

OVINGTON ORACLE

JUNE 2007

No. 6/07

The warm welcome, which follows, must be read with a midland accent. "Ow do yu do pal"
This continues our theme of regional greetings, anyway nice to see you all again.
Well summer is fast approaching and with it our world renowned Summer Fete. The behind the scenes movers and shakers (some would say pushers and shovers) have been busy coercing folk from far and near to participate or lend a helping hand into making this year a tad more successful than last year. A bit of a tough challenge we reckon, but nothing daunts the planning committee when the bit is between their teeth. So, just in case you didn't quite hear what we have just said, here is the loud version.

OVINGTON SUMMER FETE

**WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE GROUNDS OF THE
VILLAGE HALL**

ON

SATURDAY 16th JUNE 2007.

2pm till 4pm.

**Everyone welcome, free parking and
entrance.**

**Teas, coffees and refreshments available
throughout.**

We will have the following stalls: -

BOOKS:	Maria Ana	BRIC A BRAC	Liz.	CAKES:	Pansy and Kelly
CRAFTS:	Christine H	PLANTS:	Ed	GIFTS:	Michelle
TOMBOLA:	Richard and Ann			RAFFLE:	Ann, David and Connie

There will be several Competitions and Sideshows including Aunt Sally's crockery smashing

NB. We will be collecting for the fete, in & around the village on Tuesday 5th June from 7pm. Please leave any goods for the above stalls, on your front doorstep.

We are unable to accept any items for the fete after Wednesday (13th) except Cakes, which can be delivered to the Village Hall from 11am on Saturday (16th)

GENTLEMEN: If you are able to give us a helping hand to erect the Gazebo's & awnings from 9.30am on Fete day, we would be most grateful.

JUNE DIARY.

4 th June	Bowls Club	1.45pm
5th June	Collection for Fete	7.00pm*
6 th June	Gardening Club outing	7.00pm*
11 th June	Bowls Club	1.45pm
16th June	Summer Fete	2pm to 4pm
18 th June	Bowls Club	1.45pm
19 th June	Ladies Group Picnic	6.30pm
25 th June	Bowls Club	1.45pm
28 th June	Village Hall Assoc.	7.30pm

To be held in Village Hall except where marked*

GARDENING CLUB.

The club had a very sociable coffee morning / open garden on 12th May. The weather held and many members and visitors enjoyed the event. The plant stall was very busy (indeed it sold out) and along with the raffle, cakes stall and name the pig competition, funds for the club have been swelled appreciably.

Carol and Brian's garden was much appreciated and Rasher the pig was a talking point, the club wishes to thank them for their hard work and indeed for all those involved. The meeting on the 6th June at 7pm will be held at Sue Nicholson's Blackmoor Nursery at Shipdham, there is a small charge of £3.00 per person, which includes a guided tour of the garden and nursery, refreshments and home made cakes.

To help with the catering could all those interested in coming along contact Jenny or Carol and we will pass on any further details and directions needed.

Our meeting on 4th July is also a nursery visit once again ring Jenny or Carol for advance details. Don't forget non-members are always welcome.

For details of the club or any of the events in which you might be interested please contact Jenny 01760 723306 or Carol 01760 440719.

MAY LOTTERY RESULTS.

£10	No 33	Betty Jones
£ 5	No 23	Joy Johnson
£ 5	No 19	Doug Wickwar

THE BOWLS CLUB.

Is going through a period of expansion ---- due in the main to the quality, and quantity, of the catering laid on at all our meetings.

Dennis is now undertaking a strict regime of strenuous exercise to control his own personal expansion rate. He will now stride purposefully between ends rather than his more usual casual stroll. In addition he will now tell longer jokes instead of the brief one-liners we are all accustomed to hearing-----again.

We are all quite mad, but boy do we have some fun. Oh yes, we also play bowls.

LADIES GROUP.

Ladies Annual Dinner: Everyone agreed that our annual dinner on 11th May at the Griston "Wagon and Horses" was a success.

Twenty-one of our members enjoyed an evening of good food, good company and despite the weather, a great deal of laughter. There was even a song or two on the coach taking us back home.

I would like to thank all the ladies who helped me to ensure that everyone was properly looked after.

Ladies May Meeting:

If you see queues of ladies carrying black bags outside the local charity shops, it is the result of our guest speaker Joanne Allen's talk at our meeting on 15th May.

Joanne advised us all about the colour and textures of clothes we should be wearing- according to our differing hair and skin colour. We all confessed to sticking to our old favourites only to be told that we were invariably wrong! We look forward to her next visit when we can show her the fruits of our labours.

Next Ladies Group meeting – 19th June

Our next Ladies Group meeting will take the form of a picnic and treasure hunt. This will be held outside (weather permitting) or in the village hall if not. Everyone is invited to bring along a plate of their choice and the club will provide all the drinks. It has been suggested that we all meet at **6.30pm** to ensure that we get through what is hoped will be an eventful evening.

Connie Springford.
Hon. Sec. Ladies Group.

PARISH COUNCIL.

Well, the election as run by our beloved (by whom? Ed.) Breckland District Council seemed not to have attained the excellence promised by said council. We know there were problems, not entirely unexpected, with the new electronic vote counting system (Spanish made.) But the whole lead up to the actual day of voting turned out to be a catalogue of disasters.

Some people failed to receive their polling cards, not essential but a vital reminder that a poll is imminent. Some didn't receive their postal votes, despite working for the council as polling clerks and / or registration officers. Could have made a difference if there was a close call in the results.

The District Council failed to send out posters to notify the public who the candidates for the election were. Therefore it came as something of a surprise to find that the polling station was actually open on the 3rd May.

