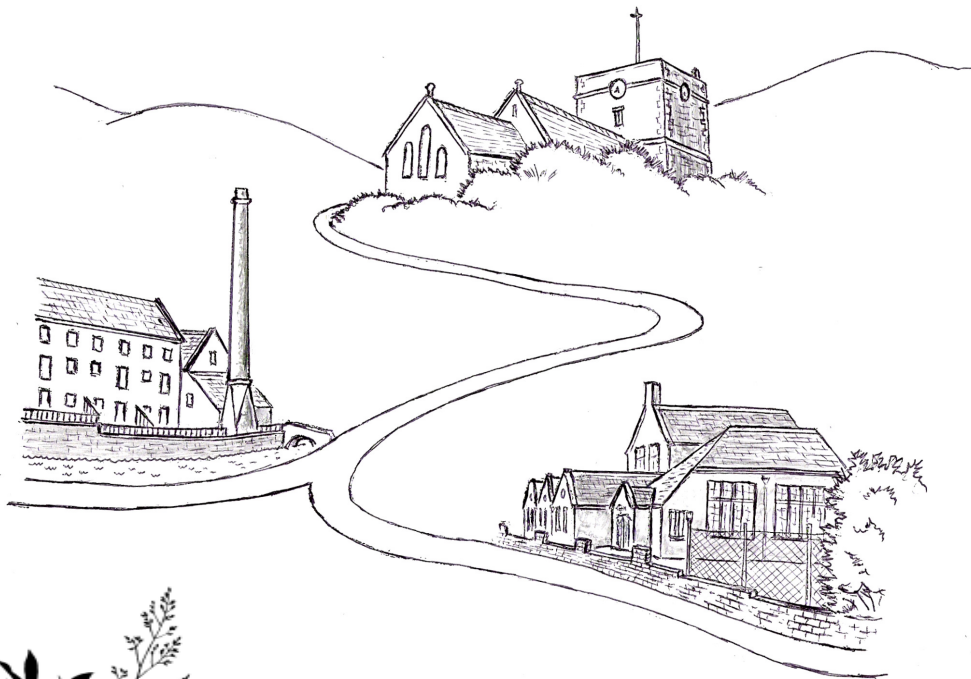


OXENHOPE OUTREACH

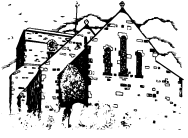
SPRING 2008



CHURCHES

SCHOOL

VILLAGE



As I write, the church is in the news again - the Archbishop 'thinking aloud' in a discussion with lawyers. A few years ago

it was the bishop of Durham 'thinking aloud' about the resurrection. "No resurrection" says Bishop", the headlines shouted.

Then there are headlines about Church leaders' attitudes to gender preferences, or women's issues.

Most people might wonder what it is all about! The good thing to come out of the eye catching headlines is that people sit up and take notice - and begin to 'think out loud' themselves - in pubs, clubs and churches! The recent headlines have begun conversations about relationships between the different groups which make up our society and made us aware of how much needs to be done and how much fear there is in some quarters.

Leadership issues and fear for the future are not new. 2.000 years ago, in Jesus' day, the Church leaders stuck their necks out, politically speaking.

But they were afraid;

Afraid of Jesus.

Afraid of the power he had over the crowds.

Afraid of how he might use his power.

So.... they put a stop to it, insisting to the Roman Governor, Pilate ' WE have no king but Caesar'.

Pilate was afraid too;

Afraid of the Roman Emperor.

Afraid of the Jewish leaders.

Afraid of having a riot on his hands.

The consequences of this fear, most of us know. The man Jesus was crucified, because people were afraid of his power, his authority. Strange and sad, to be afraid of the power of genuine love - because that's where Jesus' power lay - not in taking up arms against 'the enemy' but by reaching out: to the lonely, the vulnerable, the weak, those on the margins of society; with love - God's love shown through all Jesus' actions.

'Love God with everything you've got and love your neighbour as yourself'. They were the only orders Jesus gave, but this love led him



to places that he preferred not to go, and finally to the place of crucifixion.

Jesus' love for God and for us led him to pray in despair in the garden of Gethsemane, 'If it's possible let there be another way - not this way'.

God's love for Jesus gave him the strength and courage to accept the way of pain and suffering, to endure the shame of public execution and bear the darkness and desolation of feeling forsaken by God. 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'

Jesus had no certainty of the outcome. Easter, the Day of Resurrection, was still 3 days away, yet at the moment of death he commended his spirit to God, the Father he had always trusted.

I wonder where each of us would stand if we were asked to suffer in such a way for love? Many Christians overseas do face suffering and persecution for their love of God and their neighbours. In England we do not have to face such a challenge for our faith.

Many of us do go through times of doubt and even despair when we are confronted by the sudden death of someone close to us, or when our children suffer, or when a diagnosis of a terminal illness is made; when we can't make sense of what is happening in our lives or in society. It's reassuring that Jesus, whose life was lived so closely with God, experienced those feelings too.

