need light and water to flourish, and they are one of the vegetables that can still produce as the days grow shorter.

The wash tub garden was also planted up very late, and has suffered the ravages of slugs and ants – all the salad leaves developed a very lacy appearance. The wash tub has no holes in the bottom and filled with water regularly – so long as it is tipped out equally regularly the plants have come to no harm. We've had, and will have yet, lettuces and spinach and even the tomato plant has a few fruit on it (that went in way too late as well).

We have had a very good harvest of courgettes, and as I said last month we've let the odd one grow on. So this month I picked a 9lb 9oz marrow! I've no idea what that is in kilos but I can tell you it was heavy. Better yet I concocted a spicy minced beef stuffing, baked it in the oven and topped it off with breadcrumbs and cheese (not traditional at all) to a rapturous reception from younger son who normally thinks anything green is poison!

I'm also about to start digging up the intentional potatoes. We have already taken and consumed the unintentional ones – the ones left in the ground from last year that got in the way. There are onions somewhere in amongst the weeds and although onions don't like being waterlogged or fighting with weeds for light and water they have done OK – we'll have some good ones.

The construction grade celery was also cut to the ground to make space for my failed crop of broccoli and has sprouted yet more green girders – it seems celery plants are for life not just for a summer. The French beans have cropped wonderfully but here's a tip – pick them before they grow to over a foot long. At least we'll have the beans to plant for next year. Even the pumpkin I planted as an afterthought has produced a couple of pumpkins – with luck they'll grow as everything else dies back ready for Halloween.

So despite everything all is not lost. The rain and cool weather has been (as weather always is) a mixed blessing and we've eaten our own produce and will have a reasonable store of potatoes and onions for the winter. In the greenhouse we've already had tomatoes (some went in the marrow!) and there are lots more ready to ripen. If you leave a ripe one on the vine the others around it will ripen too (just in case you didn't know that). The chillis have done very well and turned red in the shelter of the glasshouse.

We seem to have solved our red mite problem with the chickens without resorting to chemicals – we found a powder which is based on simple plant extracts and smells good to boot. Getting it on the chickens was entertaining – younger son will also now be completely free of red mites! But the chickens are happier (they tell me you know) and egg production is getting back to normal.

The bees have had a hard year and I'm preparing the hive for winter. This means I take the honey (should be about 15 jars as I'll leave some). I have to clear the bees from the super using a board with a “bee escape” which allows the bees back into the main hive but stops them moving back up into the super.

I can then tidy up the hive, treat for Varroa and feed the bees a sugar solution so they can survive the winter. They are still the most aggressive bees I know and don't take kindly to intrusion. Finally I'll put a mouse guard on the front to stop rodents taking up residence and keep my fingers crossed for the winter.

This is also the time of year for fruit – whether grown in the garden (good apples, damsons and excellent plums for us) – or the hedgerow variety, particularly blackberries which despite the grey and damp summer seem to have managed reasonably well.

Just for fun I made lemon curd this week – a big favourite of mine and now I have a WI recipe for making it the microwave very quick and simple – in fact 3 ½ jars in 30 minutes from start to finish. If you want the recipe send me an email!

So all in all, and despite a lack of attention and planning, we still managed OK – I hope you did too.

**A.P.R.E September 2008**  
**apre@oving.org**

## KIT's TRAVELS (continued)

Day ninety-five

Russian word of the day Dob-raye oo-tra (Good morning)

A saying which I think is appropriate to quote at this time is –“Do not arrive at the grave in good condition with miles still left on the clock but skid into the gutter like a burnt out wreck sighing, Wow what a trip!” We have crossed the geographical boundary of Antarctica. Then everybody had to “rug up” in other words, don our outdoor clothing. At least four layers, plus waterproofs, Wellingtons and lifejacket to attend the mandatory IAATO (International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators)/Zodiac operations briefing; known as lifeboat drill on ordinary ships. In full kit I look like a green penguin and walk like one too. There were lectures on the seals we were likely to see, and John Rodsted (1997 Nobel Peace Prize winner as the official photographer to the International Campaign to Ban Landmines) told us about the plight of the Albatross being decimated by the long lines used by the fishing fleets in the Southern Ocean. We are sailing through thick mist between Anvers and Brabant Islands but up on deck we saw a pod of Hourglass dolphins, and a Humpback whale displayed his flukes for us. Humpbacks can be 16 metres in length and weigh about 30 to 40 tonnes. The sea birds continue to entertain us and we saw Albatross, Southern Giant, white-chinned, Wilson’s Storm, Pintado Petrel, Cormorant and Shag.

Day ninety-six

Russian word of the day Dob-raye dyen Good afternoon.

