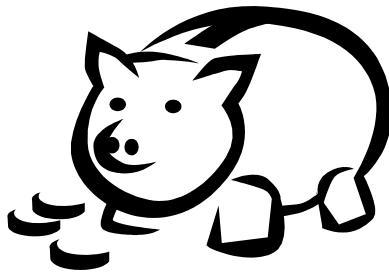


Oving with
Pitchcott
Newsletter



July 2009

www.all-saints-oving.org.uk

www.oving.org

AUGUST 2009
CONTRIBUTIONS



**By 10th
July
please**

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

LADIES NIGHT

The next meeting will be at
Lynn's house,
Highfield, Marston Hill, Oving
on July 8th 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

ROTAS						
	11:00am	Sidesmen	Readers at 6:00pm	Chancel	Nave	Path and Bins
05-Jul	Family Service	C.Jenner K.Hinds		M.Hodges	H.Fone	J.Peeters
12-Jul		S.Hodges J.Shields	P.Corbett	M.Hodges	L.Watson	D.Smith
19-Jul	Family Communion	R.Goss D.Jones		J.Brunswick	J.Smith	A.McGuire
26-Jul		E.Conway J.Goss	J.Peeters S.Hodges	J.Brunswick	C.Jenner	S.Taylor
02-Aug	Family Service	R.Firth J.Brunswick		N.Law	E.Conway	P.Berriman

Bucks County Show
Thursday 27th August

Come along to support Buckingham Archdeanery's fun and
interactive tent with activities for all ages!

*Bell ringing, story telling, printing, cairn building, quiz,
freebies and lots more !*

GLASS RECYCLING JULY
Collection date this month is **Weds 22nd**

CHURCH NEWS

We will be holding the last of our sung Evensong services on 26th July preceded by cream tea and a chance to catch up with old friends or make some new ones. Teas will be served at 5:00pm with the service to follow at 6:00pm. We hope to see you there.

FIRST FRIDAY WALKS

Wotton Underwood

There are so many picturesque villages and such great countryside to explore near Oving that we never seem to run out of ideas for new walks.

Our June walk took us to Wotton Underwood and, in dull but dry weather we saw yet more lovely natural and man-made sights. Wotton is tucked away off the beaten track and very peaceful, seeming to belong to a much slower but now by-gone age. It also boasts Wotton House which, in the 50s was rescued from demolition and restored over the next 20 years by its devoted owner. Now one of its pavilions is said to be the home of Tony Blair and this may explain the presence of a mysterious (security?) man who followed us and eyed us suspiciously as we passed.

We had a good and very reasonable lunch at the Bell at Waddesdon, now much smarter than before and with a very welcoming and enthusiastic landlord

Our walks take place on the first Friday of the month and everyone is welcome. Meet outside 5, The Pightle at 9.30 am.

On 3rd July, weather permitting, we hope to have a morning walk with a picnic lunch (please bring your own) and then walk a bit further to earn ourselves afternoon tea at a classic English tea-shop. Further details 01296 641738.

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



Adam Shields	641020
Joshua George	641891
Roberta Baker	641301
Annelise Waldron	641656
Katie Roberts	640511
Jonathon Roberts	640511
Lucy Hughes	640821

Dear Friends,

Now I don't want to cause panic among those who may not have seen the story as it broke, but scientists are now saying that there is a one in two thousand five hundred chance that the earth might collide with Venus or possibly Mars. This potential cataclysm may well arise because of a force known as orbital chaos. We can, however, take comfort from two facts. The first is that scientists are not at all confident that they can stare into the future of what they call celestial mechanics with any exactitude and the second is that this, even if it does happen, will not take place for about another three and a half billion years – apparently the sun is going to explode in another five billion years and there is a ninety-nine per cent chance that the Sun's planets will continue to circle in an orderly pattern until that event.

Of course we could worry – but I am not at all sure that would achieve very much. I think I can say with a degree of confidence that none of us will be around when it all happens and, even if we were going to be, worrying wouldn't change anything.

One of my favourite verses in the Bible comes towards the end of Matthew 6 – 'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.'