Christian faith, faith in the God of love and in his Son Jesus Christ is not an insurance policy against all ills. It does not protect us from suffering. Our faith is more about how God's love is worked out in and through us in our everyday living; in our relationships both within our families and in the wider community. Its tough love, that even in suffering clings to the knowledge that after Good Friday will dawn **Easter Day**.



June and Ken Medhurst

Parish Church of Saint Mary the Virgin, Oxenhope

Priest In Charge: The Revd June Medhurst
 The Vicarage
 2 0 Gledhow Drive BD22 9SA
 Telephone: 01535 642529



Hon. Associate Priest: Canon Professor Ken Medhurst

Lay Reader: Fiona Bolam Peel,
 12 West Drive
 Telephone: 01535 648182

Church Wardens: Andrew Collinson, Jackie Cope,
 38 Gledhow Drive 30 Gledhow Drive,
 Telephone: 01535 644447 Telephone: 01535 646472

Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals: please contact June


Sundays:

8.30 am: First Sunday in month only: 'Prayerbook' Service of Holy Communion
 10.00 am: Second Sunday: Family Communion and Parade Service
 10.00 am: All other Sundays: Parish Communion and Sunday School

Weekdays:

Tuesday 9 am: Morning Prayer in Church (BCP)
1st & 3rd Wednesday 11.30am: Ecumenical Communion at West Drive Methodist Church
Wednesday 7.45 pm: (except third in month) Bellringers
 (new ringers welcome – contact Celia Holmes, tel. 643472)
Third Wednesday 7.30 pm: in Church: Women's Help Society
 (contact Margaret Hindley, tel. 643087)
Thursday 7.00 pm: in Church: Choir Practice (new members welcome)
 (contact Nicola Paisley, tel. 649392)

Holy Week & Easter at St Mary's

Palm Sunday (16 th March)	10 00 am	Parish Communion with blessing of the Palms	
Monday	7.30am 7.30pm	'Prayerbook' Service of Holy Communion Holy Communion ('Iona' Service)	
Tuesday	7.30am 7.30pm	'Prayerbook' Service of Holy Communion Holy Communion at West Drive Methodist Church	
Wednesday	7.30 am	'Prayerbook' Service of Holy Communion	
Maundy	7.30am	'Prayerbook' Service of Holy Communion	
Thursday	9.30am 7.30pm	Oxenhope Primary School's Easter Service Maundy Eucharist and Foot washing, after this service the Church will remain open until 10.00pm	
Good Friday	9.00am 2-3.00pm 7.30pm	Devotions Guided Meditation Devotions	
Holy Saturday	8.00pm	Vigil and Service of Light	
Easter Day (23 rd March)	10.00am	Easter Eucharist	

From the Methodist Minister:



Meeting Point was a meeting for adults I used to take - we once explored a series of heroes from the bible and even church history. As we approached Easter one of the weeks had to be Jesus. You will have heard the story about a Sunday school class where the teacher asks, "What two colours make pink?" A little boy puts his hand up and says, "I know it is red and white, but the answer must be Jesus." The danger is that we think Jesus is the answer and therefore the hero. Nowhere in the bible does Jesus say he is the answer but rather he is the WAY. He is the way we must go, the way we must follow even to the point of bearing our own cross. The way also for us to know sins forgiven, eternal life, peace and well being. That is why he is the hero. He is the only human being that has lived the life that God requires of us fully. Tempted in every way as we are but without sin.

In our children's club, we will be looking at the miracles of Jesus culminating in the greatest miracle, the resurrection. The Jesus who died on the cross is the Jesus who was raised to life three days later, incredible! This was neither resuscitation nor a fairytale to bring forth a new ideology but an event in history, a morning that happened and changed the course of history. Twenty-eight years ago it changed the course of my own life. If there is a greater miracle than the resurrection it is the change that Jesus continues to make in people's lives and that is a continuous event. Can this Easter be a landmark for you?

The hero, Jesus, the greatest miracle, the resurrection is what makes our faith distinct from any other faith. Which other faith offers the free gift of salvation, there for the receiving? Which other faith has as its principle person someone who was dead and now is alive? This is good news worth shouting about. Worth living for. Worth giving my all to. We are not just given 'maybe's or 'perhaps it will be all right'. One of the cheapest types of television programme in my mind must be "It'll be alright on the night." Some of us have that kind of fatalism about our eternal future. Who or what in history says it will be alright in the end, nothing and no one! However, Easter says if we put our trust in Jesus then we can know with confidence, not that it will be alright, but rather we are safe with him.

"They found the stone rolled away from the tomb but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus." Where was he? Risen! May this Easter be a time of joy, confidence, assurance, peace and wellbeing. To the praise of His name our risen and ascended Lord.

Yours in Christ,
Alf

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

May 11 – 17

'If we come together, we can achieve amazing things.'



