

THE OVINGTON ORACLE

February 2006

No. 2/06

Hi, everyone,
WELCOME TO 2006, hands up those of you who are still writing 2005 on their letters and cheques? It does take awhile to get used to the New Year, still, it is nearly spring and the bulbs are beginning to peep through the ground, soon be time to plant our seeds for fresh vegetables and flower displays. Right, what's on the horizon for the month of February? Let us have a look at the 'resume' in the diary format first, then elaborate at length on some of the forthcoming attractions,

FEBRUARY DIARY

1st Feb	Gardening Club	7.45 pm
6th Feb	Bowls Club	1.45 pm
13th Feb	Bowls Club	1.45 pm
15th Feb	Parish Council	7.30 pm
16th Feb	Phot Scrapbooking	8.00pm
20th Feb	Bowls Club	1.45 pm
21st Feb	Ladies Group	7.45pm
22nd Feb	Village Hall AGM	7.30 pm
27th Feb	Bowls Club	1.45 pm
4th March	Quiz & Chips Nite	7.30 pm
22nd April	Table Top Sale	10.00am

All these events are held in the Village Hall.

VILLAGE HALL A.G.M.

22nd February at 7.30pm

This wonderful facility, which we all use and benefit from, at one time or another, sadly, does not run itself. So every year about this time we look for a few willing volunteers to assist in maintaining this vital asset.

Please note that we only accept volunteers, no-one is press ganged or forced into helping to keep our hall ticking over. The meeting is open to all and is arranged to show the achievements of the past year. The financial status of the Hall is presented in a simple and interesting way, giving we hope, an indication that the demands upon the team running the Hall are not as arduous or time consuming as might be imagined.

Look forward to seeing you there.

SCOTTON TROPHY QUIZ 'n CHIPS NITE.

After the disappointment of having to cancel the Scotton Trophy Quiz in October, due to lack of entries, it was decided to reschedule the quiz for March and incorporate it into our popular Quiz 'n Chips format.

So gather your teams (of four people) together and come to Ovington Village Hall on

Saturday 4th March at 7.30pm to pit your wits against former champions and the area's finest brains (well, we live in hope!)

An evening of good humoured mental jousting is on offer, together with a piping hot supper from the "Codfather".

Tickets are available at **£6 each from Ed or Christine** – ring **885848** to book your team of 4 in a.s.a.p. because space is limited and the food has to be ordered in advance. For last years St. Georges Day Quiz n' Chips, several teams left it too late and missed a good night out.

The ticket price covers a fish, or chicken and chips supper with a soft drink or tea or coffee. If you require anything stronger to calm your nerves, or help you think, you can bring your own booze. Teams should assemble around 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start.

See you there.

BOWLS CLUB.

Are still meeting and playing regularly on Monday afternoons, they would love to see some new faces, would welcome talented bowlers, and would truly embrace beginners to the sport. Dennis is dying to pass on some of his tips and ideas on how to demolish the opposition. Seriously though, they are a friendly bunch and really do have a good time, even roll the odd ball now and again between knocking back the tea and biccies. For more information contact Peggy on 884073

CHURCH NEWS

Very many thanks to everyone who helped with organizing services and events in my absence during the Christmas period. Also, to the many helpers who cleaned and decorated the church for each occasion. Unfortunately, I had to miss everything. Pansy.
The churchwardens and P.C.C. send their best wishes to all for 2006.

CHURCH ROTA FOR FEBRUARY

5th. Feb	No service
12th. Feb	9am Parish Communion
Lesson	Mr. C. Springford
	Mrs. P. Westwood
Steward	Mrs. P. Lovewell
Flowers	Mrs. R. Rednall
19th. Feb	3pm Evensong
Lesson	Mrs. P. Westwood
Steward	Mrs. P. Westwood
Flowers	Mrs. P. Lovewell
26th. Feb	9am Parish Communion
Lesson	Mrs. A. Johnson
	Mr. D. Pritchard
Steward	Mr. D. Pritchard
Flowers	Mrs. P. Westwood

Special Crib Service at Ovington.