There is plenty for us to worry about at the moment without looking towards the end of a period of time which is unimaginably long. Or, on reflection, should I be looking elsewhere for inspiration? How

about the First World War marching song, 'Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag'? For there we get, 'What's the use of worrying, it never was worthwhile.'

The trouble with worrying is that it can be paralysing – we can spend so much time worrying that we spend no time setting out to resolve the problem, whatever it may be.

We have to be clear, though, that the call not to worry is not simply a call to look away, it's not a call to simply hope that things will get better or to so ignore reality that we end up living some sort of a lie.

Rather, should we see something which concerns us, the call is to do something about it – to work to make a difference where we can.

And that leads to another thought – taken from The Serenity Prayer by Reinhold Niebuhr - 'God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; the courage to change the things I can; and the wisdom to know the difference.'

Thrashing about in pursuit of hopeless causes is, I should think, about as much use as simply sitting there worrying.

As we move into the holiday season may I offer the hope that, if you are going away, you will travel safely, have a great time and return refreshed.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David". The letter 'D' is large and loops around the start of the name.

MEMORIES OF SPORT IN OVING – 4

If you take a stroll around the Recreation Ground, you may notice a tin-roofed, white, wooden building perched on concrete blocks, situated behind the current pavilion. This is the original pavilion, and was used as a changing room and storage facility for many years prior to the construction of the current facility in 1975. Accommodation was very primitive, with no electricity supply or running water. At a meeting of Oving Sports Club on April 29th 1948, this matter was addressed, when:

It was proposed to approach the Recreation Ground Committee for water to be laid on by them, and the Chairman [Mr C H Clarke] agreed to write to the Parish Council regarding the matter.

It would appear that an estimate was then sought, because on May 28th 1948: *With regard to the water supply, all agreed that the Chairman should approach the Recreation Ground Committee with the estimate of £6-7-6d for their approval, and that we supply the labour etc.*

At the meeting on August 19th 1948:

The first item to be discussed was the water supply. The Chairman announced that permission had been granted by the Water Board and that Mr H Clarke would be doing the plumbing etc.. Mr Bevin suggested that he would be glad to fix a car battery and light etc. for use in the pavilion, but the Committee decided that a permanent fixture would be better and to wait and see what the cost would be.

On 7th October 1948:

The Chairman reported that the Recreation Ground Committee required a plan of the water system which was to be laid. Mr H Clarke agreed to arrange for this to be done. After discussion about the laying on of electric light in the pavilion, it was agreed, owing to present lack of funds, that for this year we should use oil lamps.

Over three months passed until on 24th February 1949:

Mr H Clarke reported that it was now in order to proceed with digging a trench for the water supply. Mr P Young and Mr Wright agreed to get the trench dug as soon as possible.

At the Annual General Meeting held on May 5th 1949:

Mr H Clarke reported that the water supply would be on in a few days, the hold up being due to the fact that the pipe was not quite long enough to connect to the water main.

It had taken just over a year to supply water from the main on Bowling Alley to the old pavilion.

RCB June 2009

Garden Farm – Summer

It is common for the first few weeks of June to be unsettled, rainy and cooler – it is in effect our equivalent of the subcontinent monsoon on a much less dramatic scale. I have to say the rain is welcome and all of the water butts are completely full. At present I only have one (slim line) butt on one side of the greenhouse – on the other side I have a pipe into a bucket. Even a relatively short, sharp shower will fill that bucket – from one side of the greenhouse – approx. 32 sq feet of glass. About a third of an inch of rain on that area is a roughly a gallon of water!

This is absolutely prime time for vegetable growing – the warmth, longer days and recent rain have made everything grow like mad (including the weeds). We have had our first harvest – of radishes, far too many to eat, especially as I'm the only one that really likes them. A bit of salt and the zing and crunch when they are fresh from the ground is fantastic. And the chickens love the leaves.

We've also had some small potatoes. In the main potato plot I had raked and earthed up the lines of growing plants and cleared two corners for courgettes/marrows/pumpkins/squash and some left over onions. These areas also had potatoes in – left-overs from last year. So I pulled all of them up. Most were very early but some had some nice “new” potatoes ranging in size from a little finger nail to thumb sized. And very tasty eaten within a couple of hours of picking.