Through the new village pani parishad (water council), Minu Basar (centre) has learned how to

harvest rainwater safely so that she doesn't have to travel for a whole day and cross a dangerous river to fetch drinking water

Christian Aid Week is seven days of fundraising, campaigning and worship. It unites 300,000 people in the UK's biggest house-to-house collection. It inspires hundreds of events brings together thousands of churches and reaches millions of people with messages about poverty. Most importantly, it helps people in poor communities around the world change their lives

Please welcome your red envelope when it drops on your mat, and give generously to help support the work of Christian Aid

Jennifer Whitaker
(01535 642612)

Find out more by visiting ["www.caweek.org"](http://www.caweek.org)



Worth a look?

This Easter, Jesus is going to be broadcast into 10 million homes. **'The Passion'** is a dramatic BBC series retelling the death and resurrection of Christ. It's scheduled to go out at peak time, in 6 half hour slots between Palm Sunday (16th March) and Easter Sunday (23rd).

Andrew Graystone, Director of the Churches' Media Council, says that 'this Easter the whole country will be talking about Jesus. Not about church politics or the finer points of theology, but about Jesus.'



OXENHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

www.oxenhopeparishcouncil.gov.uk

Mrs Elaine Pearson, Clerk to the Parish Council

Tel No.: 07818 033224

E-mail: clerk@oxenhopeparishcouncil.gov.uk

Chairman, Neal Cameron

01535 642500
neal.cameron@asda.co.uk

V. Chairman: Tony Maw

01535 645968
Tony.Maw@oxenhopeparishcouncil.gov.uk

Pauline Bedford

01535 648010

Reg Hindley

01535 643087
reg-hindley@oxenhope.fsnet.co.uk

Jeremy Mackrell

01535 642325
jeremy@mouldgreave.plus.com

Paula Berry

07850 849481
Paula.Berry@oxenhopeparishcouncil.gov.uk

David Ashcroft

07739 709114
Davidashcroft2@tiscali.co.uk

MEETINGS are held at 7.30 pm on the second Thursday of every month in the Community Centre. Parish councillors will be present from 7.00 pm for anyone wishing to discuss village matters. All meetings have a public participation time. When necessary there are planning meetings on the fourth Thursday at the Methodist church from 7.30 pm.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Councillor Derek Allen



1931 - 2008

Easter is a time of reflection for us all and it will be particularly so this year for all on the Oxenhope Parish Council following the passing of Councillor Derek Allen, a much admired and respected colleague and friend. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Camilla and the family at this sad time but also our thanks to the carers at Manorlands who made his last few months comfortable and dignified.

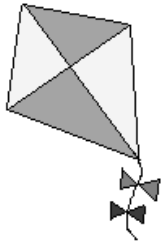
Derek served his adopted village well, without any thought of lasting legacies or personal reward and we are honoured that he took such actions. The Millennium Green, The Village Design Statement, the Parish Plan, Marsh Common, the allotments and numerous other ventures are testament in part to the drive and selfless dedication of Derek. All those who knew Derek have shared a person without question are better for their experience and will miss him.

As Derek was a serving Parish Councillor (and having been elected by more than one councillor he would have wanted to be elected as usual)

we will in the near future need to consider finding a replacement. However, no apologies for taking our time while we remember Derek.

**Neal Cameron
Chairman**





From Oxenhope C.E.Primary School

Looking back over the last few Spring issues of Outreach our contributions seem to be about building work or work in the environmental area. This issue is no exception. It must be something to do with Spring cleaning!

We have approval and can now deal with the last area of roofing that has had no work on it in recent years. That is the area at the back of school, facing the park, above our school kitchen and library area. It has caused us some difficulties recently with water penetration in bad weather so it will be good to resolve that. This work should be dealt with over the Easter break. There are plans afoot too for the environmental area. We are linking up with the Oxenhope Conservation Initiative (OCI) to further develop our environmental area and make it more community accessible as well as for school use. At a recent meeting with Robert from OCI and Ian from the Forest of Bradford we were able to identify several areas for development. These include work on hedge-laying around the perimeter adjoining the cricket field; crushed stone surfacing of the footpaths; tree thinning and the development of a small orchard and tree nursery. We look forward to this latest work in the area and the opportunity to access community based funding to support it. The most immediate work will take place in March with the planting of a further area of woodland. This will be a planting of native tree species that are coming to us free via the Co-operative Bank Trees for Schools initiative supporting The Woodland Trust in tree planting in the community.

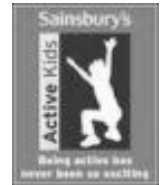
So Spring means new things. That very much reflects the conclusion of the Easter story we will be sharing in school shortly. New feelings and new situations for the disciples as Jesus was taken from them, the sorrow of his death and the astonishment and joy of new life that means he will always be with them as he is with us today. If you are able do join us for our Easter service of celebration in St.Mary's church on Thursday 20th March at 9.35 a.m. approx.

All at school wish you a happy Easter.

Mike Wragg
Headteacher



Message from the Friends of Oxenhope School



It's that time of year again. Sainsbury have recently relaunched their Active Kids scheme.