The magic and wonderment of Christmas was revealed in the eyes of "Children of all ages" who came to the Crib Service, at a full Church on Christmas Eve.

Canon Mair linked the Theme of "The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe (Narnia) to the Christmas story, ably assisted by Laura Sproston. Gathered by the Crib the children were sent on a treasure hunt around the Church to find hidden boxes to support the story and Baby Jesus. (Who was fortunately found to complete the Nativity scene) They were also given a surprise visit by Father Christmas who took time out from his busy Christmas Eve schedule to hand out special balloons and sweets.

The Christmas decorations sparkled at this candlelit service as we all sang carols with gusto. Special thanks to Christine Reilly for so ably accompanying us on the organ.

Afterwards, all were offered a drink and a mince pie, with sweets for the children. The happy faces of the children and the sense of community brought favourable comments from friends old and new. Many said how good it was to see a full Church for this

service and it gave us all a good start to the Christmas festivities.

Our sincere thanks to all those who made this special event possible.

Connie Springford & Maria Warwick.

GARDENING CLUB.

The presentation this month is by Ken Harbutt from Rougham Hall Nurseries, who will explain the relationship between Poppies, Weather & Rain. Ken is a very popular speaker much in demand so we are sure you will enjoy his talk.

Do come. Annual subs only £5 or £1 a meeting.

PHOTOSCRAPBOOKING.

Another Village activity, growing in popularity, takes place on the third Thursday of each month in the Village Hall. Once again it would appear the social and friendly atmosphere, coupled with the creative exercises makes for an enjoyable evening. All welcome.

RAINFALL FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2005.

We apologise for omitting the November readings from last months Oracle.

November 2005	75 mm or 2.95 inches
November 2004	48 mm or 1.88 inches
November 1995	55.5 mm or 2.18 inches
December 2005	32.75 mm or 1.28 inches
December 2004	32 mm or 1.25 inches
December 1995	39 mm or 1.53 inches

Thanks again to Ted Bowman for these readings.

LADIES GROUP

Our sincere thanks to Canon Mair Talbot who was the guest speaker at the meeting on 17th January. Her subject was headed "The Real Vicar of Dibley"

We were all interested to hear how she came into the ministry and her many experiences along the way. A most enjoyable evening was had by all the ladies present.

The next Ladies Group meeting will be held on **21st. February at 7.45pm.** The guest speaker is Mr. Robert Chalmers and his subject will be "A visit to Matchu Pitchu"

THANKS

Thank you for your prayers, the many get well cards, flowers and fruit sent to me during my stay in hospital. Also to those who spared the time to pay a visit. Everything was very much appreciated.

Pleased to say I only use a walking stick when I venture out, and I am now able to do some housework – not my favourite occupation, but it has to be done.

Pansy.

NEW BABY.

Welcome to Eliza Lucy Upton, born on January 11th.

Congratulations to Mum Sophie & Dad Chris.

OVINGTON LOTTERY.

Many thanks to those lucky people who have rejoined the lottery again this year.

You can still join, having missed the first draw you will get in at the bargain price of £11.

See Grace at 31 The Street or ring 882246.

January Winners:-

£10	No 13	Doug Wickwar
£ 5	No 18	Tracy Punt
£ 5	No 34	Sue Mortimer

CREATIVE WRITING.

The Wayland Partnership is hosting FREE creative writing workshops over the next two Saturdays, especially for members of the Wayland community.

These are as follows:

Sat 28th Jan 10am – 12 noon Carbrooke Village Hall.

Sat 4th Feb 11am – 12 noon Hockham Village Hall.

Caroline Gilfillan is leading the workshops to support our Word Journey Project (visit www.wayland.org.uk/site/word-journey for more information) and will show you how to describe your favourite places or memories of Wayland in beautiful words. Absolutely no experience necessary! The results may even be included in their new colourful guide book...

If you are interested in attending, or likewise know of anyone who may be interested, please contact Claire Salley on 01953 883915 to book a place. We hope you will join us.