Just about everything planted is growing well and the space where the radishes are coming out will be filled with broccoli. Even the parsnips have started to come up and I've always found them hard to get going. My runners are climbing skywards and the peas are in flower – time to plant some more for a second crop.

In the greenhouse the chilli plants have finally started growing – currently I have four different varieties germinated. The tomatoes have almost reached the top of the greenhouse wall where I will pinch them out – and they are covered in flowers. Even the one outdoor bush variety has grown well in its pot and has flowers. The cucumber & aubergine are growing well in pots but the melons I think got a touch of cold as their pot was closest to the wall. They've wilted and I don't think they will recover – I have one plant doing well in a grow bag though.

Really exciting to me (but not edible) is the cactus seeds, one variety of which has germinated – and very well with at least 8 plants. It is hard to tell – there is just a little green/red ball the size of a pin head (the type with a coloured ball on top). Appropriately these are beehive cactus!

I have started second plantings of carrots, lettuce and radish, the sweet corn are growing well and about half of my leeks survived a battering of heavy rain and seem to be coming on well.

And now something completely different... I have never been a fan of any of the Corvid family of birds – especially the Magpies & Jays – however a book about Rooks (Crow Country by Mark Cocker) changed my view on Rooks in particular; it is an interesting study of Rooks & Crows in East Anglia. Recently a newspaper article demonstrated a rook making tools.

We have had our own interesting experiences with Rooks in recent weeks. In Crow Country, Cocker describes a rook “parliament” or “trial” witnessed by a farmer and I have seen something very similar in the field across the road. A group of rooks congregated in the trees and then all flew down to the ground and stood in a circle – cawing away. One large rook stood in the middle facing a smaller bird, then flew up and landed on its back. It flattened into the ground and the large rook pecked at it – then they all flew off to a loud chorus of caws. The smaller bird lay prone and I thought it was dead – just as the one in the book was killed. However, after about 30 seconds or so it got up and flew off – in a different direction to the others. The whole thing probably lasted for 5 minutes at most.

Then last week we noticed a rook nest – a solitary one – in a chestnut near the house and a lot of noise from birds in the trees. The next day two young rooks with some down and some feathers appeared in the garden, but they acted very strangely. They would simply stand for an hour or more in one spot. Occasionally an older bird flew down and fed them but this seemed to stop by the next day. You could walk right up to the birds – they didn’t seem concerned until you got very close. They were also very clumsy, not just flying into things but crash landing, tripping up when they walked and even flying into a wall. By Friday one of them was standing for virtually the whole day in one place. When I went to put the chickens away it flew away only to return later. On Saturday morning there was a pile of feathers and a bit of flesh, so I guess the fox or badger had it. The other youngster was dead in a flowerbed below a wall – and I really think it flew into the wall and broke its neck.

Then today I was in the greenhouse and heard the chickens making their alarm calls – on investigation there was a rook in the chicken run (the former fruit cage which is basically a chicken wire cage) flying backwards and forwards in a desperate attempt to get out. They’re big birds close up with sharp and powerful beaks, so I was wary but I managed to get in the cage and shoo it out of the door. This is not the first time it’s been in there and I think it was after the food in the feeder. Amusingly when I arrived the Light Sussex charged into the run and starting “shouting” at the rook!

Continued overleaf

Continued from page 7

The Sussex was broody for most of May but has got over it now. In the process (because she sat all day in the nest box) the other birds have taken to laying their eggs right at the back of the hen house, where you can't reach them!

We have had to cut down two trees this month. The old greengage tree was rotten in the heartwood, and wasn't producing many fruit. Sooner or later a storm would bring it down and most likely on my greenhouse. It was a big tree and I took it down in stages. Next to the house there is (was) a holly tree – it has always been prolific with berries but it is rubbing the walls and roof, and had also grown into the telephone wires. When we moved in the surveyor suggested taking it down and now we have to – it too us coming down in stages.

So, vegetables doing very well, first crop harvested, chickens fine, rook madness and trees chopped. How was your month?