The scheme enables schools and scout and guide groups to collect vouchers which they can exchange for sports equipment, coaching opportunities and even cookery equipment, all of which represent a huge proportion of the school's resource budget. By collecting these vouchers you can help the school without it costing a penny more than your normal shop. If you are a Sainsbury's shopper (or if you're not please consider being one for the next few weeks!), please say YES to the vouchers and pass them on to the school, they will be gratefully received. The school is a vital part of our community but it continually struggles with budgetary constraints. A collecting box will be available in St Mary's Church.

To help with the funding of the school there is a small dedicated group of Parents and Teachers who make up the Friends of Oxenhope School. Since September this group has raised in excess of £3000 which will be spent on improving the facilities for the current pupils and for future generations. Projects to date have included buying a digital camera for each class to use as part of the Information Technology curriculum and a contribution towards the installation of interactive whiteboards in each class. Some of the events held are for the children to enjoy but some, such as the very successful Christmas Coffee Morning and the Village Quiz, are open to the wider community, so please watch out in the Keighley News and on posters around the village.

School Diary Dates



- 20th March Easter Service - St.Mary's church 9.35 a.m.
- 20th March: Close for Easter holiday Re-open 7th April
- 5th May: Mayday closure
- 23rd May: Close for half term - Re-open 9th June
- 11th July: Sports Afternoon
- 15th July: Presentation evening
- 18th July: Leavers service - St Mary's Church 9.35 a.m.
- 18th July: School closes for Summer
- 16th Sept: New Term starts

OXENHOPE FOLK FROM THE PAST

“Hill Farming”



There are many Oxenhope folk from the past who got their living by hill farming, many of them living and working at over one thousand feet above sea level. Some evidence of these people can be seen in the remains of dwellings, farm buildings and dry stone walls which are still on the high ground. It is now very difficult to imagine what life would have been like in the days when all these buildings and walls were still being kept in good order and when people, animals and fowl were to be seen going about their daily routine. Sheep have always been the mainstay of hill farming but some milking cows, poultry and pigs were kept. Growing crops such as wheat and oats had not been found to be worth while but was carried out during the War, no doubt as a token gesture by order of the government. Some slaughtering took place on the farms and many made their own butter. Many of the buildings were still inhabited until at least into the 1920s and the abandoned properties were still fairly recognisable until comparatively recent times. The late Mr. Joe Feather of Bodkin has left his personal reminiscences of that life.

As this high land is now water-gathering ground for the reservoirs, human activity is not encouraged, but probably the main reason for the abandonment has been the lack of gas, electricity, water and drainage in such remote places and which we regard as so essential for present day living. It is also true that hill-farming has never provided a rich living and, with better employment prospects now available elsewhere, the “denizens of the heights” have come down to milder climes. Of course, the means to provide these amenities have been developed over time and a handful of elevated properties in our area do still remain occupied. The Land Rover is no doubt an essential part of the equipment. Perhaps you will have noticed that most of the farmhouses in the district, whether on high ground or low ground, are built to face the south, with the barns etc. on the west side. This protected the living accommodation from the worst of the weather.

If you wish to read some contemporary writing about conditions on the high farms in those days, you cannot do better than to read the book *A Springtime Saunter* by Whiteley Turner. In common with many of his generation he used to

engage in long walks of exploration which he often wrote about and had the articles published in the Halifax Courier. In 1905 he spent several days walking from his home near Halifax, along Cold Edge, skirting Nab Hill and down Hill House Edge to Oxenhope. He then took in Haworth, Stanbury and Widdop, all the time talking to those he met about their lives and about the history and folk-lore of their immediate area. Turner mentions the vagaries of the weather, the state of farming, the work of the quarries about Nab Hill and he tells us that the nearest shop was “The Co-op” at Wainstalls and describes how the women would have to carry great weights of flour, sugar and other supplies up to their homes. Some farmers supplemented their incomes by working in the quarries, as did many people from the village who trudged up there on a daily basis. However you look at it, it was a hard outdoor life.

As the instalments of this narrative appeared in the “Courier” they enjoyed great acclaim and soon appeared in book form. The book has never lost its popularity and has been reprinted from time to time and is still available to interested parties. It is a good read and, if you are of local lineage, you could very well meet with one or more of your ancestors among the people named. If you are ever bored get your walking boots on and go up there - preferably on a nasty day, then you can try to imagine what life was really like up there in the old days.

Ralph Povey



Oxenhope Straw Race

Sunday 6th July 2008: A 2.5-mile charity race in fancy dress.

Two people carry a bale of straw and drink a pint of beer in each of the 5 pubs “en route”. 12.00 noon start from Waggon & Horses.

Details “www.strawrace.co.uk” or 01535-644298

OXENHOPE VILLAGE FETE

&

FELL RACE

Saturday 19th July

*on the Millennium Green
starting at 1.30pm*

(Stall holders please phone 643472)



Snippets from the Archives

SHROVE TUESDAY in some countries is marked by a "Mardi Gras" (literally 'Fat Tuesday') the last day of feasting before Lent. Nowadays in this Country it is usually marked by the tossing of pancakes and the eating of same.

