

## Catch Your Train to Oxford, Reading and London

*Fed up of trying to win the car park lottery? Tired of expensive rail car park charges? Then try the new improved X8 railbus*

If like me you travel to Oxford and London fairly often, you can find yourself too late to get a space in the Charlbury station car park, even as early as 9.00 am. Maybe you then decide to drive on to Oxford and catch the Park and Ride at Thornhill, only to find that by 9.30 am this is full and overflowing into the estates across the road. So do you go to Thame then and the Chiltern Line? Drive all the way?

### **X Appeal**

Why not catch the X8 railbus instead? This has been re-timed to leave the Post Office at Shipton every hour from 9.30 am and arrive at Kingham station 20 minutes later. The first two buses each day make good connections with trains to Oxford, Reading and London and you can be at Paddington two hours after boarding the bus. Afternoon departures from Paddington or Oxford connect with the railbus at Kingham to take you home. But the X8 does not run after 5 pm, so for early evening returns it is better to get

out at Charlbury and catch the other railbus, the C1, which is waiting to take you on to Shipton (you have to tell the driver you want to go to Shipton).

### **Early Birds Catered For**

Earlier birds are catered for by this same C1. If you can get yourself to Shipton Post Office by 6.42 am you can be in London by 8.51 am. An even quicker journey at a more user-friendly time sees you on the bus at 7.58 am and in Paddington by 9.47 am.

All is now clearly set out on the bus stop timetables. But the best idea is to get your own copy of the new **Cotswold Line Railbus Timetable** from the Council enquiry office in Witney or of course any station. You can even see how to get straight through to Chippy by bus, including on a Sunday.

Looking further ahead the new double-track railway line will certainly allow more stops at Shipton station. Our campaign continues!

**Robin McConnachie**

## Protecting Ground-Nesting Birds

With spring soon to be upon us we hope, I would like to ask everybody to give a thought for our wildlife while enjoying the countryside. Many of our ground-nesting birds are easily disturbed by walkers or dogs without us even realising it, leaving nests to go cold or losing chicks that then die. They are most vulnerable from March to July, although this does apply for the whole year. So when out for your walk please be aware of this and keep to the footpaths with dogs under close control and keep the countryside code in mind.

**John Busk, Gamekeeper**

### **From the Countryside Code:**

By law, you must control your dog so that it does not disturb or scare farm animals or wildlife. On most areas of open country and common land, known as 'access land' you must keep your dog on a short lead between 1 March and 31 July.