(In Saham, everyone received a polling card although there was no election scheduled to take place. The resulting chaos outside the non-existent polling station was not considered very funny by the masses of thwarted voters. Ed.)

Despite not receiving the results of the Ovington Poll for 6 (six) whole days, (still no official notification of the result from Breckland by the way, results were eventually obtained by checking the Internet!!!!) It appeared that Ovington had indeed accomplished something of a record with a 57% turnout. May seem low but it was the second highest in Breckland, where the average overall was 37%.

We are also reliably informed that there were no spoiled ballot papers either. So well done Ovington.

For those of you who have not checked the Notice Board, looked on the BDC website, or heard on the grapevine, the New Councillors are as follows: -

Mrs. Janet Armstrong.

Mr. John Hardy.

Mr. Christopher Lewis

Mr. Rod Rumsby

Mr. Jeremy Woods.

All of whom are dedicated to serving your needs, are approachable at all times to help resolve your problems or queries, and look

forward to meeting you at any of the Parish Council meetings.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING.

Much better turn out this year, a grand total of 14 people (inc 3 from Carbrooke, who just wanted to see how things should be done) This unexpected influx of hungry bodies had the Chairman dashing out to Tesco's and / or Summerfield's to get a couple more tea bags and yet another packet of broken biscuits.

As some of the participants had to be in bed by a certain time the Parish Council AGM was held first. A deal of paper shuffling then ensued as the newly elected councillors signed the forms required to initiate them into the brotherhood of councillors.

The councillors then decided that Rod Rumsby again assumes the mantle of Chairman and Chris Lewis continues in post as Vice Chairman.

The council then appointed new councillor Janet Armstrong as their representative on the Ovington Fuel Trust and re-appointed Rod Rumsby as the representative for the Village Hall Committee. A date for the next meeting being agreed as Thursday 24th May at 7.30pm the AGM was brought to a close.

The Parish meeting took the form initially of glowing reports from the various organisations operating within the village. All thriving and financially stable it would appear.

Speeding traffic through the village seemed to be a problem for many of our residents, and the District councillor and Parish Clerk were asked to contact the relevant authorities to see if there were deterrents available to curtail these irresponsible motorists. All present then declared that they were more than happy living in Ovington and could they please have their due rewards. i.e. refreshments.

WELCOME TO OVINGTON.

A rather belated welcome this time to Mr. and Mrs. Lane, who are living at Water End, sorry folks we didn't know you were there. Look forward, as always, to meeting you at some point. The Fete is always a good time for breaking the ice----- er, not literally we hasten to add.

CHURCH NEWS.

Church services for June

3rd June		No Service
10th June	9am	Parish Communion
Lessons		Mrs C. Springford Mrs. P. Westwood
Steward		Mrs. P. Westwood
Flowers		Mrs. R. Rednall
17th June		No service
24th June	9am	Parish Communion
Lessons		Mrs. A. Johnson Mr. D. Pritchard
Steward		Mr. D. Pritchard
Flowers		Mrs. B. Hicks

As from the 1st May St. John's Church will be joining Carbrooke, Saham Toney and Ashill Churches to form a Team Ministry under the leadership of Rev'd Jane Atkins, who is living in the rectory at Ashill (opp. The Church). Watton will be on it's own, when a new Vicar is appointed.

FRIENDS OF OVINGTON CHURCH.

The team have been pounding up and down the sward behind their mowers, avoiding the lovely wildflowers springing up through the manicured grass. Richard, who sits down to do his bit has made short, but good, work of cutting the open area to the north of the village hall. The formerly bare areas are starting to show green now that the long awaited rain has motivated the carefully sown grass seeds to spring into life.

The entire Churchyard looks pleasing to the eye. This was confirmed when a party of Deans and Canons from Norwich paid a visit earlier this month and declared themselves impressed with the look and feel of the Church surrounds.

JUNIOR ENGINEERS K'NEX

CHALLENGE in NORFOLK.

Charlie Prothero and Cameron Goldie (aged 8 – 11) both pupils at Thompson School were entered into the K'nex challenge. Their well-oiled ideas resulted in winning showcases at the regional final; they then went on to the Hethel Engineering Centre to compete in the final against 18 other teams. Well done boys, even though you didn't win it was a highly commendable effort.

RAINFALL FOR APRIL.

Or, where did the April showers go?

April 2007	0.75mm or 0.03"
April 2006	19.5mm or 0.76"
April 1997	15.75mm or 0.62"

As this is being written it has rained and now it's stopped again

THE PERILS OF AGEING

Two elderly ladies had been friends for many decades. Over the years they had shared all kinds of activities and adventures. Lately, their activities had been limited to meeting two or three times a week to play cards.

One day as they were playing, one looked at the other and said, "Now don't get mad at me. I know we have been friends for a long time, but I just can't think of your name! I've thought and thought, but I can't remember it. Please tell me what your name is."

Her friend glared at her. For at least three minutes she just stared and glared at her. Finally she said, "How soon do you need to know?"

A BRAIN TEASER.

If you were to spell out numbers starting at one. How far would you have to go until you found the letter "A"?

No prizes for the correct answer, which should be written on a crisp bank note and presented to any of the editorial team.

VILLAGE HALL.

Bookings can be made by calling Michelle on: - 01953 884544.

To contact the Oracle editorial team call: - Christine, Saham Rd. on 01953 885848 Grace. 31 The Street on 01953 882246 or "e - mail" kestle@supanet.com Liz, Ceda Cottage on or "e - mail" lizcurley@yahoo.com
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STOP PRESS

FETE

We also need any unwanted crockery for Aunt Sally's crockery smashing stall. And any good Bric a Brac.