This rather low-key approach has not always been so here in Oxenhope. Two exercise books of notes dated 1888 in the archives of the Church describe real Shrovetide celebrations for the children of the Church.

A special Committee was formed in 1888 under the Chairmanship of the Vicar, the Reverend Hayson, to formalise the activities surrounding Shrove Tuesday, the July Rushbearing ceremony and Christmas. There was food and also entertainment laid on, on some occasions provided by the Haworth Band. The first meeting of this Committee was on February 7th 1888. The minutes, meticulously written out in beautiful copper plate handwriting, state "that the same quantity be had as usual". Reading between the lines we would assume this was quantities of food. Another carefully written exercise book gives us a clear picture of what was on offer in the food department.

"Goods to be provided for the Shrove Tide", 14th February 1888:

24 lbs of plain bread put in 4 quarts of New Milk
10 lbs of Plain Cracks put in 2½ lbs of butter
10 lbs of Currants Cracks put in 2 ½lbs Butter
2 ½lbs of Lard 2lbs of Currants 3 pints of New Milk"

This list continues with two other types of bread and ends with

"Goods for the Day:

14 lbs of Lump sugar
7 lbs New Butter
3 Preserves
1 tea
6 quarts of New Milk"



We can only assume that there was a very large crowd of scholars and helpers to consume all this good fare. We are told a few pages further on that the" Money received was £5 - 14s - 6d. Sales of Bread came to 16s - 9½d Which brings us to the total of £6 - 11s - 2½d The Committee meeting on the 13th March gave thanks to the bakers and to those who waited at Tea Table and to those who provided the Entertainment.

We would so much like to know much more than these formal notes tell us. We will leave you to

do the conversion from lbs. and ozs. to kilos and grams and pounds, shillings and pence to new money. Also what is "cracks"? Whatever, the answer to these questions it does sound as if Shrove Tuesday on the 14th February 1888 was a "reet good do".



Interested in Local History?

Read about life in Oxenhope between 1807 and 1908 in a new book published by the Oxenhope Old Burial Grounds Trust. Entitled "Lowertown Old Burial Ground and Life in Oxenhope 1807-1908" the book traces the history of the first Wesleyan Chapel at Lowertown and adjoining graveyard. In addition there is a Timeline giving glimpses of the lives of some of the people who lived in Oxenhope in the 19th century including Elizabeth Wright of Height Lane who was born in 1815, Joseph Greenwood born 1828 of Muffin Corner and John Reddihough born at Dyke Nook in 1841 who became a millionaire. The book is illustrated by a collection of interesting period photographs.

Copies are £10 each
To view or order Tel 642325
or email "OOBGT@lowerisle.co.uk"



BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION

This year the Keighley and Worth Valley Branch of the British Heart Foundation are marking 25yrs of fundraising with a flower festival at Haworth Parish Church on the weekend of Friday 20th June. This will be a celebration of our Silver Jubilee and also a major fundraising event for which we are seeking sponsors. If you would like to support the event by being a sponsor or make a donation please contact

Anne Collinson 01535 644447
Brenda Emmett 01535 642916

Tickets for the Friday evening preview event will be available in April from committee members. The church will be open on Saturday and Sunday for viewing. Do come and share in the celebration. Over the years we have raised in excess of £220,000 and would like to thank all who have so generously contributed to this.

Anne Collinson
Chairma



Mike & Ruth's Journey Through Life

Our next posting was to Nakuru, a medium-sized town 98 miles away up the Rift Valley. It was surrounded by "settler" areas of large estates, which constituted much of Mike's business. He was the assistant manager in a branch of four officers and once again he undertook much of the older manager's work. We were allocated an old house "of much character." The roof leaked but we were assured there were ample receptacles – these turned out to be large antiquated chamberpots. The house also contained several ostrich eggs, and old silver dishes with two heavy lids which the boys utilised as shields in mock battles.

The kitchen was down a covered pathway; it had a wood-burning stove which challenged both Ruth and the cook. The food was usually dry but not always hot when it reached the table. The house presented considerable difficulties but had a certain charm. The weather could be very pleasant but tropical storms could arrive without warning. The boys were once in tropical shorts only, snowballing each other in sunshine with recently-fallen hailstones.

The school was about two miles away, so it became essential for Ruth to learn to drive, and Mike did the instruction. This she bore well, despite backseat instructions from our boys. She passed her test with flying colours and has driven many thousands of miles since.

Shortly afterwards we had a party in the garden, and Stephen asked Mike if he would take a friend home. When Mike declined because of our guests, he asked "Can I take him home then?" "Home" was only through the hedge next door, and Mike agreed, thinking they would walk there; we next saw the car driving through our rosebed with a juvenile driver perched on the edge of the seat – he had started the car in gear without reaching the pedals!