A.P.R.E

June 2009

apre@oving.org

**NB : THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A DRAFT
AND SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT NEXT YEAR'S MEETING**

**Minutes of the Annual Oving Parish Meeting held at All Saints Church,
Oving on Thursday 28 May 2009 at 8.00pm**

Present: **Cllr Roger Ball – Chairman Oving Parish Council**
Cllr Ambrose McGinn –Oving Parish Council
Cllr Stuart Nicholls – Oving Parish Council
Cllr Jack Peeters – Oving Parish Council
Glyn Thomas – Oving Parish Clerk
AVDC Cllr – Sue Polhill

Attendees: 31 Oving Residents – Attendees signed in on arrival.

Item 1 – To accept Apologies for absence

Cllr Chris George, John Watts

Item 2 – To agree the Minutes of the meeting 20 May 2008

These were agreed and signed subject to the amendment of the Section 106 amount from £10k to £9600.

Item 3 - Review of Oving Parish Council 2008/2009 and plans for 2009/2010– Ambrose McGinn/Roger Ball

Cllr Ball thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and reported that at the recent Parish Council Annual General Meeting, Ambrose McGinn had stepped down as Chairman. Roger Ball had been elected Chairman and Ambrose McGinn Vice Chairman. He introduced the other Cllrs - Jack Peeters and Stuart Nicholls as well as Glyn Thomas, the Clerk and Michelle Jackson, the Clerk's assistant.

Cllr McGinn presented his report

"I would like to start by thanking all the councillors for their hard work and dedication – a thankless task sometimes. Specifically thanks are due to Roger for not only chairing the funding group for the new pavilion but also acting as Vice chairman to the PC and chairman of the Recreation Ground committee. He has been an invaluable asset to the village. Additionally thanks to Jack Peeters for leading the design and location group of the new pavilion – an often controversial and well attended group with lots of competing views to be managed.

Also the excellent support and guidance of our clerk Glyn Thomas; often ably assisted by Michelle Jackson. Thank you.

I would like to give everyone a headline view of what was achieved over the last year in the village and that which is proposed for the next 12 months.

Last year we managed our resources to produce a surplus of £7226 with the specific intent of putting this together with a special one off precept value of £5000 toward renewing our decrepit and unreliable street lighting. For the avoidance of doubt the precept has not been used to raise money for the pavilion project. This current year the precept was raised by 4% and the street light project is being funded through a lump sum cash requirement of £5k to go with the carried forward surplus of £7226

Roger will be speaking about the finances of the council and so I will not cover further at this point.

With regard to the street light replacement project we have taken great care to weigh up the competing requirements of light pollution against providing a safe well lit environment when required. The new installations will be in keeping with the charm of the village and we will replace on a rolling basis starting shortly. One benefit of the new lights is that they will require less electricity, require less maintenance and the light can be better directed all of which will be to the benefit of the village. This represents a long term investment in the infrastructure of the village and Chris George on the PC is leading this initiative.

Additionally last year we completed the refurbishment of the village pump wall, removing an unsound wall and making good in a style consistent with the surrounding boundary wall.

We also replaced litter bins in the village and have started the process of updating the OPC map locations and contents which Rachel Barnett has kindly agreed to manage on our behalf.

The council has revisited its grass cutting requirements and agreed to stay with its current specification. The tender for this work will be issued again shortly in keeping with best practice for procuring services and in the meantime Reg Porter continues to provide an excellent service for the benefit of all in the village I am sure you will agree.

The recreation ground has been well used and we have turned down further requests for use by other football teams in view of keeping the surface in a decent condition. To that end it is proposed over the summer to do some extensive improvement work to the pitch in readiness for next season. The smaller goal provided for children's use has been well utilised and another has been purchased recently. We await a recent ROSPA report, performed annually on the children's playground however we expect that much of the equipment is coming to the end of its useful life and will need replacement in due course. How this will be achieved will be considered in the context of any pavilion development

Continued overleaf

Since the last annual meeting we have made considerable progress on our proposed new pavilion. The funding whilst tough to gain nationally has been a fantastic success locally with very many well attended events and a fund now standing at around £27k. I would like to thank all those in the village who have taken part in fundraising either through organising or taking part in these events which have been great fun in their own right and really pulled the village together in a way I have not witnessed in my time in the village in the last 15 years. Jacks group has also made good progress on the design and location and both he and Roger will brief you further on progress and plans in a moment.

