

Oving with
Pitchcott
Newsletter



January 2009

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

FEBRUARY 2009
CONTRIBUTIONS



**By 10th
January
please**

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

LADIES NIGHT

The next meeting will be at
Susana's house, 5, The Pightle
on January 14th at 7:30pm

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

DATES FOR 2009

23 Jan	7:30pm	An illustrated talk on the Red Kites of the Chilterns
28 Feb	7.30pm	A jazz concert with popular music by Lend Me A Tenor

Tickets from Tessa Baker 641301 or Janet Brunswick 641399

BOOK CLUB – 1st THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH		
DATE	HOST	PHONE NO
Jan 8th	Trish	641154
Feb 5th	Kit	641694
Mar 5th	Trina	641188
April 2nd	Anne R	641314
May 7th	Elaine	641516
Jun 4th	Rahdah	641191
New book lovers welcome.		
Reading list details available from anyone in the above list.		

Please note:

Photographs will no longer be accepted for insertion in the newsletter unless it is understood and accepted that we cannot accept responsibility for the quality of the reproduction.

ROTAS						
	11:00am	Sidesmen	Readers at 6:00pm	Chancel	Nave	Path and bins
04-Jan	Family Service	D.Jones K.Ryle		C.Roberts	D.Hilton-Jones	P.Goss
11-Jan		D.Midwinter J.Goss	P.Corbett Acts 19 v1-7	C.Roberts	H.Fone	R.Smith
18-Jan	Family Communion	R.Firth K.Hinds		N.Law	S.Berriman	D.Smith
25-Jan		J.Brunswick R.Goss	T.Cleaver Jonah 3, 1-5 H.Bowen Mark 1, 14-20	N.Law	L.Watson	J.Peeters
01-Feb	Christingle Service	T.Baker S.Hodges		M.Hodges	J.Smith	A.McGinn

A HEALTHY WALK AND A PUB LUNCH CHANGE OF DATE

Every first Friday of the month a group of Oving villagers go for a good walk in or around Bucks, and end up at a pub for lunch. We do a different one each time and invariably see attractive countryside and interesting villages and we have eaten some great pub food.

Last month on a still, sunny day we did a walk along the Grand Union Canal near Three Locks, Soulbury, where the water was like a mirror with perfect reflections, up to the picturesque village of Great Brickhill and then through peaceful woods and across farmland back to the Three Locks.

Our well-earned lunch at the Red Lion, not to mention an excellent pint, tasted all the better after such a good walk. Thanks to Mike and Trina Stallwood for the research.

Our walks usually take place on the first Friday of the month. Everyone is welcome. **Next months walk, however, will be on Friday 9th Jan.** Meet outside 5, The Pightle at 9.30 am. Further details 01296 641738.

Springtime Ball



The committee organising the “Oving Springtime Ball” – 16th May 2009 would like to introduce themselves: Sally Parrott, Diana Hilton Jones, Tessa Baker, Susie Hawkins, Mary Peters, Lynn Hillston and Jo Smith.

To allow us to raise lots of money for the pavilion project we are looking for help from local and outside businesses, our friends and neighbours, This help can take many forms such as general sponsorship for the event or sponsoring a table, advertising in the ball programme, offering to help with catering (all costs will be covered), decorating the marquee, providing a raffle prize, selling tickets or on the actual day helping to set up the marquee.

We would be so grateful for your help and would ask that you contact the following people if you wish to be involved:

Catering: Diana Hilton Jones – 641026 or Mary Peters 641738

Event programme advertising/sponsoring a table: Tessa Baker 641301

Marquee Decoration: Susie Hawkins – 641257 or Lynn Hillston 641684

Raffle prizes and help on the day: Sally Parrott - 641472

General sponsorship or general enquiries and selling tickets:
Jo Smith – 641621

Thank you from us all.

The Committee

THE FRIENDS OF WHITCHURCH SURGERY

We would like to thank everyone who came and supported our very successful Raffle Draw and Coffee Morning held on Saturday, 29th November at the Surgery. We gained the excellent sum of £356. for our funds.

OVING PAVILION BULLETIN

All villagers will be aware that the Parish Council is trying to make progress towards building a new sports pavilion, together with a meeting room for all groups to use, on the recreation round. We have regularly publicised the notes of the two working groups looking at Location and Design and at Funding. These groups are composed entirely of volunteers and no funds have been expended up to now.

We thought it would be helpful to all readers to have a short bulletin every month summarising progress so that everyone knows what is being done on your behalf and where the project stands.