Nakuru had a number of good features. It had a famous lake, the home of literally millions of flamingos. They made a brilliant pink carpet on the surface and a huge cloud when they took off. Above Nakuru there was an extinct volcano whose slope provided local enthusiasts with hill-climbing tracks, while the crater rim was excellent for kite-flying and picnics.

The town also boasted an excellent 3-mile race circuit where, some six times a year, local enthusiasts would race high-performance cars. African cycle races also drew local interest.

.A group of men including Mike set up a syndicate to import three Cooper-Jap racing cars which they did not race (they were very unreliable and frequently broke down) but they were good fun for timed circuits. They were so low-slung that they would often graze their floor on slight bumps – very hot to one's rear!

There were two reasonable cinemas in Nakuru, but a recently opened attraction in Nairobi was the drive-in cinema, little over an hour away. We would enjoy the new experience whenever there was a suitable wide-screen film showing, and we could buy in-car suppers. We were returning late after one visit, when we came up behind a leopard ambling along in our headlights down the escarpment into the Rift Valley. We followed him undisturbed for quite a while.

We went one day for a picnic to the Aberdares, a range of flattish hills east of the Rift Valley. We drove down a slight incline to a green patch by a small river and started to lay out the meal. A black cloud appeared and we realised the slope would be tricky in rain – which started almost immediately. We put Ruth and the picnic in the car and Mike and the children started to push it with Ruth driving. We piled brushwood beneath the slipping wheels for traction and the car made it to the top. As we drove away the heavens opened. The road was surfaced with 'murrum' like most East African roads - hard packed red earth, fine but dusty when dry, but a sea of skating-rink mud when wet. When we could no longer see the road, we stopped. The rain was torrential, then deafening thunder started and lightning came striking all round us. On a treeless plateau we were probably the highest thing above ground to attract the lightning. It was a frightening ten minutes until the rain eased and we could slither slowly on our way. We had probably been insulated against a frizzling fate by the car's tyres. .

We also went to the Aberdares to visit a farmer customer of Mike's. We watched a large gathering of hippos in mud outside his farm and stopped at a gate some walking distance from his home. An ostrich approached when we left the car. The farmer called: "Don't run, he's alright." Mike was walking up, the children stood fast as instructed, but Ruth's nerve failed as the bird towered over her and she started running. As fast as she ran, the more the bird's long legs loped after her. The farmer sent an African boy to head off the bird. Our host joined us and said, "He really is quite harmless, he only wants a sweet." The boy gave it a sweet which it swallowed whole, paper and all. .

On another outing we accompanied a friend, an honorary game-warden, into one of the estates to cull some unwelcome buffalo. Mike took a shotgun to look out for small, feathered game, and Ruth brought up the rear with pockets full of ammunition. The men passed a spitting cobra unseen and it reared up and faced Mike. The others called to Mike that his gun was the only one for the snake. He carefully brought the weapon round and moved sideways, still eying the snake and it him, until the others were out of his line of fire. Only then could he deal with the target, about three feet away. Mike wanted the snake as a trophy, but he was warned to leave it as, even in death, its poison could be lethal. We returned to camp later not having seen any buffalo, but with some jungle fowl and a small antelope for the evening meal.

A later picnic weekend with the same friends took us north to Lake Baringo. We fished and

swam in the warm waters with one adult always watching for crocodiles and hippos. We had a good fish supper round a campfire, and before retiring to bed the children hung their swimming costumes over the tent guy-ropes to dry. There was much amusement next morning when they wanted to swim again and found on the ropes only the elastic framework of their swimwear – the rest devoured completely by termites! .

In Nakuru, Ruth obtained a post in the chemist's shop, where her medical background was very useful. She next accepted a post in the office of one of the large Kenyan estates as temporary Secretary, and was later offered the permanent post of Secretary. Unfortunately, we were shortly to leave for England, so it was not to be. We had booked a luxury sea journey home, and we put our car into storage and our dog into kennels, and departed by train for Mombasa.

Mike and Ruth Holroyd



COUNTRYSIDE NOTES - Wild Birds



A common crossword puzzle clue is "A bird's home" and the expected answer is "Nest". This, of course, is not so; a nest is merely a place which birds build in the Spring for the purpose of laying eggs, hatching them and giving the chicks a start in life. For the rest of the year they do not bother with the toil of keeping a nest in good repair and incidentally making it easy for their enemies to know where to find them. They may have favourite roosting places in which to spend their resting hours but otherwise the birds are free of any permanent arrangements. Similarly, bird-song is not just for pleasure, either ours or the bird's, but is generally a signal that this is the territory of that bird and others of the same species should keep away, or else!

In Oxenhope we have a good variety of bird species and I have seen 44 different birds from my own house. Some of these were just flying over but mostly they were in and around the garden.