Once the final design, location and costs has been agreed by the PC it will be put to the village - we still anticipate providing a choice of locations with relevant supporting information and we are calling on the assistance of AVDC election officers to ensure that this is done in a satisfactory and conclusive way. Once this has been concluded which we hope will be over the next few months the PC will make a final decision and then we can go after external funding from the big charities. We came very, very close to a significant funding from WRG Communities challenge for £250k and we came down to the last three beaten only by QRS and Bletchley Park – both tourist attractions – we feel confident that the quality of our application will gain us access to whatever scarce funds are available even in this tough economic climate. Overall funding may take longer than anticipated but we have made a great start and the feedback thus far is very positive.

Over the last year there have been several planning applications which have been considered actively and Oving is taking an active part in the Eastern Arc development around Watermead monitoring the impact on our local area and feeding in appropriately.

Oving PC has with other local parishes purchased a SID a speed indicator display unit which you may have seen in use locally recently. This will be available for use in the parish and will be managed by Stuart Nicholls who will be seeking volunteers to help in manning the SID when available to us periodically. Reducing speeding is still a major theme for the PC and regularly seeks assistance from TVP and BCC to achieve this.

Going forward then under the watchful eye of our new chairman Roger Ball we will complete the first phase of the streetlight replacement project, we will continue to look after the assets of the village either on the recreation ground or around the village and we will move ahead to finalise our plans for the new pavilion and go ahead with our efforts to raise further external funding as well as keep up the tempo on locally based event funding e.g. tennis tournament in the summer.”

Cllr Ball circulated copies of Income and Expenditure for 2008/2009 and reported on the figures which had been approved by Oving Parish Council but had not yet been audited.

A parishioner queried the difference in the figures for the Tennis Club Contribution to Costs. It was reported that the Parish Council had purchased new benches and the Tennis Club had reimbursed Oving Parish Council for costs.

Item 4 – Update of proposals for new Pavilion/Improvements to Recreation Ground – Ambrose McGinn/Jack Peeters/Roger Ball

Cllr Peeters reported that the main task for the Design & Location Group had been to finalise the design with accurate costings and to compare the costs of each site. No monies had been spent on the Pavilion project until the current financial year when OPC had authorised appointing an architect and quantity surveyor to cost the design. Five architects had been contacted to quote and 4 had responded. Quotes varied from £16k to £52k and the group had decided to go with the cheapest. The architect had been requested to produce designs up to the planning stage and costs on 2 locations. The designs had been presented to the group a few months ago and a further 8 minor changes to the design had been requested by the group. The final version drawings for the 2 preferred sites were displayed together with costs for parishioners to view. Advantages and disadvantages of each site would be drawn up. The drawings and costings would be added to the website for the benefit of those who had not been able to attend the meeting. Total costs were estimated at £390k. Jack thanked the members of the Design & Location Group for their time and efforts.

Roger Ball thanked Jack and his team for the hard work put into the project so far.

Roger Ball reported on fundraising within the village and circulated a summary of funds raised to date. The funding group had organised a number of events over the last 14 months which had raised £13.5k. He thanked the organisers and those who had supported the events. The total amount including the Section 106 payment and subscriptions held by Oving Tennis Club and Oving Football club was £27,400. Once a location had been agreed and planning permission granted, then applications could be made to major funders – WREN, Sport England and European money for rural projects.

Forthcoming village events included the Tennis Tournament in the summer and the Great Oving Run to continue to raise as much as possible.

Roger reiterated that if it was decided not to proceed with the Pavilion project all funds raised would go towards improving the Recreation Ground.

Continued overleaf

Item 5 – Open Forum for Issues not previously Covered

Income and Expenditure

A villager queried difference in the Section 106 figure which in the minutes for last year had been reported as £10k but in the Income and Expenditure for this year was reported as £9600. Cllr Ball reported that he had rounded the number up and that interest had not been included on this figure.