IT DOESN'T HURT TO TAKE A HARD LOOK AT YOURSELF FROM TIME TO TIME AND THIS SHOULD GET YOU STARTED.

During a visit to a mental asylum, one visitor asked the Doctor what the criteria was which defined whether or not a patient should be institutionalised.

“Well” said the Doctor “We fill up a bathtub with water, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the patient and ask him or her to empty the bathtub”

“Oh I understand” said the visitor “A normal person would use the bucket because it’s bigger than the spoon or the cup”

“No” said the Doctor “A normal person would pull the plug. -----

Do you want a bed near the window?”

Sid.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Come along to this gathering of Village Elders on **15th February at 7.30pm** and witness how Ovington is run and how wisely your taxes are spent. Time is set aside during the meeting for the public to bring to the council any matters which may be giving them concern

The County/District councillor is usually present and will also answer queries.

The meeting takes place in the warm and cosy environs of the small committee room in the Village Hall.

FLY TIPPING

There have been several incidences of fly tipping of late, especially along Church Road. Although it is unlikely you may witness those responsible, but if so, do not become involved. The Parish Council welcomes information of any sightings, car numbers etc. so that they may take the appropriate action. We would also welcome reports from anyone who notices illegal tipping as we can then ask Breckland Council to respond. They usually clear away the mess within 24 hours. Just tell us where it is. Thanks.

Contact No's 882246 or 889342.

TABLE TOP SALE in the
Village Hall on 22nd April 10-2pm
For Village Hall funds.

You know it's spring cleaning time so don't dump your surplus treasures, bring them along to our Table Top sale and make yourself some easy money in the process. Tables in the hall will be provided, or if you want to set up outside in traditional car boot style then:-

Book your Table @ £5. each, or £4 outside. From Michelle on 884544 as soon as possible. Snacks and refreshments will be available. Hurry, availability will be on a first come first served basis.

TO CLEAN(OR NOT TO CLEAN?)

Included in the instruction booklet with my new vacuum cleaner are the following, very useful, warnings:

1. "Close attention is necessary when used near children."
(Surely only very, very small ones – Borrowers, perhaps?)

2. "Do not leave vacuum cleaner when plugged in."
(Why? Will it run amok in my absence, terrorise the dog and wreck the house?)

and my favourite piece of advice:

3. "Keep free of dust, lint, hair and anything that may reduce air flow."

Phew, what a relief! Thank you Electrolux for freeing me from the drudgery of spring-cleaning. I can now follow the advice on my fridge magnet with a clear conscience: "Housework won't kill you, but why take the risk?"

If you have acquired something with similarly helpful instructions, perhaps a swimsuit labelled 'Dry clean only', please let us know!

Christine

POLICE MATTERS.

We have had notification that the Mobile Police Station, will be positioned at the following locations during the period January to March 2006.

ASHILL 23/02/06 & 23/03/06 between the hours of 09.00 & 10.30.

BRADENHAM 23/02/06 & 23/03/06 between the hours of 11.00 to 12.30

SHIPDHAM 23/02/06 & 23/03/06 between the hours of 13.30 to 15.00

SAHAM TONEY 09/02/06 & 09/03/06 between the hours of 13.30 to 15.00.

The mobile unit is situated in one or more villages throughout the Western Police Division on a daily basis. But we have listed only those in our immediate vicinity. For the full list contact the Parish Council on 01953 882246. The Police Station in Watton is also manned at various times during the week, for timings of these opening hours see board outside the Police Station.

This list will be updated to include times and dates for the period April to June in our March / April editions.

BOOKINGS

Please ring **Michelle on 884544** to book the Village Hall for your meetings or parties

DEADLINE

Please may we have your submissions for next months publication by the **17th February 2006.**

To contact the editors of The Oracle:

Laura at Sunnyside Farm	889151
Christine at Saham Road	885848
Grace at 31 The Street	882246

TALE PIECE.

A Bus station is where a bus stops.

A Train station is where a train stops.

On my desk, I have a work station.....

Need I say more.....