Oliver Thomas

SMALL ADS:-

*If you would like your advert to appear in the next issue of Outreach, please contact:
Robert Whitaker on 01535 642612*

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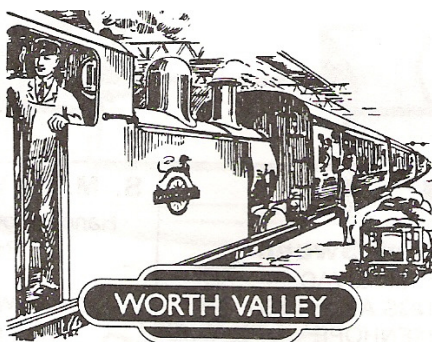
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Oxenhope Churches, Clubs and Other Activities

Antique and Collectors Society: Village Centre, fourth Thursday. (Jean Dunn 643638) 8.00pm

Ballet, Tap, Modern & Drama Classes: Boys and Girls accepted from age 3. (Sara Packham)

Baptist Chapel, Hawksbridge: Services third Sunday in month 2.30 pm. (Avril Foster 646158)

Bowling Club & Tennis Courts: Contact David Hemsley (642841)

Bridleways Group & Junior Riders: The Old White Lion Hotel, Haworth, Tuesday nearest 21st of month 8pm (Peter Hill 644868, Jackie Butterfield 644375)

British Heart Foundation: Keighley and Worth Valley Branch (643868 / 643638)

Brownies: Contact Georgina King (646349)

Cricket Club: Sec. Nick Holbrook; Juniors Ian Dyson (649023)

Elderly Gentle Folk: West Drive Methodist Church, Monday and Wednesday 10.30 am to 2.45 pm (includes cooked lunch) Co-ordinator Wendy Docherty 01535 272657 or 07917 390545

Football: Ray Broadbent (646957)

Gardening Club: Village centre, third Thursday 7.30 pm (Ann Barrans 644234)

Guides: Tower Room, St Mary's Church, Monday 7 - 8.30 pm (Sue Hall 01535 210483)

Karate Club: Village Centre, Tuesdays 7.30 pm (Kevin Allmond 647186)

Keighley and Worth Valley Railway: Volunteers welcome, any age. Ask at Oxenhope or Haworth stations (whilst trains running) for a Local Residents Railcard and save 50% on fares.

Keighley & Worth Valley NCT Postnatal Support Group – See details below

Library Bus: Monday: Best Lane 1.20-1.40 pm; West Drive 1.45-2; Gledhow Drive 2-2.15; Marsh 2.20-2.35 (Bradford Central Libraries 01274 753600)

Line Dancing: With Cool Catz Monday night 7.30-9.30 Social Club (Ring Catrina 01535 604782)

Oxenhope Methodist Church:

Sunday Morning Worship 10.30 am

Women's Fellowship, alternate Thursdays 7.30 pm (Marion Greenwood 645667)

Oxenhope Millennium Village Green and Village Fete: Volunteers to assist at the annual Fete are always very welcome. (Ring Ann Barrans 644234)

Manorlands: Volunteers Co-ordinator, Linda Yewdall (272521)

Weekly celebration of Holy Communion, Thursday 2.15 pm

Coffee Club: Old White Lion Hotel, Haworth first Wednesday 10.30 am

Marsh Methodist Chapel: Morning Service 10.30am (Rev. Dr. Lewis Burton 646287)

The National Childbirth Trust Ante-natal classes, post-natal support, informal weekly meetings and occasional outings and socials (Carol Fellingham Webb 647130)

Odd Fellows: The Lamb Inn. Last Friday in month (George Sutcliffe 01274 560937)

Oxenhope Old Burial Grounds Trust Volunteers welcomed. (Norma Mackrell 642325)

Oxenhope Church of England Primary School: Head: Mike Wragg (642271)

Friends: Joint Chair: Lynne Butler / Rebecca Ingham, Secretary: Louise Scott.

Please contact via the school.

Oxnop Singers: Choir practice: Village Centre, Mondays 8pm (Jack Smith 604779)

Parish Council: Village Centre, second Thursday 7.30 pm (Clerk, Mrs Elaine Pearson 647046)

Rainbows: Contact Lyn Leng (647945)

Roman Catholic Church: Ebor Lane, Haworth (Fr Ben Griffiths 643240), Sunday 10 am;
Confession: Saturday 10.30 -11am)

Under Fives: Village Centre Playgroup: Monday to Friday, 9.15 -11.45 am.

Playgroup Staff 0785 1702283 (mornings).

Mums and Tots (and baby clinic) - Wed. 1.15 -2.45pm

Yorkshire Countrywomen's Assoc. - Worth Valley Branch: Village Centre 7.30 first Thurs. in month (Celia Holmes 643472)

Youth Club: Village Centre, Wednesdays 18.00 – 20.00 (Peter Baines 646032)



Editor's Note: Your articles, news, comments, corrections and suggestions for improvement will be gratefully received. Contributions for the Autumn edition should be sent to me as soon as possible and no later than **3rd August 2008**

Tony Matthews – The Sett, Yate Lane, Oxenhope, Keighley, BD22 9HL (01535 649095)
e-mail: rectorym@freenetname.co.uk