The present position on Location and Design is that Banks Design Architects, based in Bicester have been asked to quote for the design of the building, along the lines of ideas produced by the Location and Design Group. They have also been asked to produce a realistic and accurate comparison of the cost of two possible locations, one on each side of the football pitch. The cost would also include the relocation of the training pitch on the one hand and the play equipment on the other, should that be necessary. By the time this newsletter is issued we hope to have formally appointed the Architect and, for the first time we will be committed to expenditure.

As far as Funding is concerned, we have held another successful event at Quainton Memorial Hall on 22nd November, when all tickets were sold for a performance by the tribute group, Abba's Angels. Over £1,000 was raised, bringing the total fund so far to almost £20,000. A few tickets remain for Carols at Ground Farm Barn on 22nd December, and events planned for 2009 include a Quiz Night at the Black Boy, an Auction Night, the Oving Spring Ball in May and a raffle for a brand new Volkswagen car to be drawn in June. The search for grant monies continues, with several targets identified for applications when detailed costs are known.

Ambrose McGinn
Chairman, Oving Parish Council

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



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

Oving Spring Ball on 16.05.09

A live band has been booked, and the sub-group arranging this event has allocated specific tasks to its members. David will speak to the Parish Council Clerk to ascertain if the VAT on the marquee hire can be reclaimed by the Parish Council.

4 Funding update

Roger B reported that he will be attending the launch of the Leader Programme at the King's Head in Aylesbury tomorrow. Funding is available from Europe via the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) for projects such as farm diversification, forestry, tourism and rural community improvements including village halls. Oving is in the eligible area for applications.

Jack Peeters, with the agreement of the Parish Council, has instructed an Architect to provide design drawings, site layout plans for two possible locations, and cost estimates for the building and external works, in sufficient detail for a planning application to be made. The issue of location can then be put to residents again, and applications for funding will include more accurate costings than in the past.

5. Any other business

David has the agreement of David Hales at the Black Boy to hold a Quiz Night in March 2009. Details are to be confirmed.

Roger B has spoken to John Motson, the football commentator, who is prepared to assist with fund-raising. John's multi-coloured pre-match notes are frequently auctioned for charity, and Roger H suggested the possibility of building an auction evening around this. John would be prepared to attend if a suitable date can be agreed. It was agreed to carry this idea forward to the next meeting.

6. Date of next meeting: Monday 19th January 2009 at 7.00pm in The Reading Room.

GLASS RECYCLING JANUARY
Collection date this month is Friday 9th

KIT's TRAVELS (continued)

After lunch back on the ship we began our next zodiac trip, which was quickly interrupted by a passing humpback whale. We gave chase and found it rolling in the ice that was washing and crashing from the strong ocean swell. You can smell whales before you see them, when they blow the water, the stench is overpowering. The size of the whale was something you can't describe; we were so small and vulnerable in our little rubber dingy especially when the flukes were upright as it prepared to dive. We became experts at timing the surface, it stayed under for roughly seven minutes and then surfaced quite some distance away, but the waterspout was our signal and we raced to keep up. After about an hour we landed on Petermann Island, where there were colonies of Gentoo and Adelie penguins, all over the beach and rocks. The penguin parade was funny, many of them tobogganing down the slopes on their bellies; evidently this is an efficient way of getting around without expending any energy. Others were just huddling in groups waiting for their moults to be over. They looked thoroughly fed up in the cold and snow. The setting was framed by the Lemaire Channel and the mountains of the Antarctic continent behind us.

Back on the ship, we were briefed about the camping overnight that was to come, the fun, experience and the consequences of too much liquid before we set out. After dinner at about ten o'clock forty eight of us "rugged up" and were issued with our sleeping bags. The night was cold and it was snowing heavily as we entered zodiacs. I was in the second of the four boats, it soon became apparent that navigating in a snowstorm is not easy, but more disturbing was that as we travelled to the inlet the sea behind us was closing in as the brash ice froze solid, making our journey very difficult, two people at the front had to dislodge the forming ice barrier or we would not of made it to shore. The two zodiacs that left the ship behind us never made landfall, because they could not get through sea ice and they were ordered to return to the ship.

I feel very privileged to have joined the ranks of those people who have camped out on the Antarctic Continent. Because we were fewer than expected Helen and I were issued with a tent already erected. As it was pitch black we were wearing our headlamps and given an orientation tour of our "campsite" we were surrounded on two sides by the sea, and were advised not to go wandering if we had to get up during the night. The toilet was a blue bouncy barrel set into the snow. Hence the advice about drinking too much. Some of the foolhardy doctors declined a tent and instead used a bivouac, basically being zipped into your sleeping bag and staring up at the stars, when snowstorm and clouds moved on. I had shared a tent with Helen on the Andes trip, so we helped each other into our sleeping bags, each wearing six layers, in fact the only things I removed were my wellies, which I used as a pillow.