During breakfast we crossed The Gerlache Strait and anchored off Curerville Island. With lots of excitement and some trepidation we waddled down what looked like a fire escape attached to the side of the ship. Everybody walked down forwards, but I had to climb down backwards because of my balance. At the bottom we had to step into the Zodiac, not an easy task when the 12 seater rubber dingy is rising and falling with the swell. Curerville Island is 800metres high, and along the shore is a large Gentoo Penguin colony. There were fuzzy chicks everywhere, calling out for a feed of krill. Parent birds struggled out of the sea; hopefully back to the spot where they had left their chicks. We dispersed over the rocks and I observed the fascinating spectacle. Some of the chicks had died; maybe their parents hadn’t made it back to the island. At this time in the season the chicks are quite large 18ins plus and covered with straggly down and little feathers. Two, decided that I resembled their mother and started pecking at my legs, this should have resulted in my emptying my gullet full of krill down their throats, however I held onto my breakfast. The rule is you do not touch any wildlife, but the penguins haven’t read the book. After an hour or so we returned to the Zodiac only to find that some of the smarter Gantoos had requisitioned our

We then cruised in the zodiacs checking out the icebergs for leopard seals, we did see fur seals and two Minke whales.

After lunch we returned to the zodiac to visit more Gentoos at Neko Harbour, which is on the Antarctica continent proper. Opposite to the beach was a glacier face of snow and ice, suddenly a couple of loud calvings sent big waves up on the beach. We then went cruising into the bay and saw a few seals and Minke whales. Then we struck gold. A pod of Orcas (killer whales) appeared mid-hunt. They were chasing two Minke whales but then turned their attention to the Crabeater seals all around us. We watched as the pod, with a huge male with a gigantic triangular dorsal fin, a few younger males, and at least half a dozen females spy-hopped (leaping nose-first out of the water to scan the icebergs where the seals had taken refuge) The pod hunted as a group, slapping their tail fins to create a wave of water over the iceberg and thereby washing the seal into the sea, at which point the pod attacked, tearing the seal to bits. It was terrifying and exciting at the same time. As the pod continued to hunt, we chased them in the zodiacs. Not every attack was successful, but they managed to kill eleven seals. Surprisingly they ignored the zodiacs, which themselves look like large grey seals. We were very close to the action at times and could see the seals` fright in their eyes. After two hours the weather began to close in and the temperature dropped, and we made our way back to the ship.

After dinner, we were told that what we had seen was truly amazing and that not many people, including wildlife scientists had witnessed such a spectacle. The scientists on board had been in touch with the New Zealand survey team, who have requested that we send them video footage and photographs so they can identify the individual orcas by their black and white markings. Everybody submitted their best photos to be sent off. The scientists copied the videos and photographs onto CD discs and gave everyone a copy, which meant that even those of us who only had standard cameras have some of the best orca hunting shots ever taken.

To be continued

**Do you need a  
Babysitter?  
Call:**



<b>Joshua George</b>	<b>641891</b>
<b>Roberta Baker</b>	<b>641301</b>
<b>Annelise Waldron</b>	<b>641656</b>
<b>Katie Roberts</b>	<b>640511</b>
<b>Jonathon Roberts</b>	<b>640511</b>
<b>Lucy Hughes</b>	<b>640821</b>

**SCHORNE TEAM OF CHURCHES - SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2008**

	Granboro'	N Marston	Oving	Dunton	Hoggeston	Hardwick	Whitchurch	Quanton	Waddesdon	Westcott	Winchendon
<b>5 Oct</b>	8:00 HC/PB PDM										
Trinity 20		10:00 Harv DH	11:00 FS PJM			9:30 HC/PB PJM	11:00 Harv? PDM		11:00 Harv LW	4:00 Harv LW	
Green	6:00 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday				6:00 Harv PJM			6:30 HC PDM			
<b>12 Oct</b>									8:00 HC/PB LW		
Trinity 21	11:00 FS AB	9:30 HC AB		9:30 HC/PB DM		11:00 MS DM	11:00 FC PJM	9:30 Harv PDM	11:00 Sing & Praise		9:30 Harv LW+JB
Green			6:00 HC AB					6:30 ES PDM			
<b>19 Oct</b>								8:00 HC/PB PDM			
Trinity 22		9:30 FS AB	11:00 FC PJM		11:00 FS DM	9:30 HC PJM	11:00 HC AB		11:00 FS LW+JB	9:30 FC LW+JB	
Green	6:00 ES AB							6:30 ES PDM			
<b>26 Oct</b>							8:00 HC/PB DM				
Last Sunday after Trinity	11:00 FS AB	9:30 HC AB				9:30 FS At Weedon PJM	11:00 MS DM	9:30 FC PDM	11:00 UA LW		9:30 HC LW
Green			6:00 ES AB					6:30 ES PDM			
<b>2 Nov</b>	8:00 HC/PB AB										
4 <sup>th</sup> , before Advent		10:00 FS AB	11:00 FS AB			9:30 HC/PB PJM	11:00 HC DM		11:00 FC JB+LW	9:30 HC/PB JB+LW	
Green	6:00 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday							6:30 HC PDM			
<b>Holy Communion at Weedon Schoolroom Thursdays at 10.00am</b>	AB	9 Oct	DM					HC FC	Holy Communion Family Service	PB MS	Prayer Book Matins
2 Oct	PDM	23 Oct	LW					FS UA	Family Service United Service at Parish Church	ES UM	Evensong Evensong
16 Oct	PJM							+B	With Baptism		
30 Oct											

Rev David Meakin 641806  
 Rev Andy Bell 670298  
 Rev Liz Walters 655069  
 Rev Philip Meers 655237  
 Rev Paul Mansell 641246  
 Janet Barry 429645  
 David Parker 670273  
 David Heller 01525 240251  
 Jim Gorringe