Minutes

It was requested that minutes of this meeting be circulated to all attendees as soon as possible. Parishioners were requested to provide their address/email if they wished to receive the minutes. The Clerk advised that the minutes would be in draft form and would not be approved until next year's Annual Parish Meeting.

Pavilion

A parishioner commented that last year it had been projected that the Pavilion project would cost approximately £275k and funds would be raised within 3 years. Costs had now increased to £390k. He queried the difference in the figures and whether it was anticipated that funds would still be raised within 3 years. It was reported that the difference in costs was due to the fact that previously estimates had been crude and that the plans were now much more detailed.

A parishioner queried how much more local fundraising was needed and how long it was anticipated that this would take. It was reported that the funding providers looked favourably on projects where funds had already been raised locally and that 2 or even 3 large funders would be needed to top up the funds.

A parishioner queried the timescales for the money from the Section 106. It was reported that the monies had to be spent by mid 2011. It was suggested that this be the point at which it was decided whether the Pavilion project was viable. This was thought to be a reasonable suggestion.

A parishioner queried whether a site location would be agreed after asking the village as previous minutes had said the Council would go with the majority. It was reported that Oving Parish Council has to make the ultimate decision but that it was hoped that the decision would be on the basis of the majority. Advice was currently being taken from AVDC regarding how best to conduct a survey. A yes/no vote was discussed and it was advised that this would be taken into consideration. It was requested that results of the survey would be published.

A parishioner was concerned that Oving Parish Council had a preferred site – 7½. It was reported that it did not but that it was considering proposals put to it by the Design & Location Group. The parishioner wished it to be minuted that "Oving Parish Council does not have a preferred site for the location of the Pavilion".

It was also reported that of those surveys which had been returned, the majority of parishioners were in favour of a new Pavilion. Local fundraising events had been well supported and people were aware that the proceeds would be going to the Pavilion project.

The issue of running costs of the new Pavilion were raised and it was queried whether such information would be included in the survey. It was reported that this would be considered. It was anticipated that running costs would be relatively efficient with a new building. It was also reported that it was Oving Parish Council's policy not to raise the precept to fund the Pavilion project.

A parishioner reported that Chilton View Bungalow, a residential home for handicapped people, had expressed an interest in using such a facility.

A parishioner queried how much had been spent on architect's fees/quantity surveyor fees. It was reported that £4k had been paid so far.

A parishioner queried if the Football Foundation grant had been turned down. It was reported that they would not consider such a large sum.

Play Area - A parishioner queried the plans for the play area if the Pavilion is to take 3 years or more to complete. It was felt that some of the equipment was unsafe. It was reported that most of the equipment was safe for another 3 or 4 years but that an inspection from RoSPA was expected within a few weeks.

Paths/Pathways - A parishioner reported on problems on the path near the bus-stop at the junction of Bowling Alley and Stone View, and at the top of Marston Hill opposite Kennels. The Clerk would contact Highways on Call. Hedges outside Windmill House were overhanging the path and needed clipping back. The Clerk would follow up on this.

Bus Shelter - A parishioner queried whether the costs of replacing the bus shelter had been covered by insurance. It was reported that it was not insured. It was added that Public liability insurance was in place in the event of injury to persons.

Streetlights - The style of the new streetlights was queried. It was suggested that Cllr George contact the parishioner on his return from holiday. One in Pitchcott Road had already been replaced if the parishioner wished to view prior to this.

Speeding - Cllr Nicholls reported on the speed detection equipment obtained with neighbouring parishes. The equipment needed to be manned by villagers and a site decided upon. Registration numbers of offenders would be recorded and reported to police who will take action. Three or four volunteers were sought. Anyone interested should contact Stuart Nicholls on 641209.

Continued overleaf

Continued from page 15

Oving House - Cllr Peeters reported that the grounds of Oving House were being opened on 19 July as part of the Tennis Tournament. Entrance fee to the grounds was £2.50 and tickets needed to be purchased in advance. A flyer would be distributed in the next newsletter.