You were told not to leave them outside or else they would fill with snow and freeze solid. I slept through until three o'clock, but awoke desperate for the loo. Locating wellies and headlamp I ventured forth like Captain Oates, found the barrel and exposed myself to the elements.

Day ninety-eight

Russian word of the day - At-Leech na - Excellent.

We returned to the ship at daybreak for hot showers and a hearty breakfast. Then into the zodiacs again, to explore the Yalour Islands. We clambered up the rocks and admired the views of the inlet. The Yalours are home to a motley collection of Adelie penguins, most of who were in a deep sulk about having to moult and stand around on land, fasting and freezing. Most Adelies live around the main body of the Antarctic and this colony is one of the northern-most breeding areas for the Adelies; who actually breed further south than the Emperor penguins! So as the icy winds howled around us they probably felt at home. Soon the snow became horizontal, and we began to look like the penguins. We took to the zodiacs and cruised among the magnificent icebergs, we found an incredible glacier face floating free. During this period the ship repositioned in the Penola Strait at the southern end of the Lemaire Channel, and when we returned we drank mulled wine on deck as we began the fantastic voyage up the Lemaire Channel. For our entertainment, or just too much wine. The braver doctors used the outdoor plunge pool which is filled with sea water. Needless to say it was a very quick plunge and they emerged shivering. Well, their conference was about severe climatic conditions on the human body. After a long day I was glad to crawl into my bed.

To be continued

NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

A few villagers have expressed an interest in receiving their newsletter by email which would be environmentally friendly and reduce the burden of distribution and cost. If sufficient numbers of you would like to receive your newsletter this way then please let me know and I will look into the practicalities of it.

valadams@waitrose.com

Garden Farm – Winter

I don't know about you but I find it hard to do anything at this time of year. What with Christmas looming, trying to get work matters concluded before the break and the generally sullen look the garden gives me every time I go near it....

Apart from day dreaming my way through a pile of catalogues (see November) I haven't been very active at all. Even if I had bees they would be safely tucked up for the winter and wouldn't require any work. The left over remains of the vegetable plot lies damp and weedy just asking to be dug over before the frosts we all hope for in January & February, but will have to wait until the Christmas break. The hedges need trimming and the greenhouse needs a clear out.

But somehow I just can't do all the things that need doing at this time of year – it can wait until the break when I can give it a few days of effort and work out the reorganisation resulting from the loss of the bees (which will make more space for growing).

So the obvious thing to do was to make some raspberry vodka which has just “finished” and sample it frequently in search of motivation. This year we also made blackberry vodka because we had a bag in the freezer left over from September (which now seems so long ago). With the cold frosty nights we have had, and the odd sprinkling of snow, you can't beat a shot of sweet, fruity vodka in front of a log fire.

I've always used my sloe recipe for every fruit cordial – it seems to work a treat for most things. Simply put a pint of fruit, a pint of vodka (cheapest you can get) and half a pound of sugar in a demi-john (you need a wide neck, and in fact I have a semi-demi-john which is perfect (is that just a john?)). Shake the mixture every day for a week, and then every few days. For soft fruit it is ready in a month, for “hard” fruit such as sloes it can take a year although a shake once a month after the first couple will suffice.

I did find that this didn't work so well with the blackberry vodka. It was a beautiful colour and full of blackberry flavour, but the cheap vodka still retained a harsh note – the solution was to add more sugar until it tastes “right” – in my case about another quarter pound sorted things out.

When mother-in-law was over from America in October we had a taste test of all the various bottles we have left – just a small shot of each in case you were wondering! Most of our samples were two or more years old and tasted very mellow and warming – raspberry came out tops closely followed by damson (we had absolutely no damsons this year). Both had changed colour from bright red/purple to a more muted golden brown. I think I need to sample them again just in case they've changed!

The chickens seem happy enough but of course there is less for them to forage, so we keep an eye on the feeder and provide them with scraps. They particularly like stale ice cream wafers and old roast potatoes. They won't touch old cabbage leaves (which what my chicken encyclopaedia tells me they will love). They're run turns very muddy as this time of year so we buy in some straw bales to use as bedding and also to put down in the run to prevent the inevitable quagmire – I'm really grateful to Colin for supplying use with some small bales (can you imagine trying to roll one of the big round ones down the garden).