OXENHOPE VILLAGE DIARY



- March** 06 - Yorkshire Countrywomen's Ass. AGM. Hostesses The Committee, Village Hall, 7.30pm.
06 - Methodist Women's Fellowship, Craft of pottery making. Come and have a go.
13 - Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm.
13 - Methodist Women's Fellowship, AGM & Supper.
16 - Hawksbridge Baptist Church, Palm Sunday, Chris Rukin & Friends from Fartown.
19 - St. Mary's Women's Help Soc. Sue of Oxenhope, "Nail works."
20 - Gardening Club, "An evening with Chris Beardshaw", Members only, Village Hall, 7.30pm.
27 - Antique & Collectors Soc. AGM. Village Hall, 7.40 for 8.00pm.
- April** 02 - British Heart Foundation (Kly & Worth Valley Br.), Fashion Show/Luncheon, The Clothes Shop
03 - Yorkshire Countrywomen's Ass. Speaker to be arranged, Village Hall, 7.30pm.
10 - Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm.
16 - St. Mary's Women's Help Soc. Chris Ireland-Bunting, "Musical Plumbing".
17 - Gardening Club, Sue Beasley, Lodgelove Nursery, BBC Gardener of Year, Village Hall, 7.30
20 - Hawksbridge Baptist Church, Rev. David Muschamp, Communion Service.
24 - Antique & Collectors Soc. Mark Sykes, "Native American Beadwork", 7.40 for 8.00pm.
- May** 01 - Yorkshire Countrywomen's Ass. Speaker to be arranged, Village Hall, 7.30pm.
08 - Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall 7.30pm.
15 - Gardening Club, No meeting or visit.
18 - Open Garden for National Garden Scheme, Mrs H. Belsey, Brookfield, Oxenhope, 1.00-5.00pm.
18 - Hawksbridge Baptist Church, Rev. Bruce Grainger.
21 - St. Mary's Women's Help Soc. Paul Chenery, "The Lighthouse Group"
21 - Open Garden for National Garden Scheme, Mrs H. Belsey, Brookfield, Oxenhope, 1.00-5.00pm.
22 - Antique & Collectors Soc. Roy Young, "150 years of Wedding Dresses". 7.40 for 8.00 pm.
- June** 05 - Yorkshire Countrywomen's Ass. Speaker to be arranged, Village Hall, 7.30pm.
12 - Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm.
12 - Yorkshire Countrywomen's Ass. Walk from Oxenhope Railway Station, 2.00pm.
15 - Hawksbridge Baptist Church, Rev. Dr. Paul Severs, Communion Service.
18 - St. Mary's Women's Help Soc. Visit to the Cheese Shop in Haworth.
19 - Gardening Club. No meeting or Visit.
20 - 21st & 22nd. British Heart Foundation (Kly. & Worth Valley Br.) Flower Festival in Haworth Parish Church. For details ring 643868 or 642634.
26 - Antique & Collectors Soc. John Lockett, "Early history of Books & Reading". 7.40 for 8.00pm.
29 - Open Garden in aid of British Red Cross, Mrs.H. Belsey, Brookfield, Oxenhope, 1.00 -5.00pm.
- July** 03 - Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association. Speaker to be arranged. Village Hall 7.30pm.
06 - Gardening Club Outing to Lodge Lane Nursery & Arley Hall Gardens, Cheshire.
10 - Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm.
10-Yorkshire Countrywomen's Ass. Walk from Oxenhope Railway Station. 2.00pm.
13 - Hawksbridge Baptist Church, Anniversary Services, 2.30 & 6.00pm. Rev. G. Brownlee.
18 - St.Mary's Women's Help Soc. Visit to Haworth School Children's Garden with Steve Thorpe.
19-Village Fete, The Millenium Green, 1.30pm.
24 - Antique & Collectors Soc. Day visit to Astley Hall.
- Aug** 07 - Yorkshire Countrywomen's Ass. Speaker to be arranged. Village Hall 7.30pm.
14 - Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm.
14 -Yorkshire Countrywomen's Ass. Walk from Oxenhope Railway Station 2.00pm.
17 - Hawksbridge Baptist Church, Miss,. Doreen Ainscough 2.30pm.
21 - Gardening Club. Visit to Dove Cottage Nursery.
23 - British Heart Foundation. Concert in Haworth with Airedale Male Voice Choir.
28 - Antique & Collectors Soc. Day visit Come Valley Museum & Standedge Tunnel
- Sept** 04 - Yorkshire Countrywomen's Ass. Speaker to be arranged, Village Hall,7.30pm.
07 - British Heart Foundation, Canal Walk.
11 - Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall 7.30pm.
11 - Yorkshire Countrywomen's Ass. Walk from Oxenhope Railway Station 2.00pm.
17 - St. Mary's Women's Help Soc. Bishop of Bradford Rt. Rev. Dr. David James.
18 - Gardening Club. Linda Smith, "Creating a Bog Feature", Village Hall, 7.30pm.
21 - Hawksbridge Baptist Church. Harvest. Rev. Anthony Taylor.
25 - Antique & Collectors Soc. Chris Scaife, "Robert Thompson The Mouseman".