There were no further issues.

A parishioner wished to thank Cllr McGinn for his efforts as Chairman over the years; thanks were also extended to the whole Parish Council.

Cllr Ball thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

KIT's TRAVELS (continued)

Day One Hundred and Eight

Early breakfast at 7.00a.m. as I am being picked up at 7.30a.m. to go back to Argentina to see the falls from that side, as 90% are here in Brazil so that you need to see them from both sides. Today the temperatures are in the 90's it is like being in a sauna.

The Falls are stupendous, much bigger and more powerful than Niagara and you get completely drenched by spray, but this is very welcome in these temperatures and you soon dry off. Both sides are designated national parks and are clean and well managed. Devil's Throat is the most spectacular cataract. There is a series of walkways to view the falls on the Brazilian side, it takes about two hours to complete. After lunch I had a zodiac trip into the cataracts. (The itinerary advised wearing a swimming costume on this trip and you need it.) I was given a lifejacket to wear and a waterproof duffle bag to stash my belongings in. I was the only European in the zodiac, all the South Americans were cheering and clapping, urging the pilot to go under again and again. Frankly it was quite scary, but great fun, if anybody had been flung out, the lifejacket would have been useless in the torrent. We then rode the rapids and travelled down the river to the jungle where a jeep met us. Everybody was soaked and I got dressed in a hut to take a drive through the jungle and look for wildlife. The day was long, hot and steamy but exhilarating. Each time you cross the border you have to step into disinfection trays, the authorities are concerned about Bird Flu contamination. I got back to the hotel at 6.30p.m. absolutely knackered, but I wouldn't have missed this for the world.

To be continued

SCHORNE TEAM OF CHURCHES - SERVICES FOR JULY 2009

	Granboro'	N Marston	Oving	Dunton	Hoggeston	Hardwick	Whitchurch	Quainton	Waddesdon	Westcott	Winchendon
5 July	8.00 HC/PB AB										
4 th after Trinity		10:00 FS DH	11:00 FS AB			9:30 HC/PB DM	11.00 HC DM		11.00 FC LW+JB	9:30 HC/PB LW+JB	
Green	6:00 1 st Sunday							6:30 HC PDM			
12 July									8.00 HC/PB LW+JB		
5 th after Trinity	11.00 FC PJM	9:30 HC PJM		9:30 HC/PB AB		9:30 FS At Weedon AV	11.00 FC DM	9:30 FS PDM	11.00 Sing & Praise		9:30 FS LW+JB
Green			6:00 HC AB					6:30 ES PDM			
19 July											
6 th after Trinity	11.00 FS AB	9:30 FS DM	11.00 FC PJM		11.00 FS JB	9:30 HC AB	11.00 HC DM		11.00 FS LW	9:30 FS JB	
Green	6:00 ES PJM							6:30 ES PDM			
26 July											
7 th after Trinity	11.00 FC AB	9:30 HC AB				9:30 FC SS	11.00 MS PJM	9:30 FC DM	11.00 UM		9:30 HC/PB LW
Green			6:00 ES JB					6:30 ES PDM			
2 Aug	8.00 HC/PB PDM										
8 th after Trinity		10:00 FS DH	11:00 FS JB		9:30 HC/PB DM	9:30 HC/PB PJM	11.00 HC DM+PJM		11.00 FC LW	9:30 HC/PB LW	
Green								6:30 HC PDM			
Holy Communion at Weedon Schoolroom											
Thursdays at 10.00am											
2 July	LW	9 July	AB	Rev David Meakin	641606	Rev Janet Bayly	670245	HC	Holy Communion	PB	Prayer Book
16 July	PJM	23 July	PDM	Rev Andy Bell	670298	Rev Ann Variker	423363	FC	Family Communion	MS	Matins
30 July	DM			Rev Liz Welters	655069	Mr David Heffer	670273	FS	Family Service	ES	Evensong
				Rev Philip D Mears	655237	Rev Jim Gorringe	01525	UA	United Service at Parish Church		
				Rev Paul J Mansell	641246		240251	UM	United Service at Methodist Church		
								+B	With Baptism		