A few years ago some friends and I were fishing in the far north west of Scotland – as we were driving along an empty stretch of road we met an old Land Rover with a trailer and 2 large straw bales on it, and as we went round the corner we met a third bale rolling down the round at some speed towards us! It missed us by inches!

It is the nature of things that I write this column some time before you read it, so if it is before Christmas for you – Happy Christmas – and if it is after I hope you had a good one and have a Happy New Year!

A.P.R.E

December 2008

apre@oving.org

Oving photographic competition

Have you got some good photographs of Oving or would you like to take some? We are about to start the design process for a new Rights of Way map to go in the two existing display cases. The display cases are sited opposite the Black Boy pub entrance and in the car park of the recreation ground. They show all the Rights of Way in Oving Parish. You will see that the existing maps are faded and in need of a revamp. We would like the new map to be surrounded with some views of the village taken in any season of your choice and at any location in the parish. These could be views of the countryside or particular spots within the village. The photographs should reflect the character of the village and its footpaths and bridleways.

I was involved with the original panel design over 10 years ago when I invited local artists to submit their pictures of the village. The winning photographs will be put on the new display panel. The entire entrance fee for the competition will raise money for the new village hall. The competition is open to all residents in Oving and Pitchcott and the entrance fee is £5 per photograph. To enter the competition please put your cash or cheque made out to 'Oving Parish Council' through our back door letter box. Please enclose a hard copy of your photograph even if you have it in a digital format. Please fill in the entry form below and submit it with your photograph(s) and the entrance fee. The competition will run until 28th February 2009 and will be judged by both of us. Please note that the judges' decision is final. The winning photographers will be notified and announced in the village newsletter.

Rachel & David Barnett
Milton Cottage, The Green, Oving
If have any question please call us on 640967.

Entry Form for Oving Rights of Way Photographic Competition

Your name:

Your address:

Contact phone number:

Email:

Number of photographs entered (please put your name on the back):

Digital or traditional picture:

Amount enclosed:

SCHORNE TEAM OF CHURCHES - SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2009

	Granboro'	N Marston	Oving	Dunton	Hoggeston	Hardwick	Whitchurch	Quainton	Waddesdon	Westcott	Winchendon
4 Jan	8:00 HC/PB AB										
C'mas 2	10:00 FS DH	11:00 FS AB		9:30 HC/PB PJM	9:30 HC/PB DM	11:00 HC DM+PJM			11:00 FC LW+JB	9:30 HC/PB LW+JB	
White								6:30 HC PDM			
11 Jan									8:00 HC/PB LW+JB		
1 Epiph	11:00 FC AB	9:30 HC AB		9:30 HC/PB PJM+DM		9:30 FS At Weedon AV	10:45 Covenant Service DM	9:30 FS PDM	11:00 Sing & Praise		11:00 Christingle LW+JB
White			6:00 HC AB					6:30 ES PDM			
18 Jan											
2 Epiph	11:00 FS JB	9:30 FS AB	11:00 FC AB	11:00 MS PJM	11:00 MS PJM	9:30 HC PJM	11:00 HC PDM	8:00 HC/PB PDM	11:00 FS LW	9:30 FC LW	
White	6:00 ES AB							6:30 ES PDM			
25 Jan											
3 Epiph	11:00 FS AB	9:30 HC AB				9:30 FC PJM	8:00 HC/PB PJM	9:30 FC	11:00 UM		9:30 HC LW
White			6:00 ES AB					6:30 ES LW			
1 Feb	8:00 HC/PB AB										
4 Epiph		10:00 FS DH	11:00 FS AB		9:30 HC/PB DM	9:30 HC/PB PJM	11:00 HC DM+PJM		11:00 FC LW+JB	9:30 HC/PB LW+JB	
White	6:00 1 st Sunday							6:30 HC PDM			
Holy Communion at Weedon Schoolroom											
Thursdays at 10.00am											
8 Jan	PJM	15 Jan	PDM	Rev Andy Bell	670298	Rev Ann Varker	423363	FC	Holy Communion	PB	Prayer Book
22 Jan	AB	29 Jan	DM	Rev Liz Welters	655069	Mr David Hefler	670273	FS	Family Service	MS	Matins
				Rev Phillip D Mears	655237	Rev Jim Gorringe	01525	UA	United Service at Parish Church	ES	Evensong
				Rev Paul J Mansell	641246		240251	UM	United Service at Methodist Church		
								+B	With Baptism		