

# OVINGTON ORACLE

JULY 2007

No. 7/07

## SUMMER FETE DECLARED A SUCCESS DESPITE TORRENTIAL RAIN.

Saturday morning of the 16<sup>th</sup> June, the race was on, would the teams get the marquees and gazebos up before the heavens opened? Well the answer was yes & no actually as there were a few wet shirts before the covers came over. Hedging their bets, as always, the committee decided to re-locate some stalls and the refreshment tables inside the Village Hall, leaving the more hardy members to brave the elements under canvas. 1.35pm, all set up and ready to roll, car parks manned, stall holders waiting with bated breath for the hordes of free-spending public to descend, when, yep, it teemed down again. This time, just to emphasise the fact that one cannot ever foresee British weather conditions rolls of thunder and visible bolts of lightning accompanied the rain. Nothing daunted the committee asked The Rev. Rod Broughall to declare the fete open, which he did, ending his welcoming address with a word of advice to his Boss that raindrops did **not** need to keep falling on our heads. It worked, the sun shone for the rest of a most enjoyable (and profitable) afternoon. Fetes, bazaars and other events don't just happen, in this instance it took 30 hard working, willing volunteers to prepare, plan, set up, run, and clear up afterwards. (That's 10% of our population folks). I reckon that Ovington owes them a big vote of thanks. Their efforts also ensure that the Church and Village Hall benefit from the resultant cash injection. Well done, and thank **you** all for coming along and supporting a great afternoon of fun and entertainment. Grateful thanks also for the wonderful gifts and donations made on the collection evening and afterwards.

### FETE RESULTS.

Total £795.50 (up on last year)  
Which means the Church receives: - £397.75  
And lo & behold The Village Hall: - £397.75

### JULY DIARY

July 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
July 4 <sup>th</sup>	Garden Club outing	7.00pm
July 9 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
July 15 <sup>th</sup>	Open Air Service	3.00pm
July 16 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
July 17 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies Group	7.45pm
July 19 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council	7.30pm
July 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
July 28 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies Group BBQ	6.00pm

### SPREE BOOKLET

These are available again this year from Christine at Saham Road or ring her on 885848, she will be only too pleased to show you a copy and prove to you what bargains are on offer.

The current edition will be valid until October 2008; they have proven in previous years to be value for money. The savings to be made from shopping and dining out at the establishments advertised are impressive.

Another consideration is, of course, the financial benefits to the Village Hall, a percentage from the sale of booklets goes to help the running costs of this invaluable institution.

### JUNE LOTTERY WINNERS

£20	No.7	Jane Lambert
£10	No.44	John Hardy
£ 5	No.56	Barbara Powdrill
£ 5	No.11	Rex Malton

### BOWLS CLUB

They've been having so much fun of late that they have gained four new members, but have been too convulsed with laughter to submit a report on their activities. Dennis has found a new joke book apparently!

## INTER VILLAGE QUIZ

This item should have been published in last month's Oracle, no excuse offered by the editors. We just forgot. (Utter shower)

**On Friday May 18<sup>th</sup>** a team of intellectual genii, representing Ovington Village Hall, set off for the uncharted, but picturesque, wilds of Caston Village Hall, where they had been inveigled into taking part in an inter-village quiz.

The gathering in the hall of other seemingly more experienced teams did send a shiver of apprehension down our team's collective spines.

But having first chatted up the question master they settled down and engaged brains.

It was a tough contest.

The final result saw Ovington's team placed a very creditable second place, with only a few points separating them from the top scorers. Flushed with their success the team are now considering entering other quizzes.

## VILLAGE HALL

Advanced warning. The Committee have arranged for a **50 / 50 silent auction** to take place in the Village Hall on **Saturday September 22<sup>nd</sup> between 11 am and 1.30pm.**

The idea being that if you wish to enter any good quality items in the auction please let any member of the Village Hall committee know before September 14<sup>th</sup>. You, the vendor, will receive 50% of the selling price.

Further details will be publicised at a later date. This will give you time to sort out that priceless jewellery, antiques, furniture, old masters, bank notes etc. This might be the opportunity you have been waiting for.

## RAINFALL FOR MAY

May 2007	151mm or 6.04 inches
May 2006	72mm or 2.88 inches
May 1997	64mm or 2.57 inches

I know we had to make up for the dry April but May's figure has gone from the sublime to the ridiculous, mind you that's only our opinion. Thanks again to Ted Bowman for these readings. As this is being written it is still raining cats and dogs so expect June's results to be showing a tendency towards higher veterinary charges.

Oh! Never mind.

## GARDENING CLUB

Our members soon forgot a dull, cool evening when Sue Nichelson of Blackmoor Row Nursery, Shipdham, started her tour of her private garden. The garden was a delight and covered many aspects of gardening, Sue was very knowledgeable, answering all questions thrown at her by our enquiring members. Whilst Sue organised teas and cakes the members searched for their favourite plants from the garden in the Nursery, many people went home very happy after tea, homemade cakes and clutching their plants. We thanked Sue and her husband for a wonderful visit and I am sure our members will visit the nursery again.

Our July visit (**July 4<sup>th</sup>**) will be another outside visit to a garden at North Pickenham. Any one interested in the visit or for further details of the club, please contact Carol on 01760 440719 or Jenny on 01760 723306

## LADIES GROUP

The meeting for June took a different form – it was a Picnic and Treasure Hunt. Our gallant band took to the roads and the Church to try and resolve the clues. In the event, everyone received a prize just for being good sports. The picnic had to be moved indoors as the weather turned cool, but lots of lovely food provided by all the ladies made it an enjoyable and fun evening.

A donation will be made to the Church for allowing us to include it in our programme.

### Next ladies group meeting

Our next meeting will be a repeat of last years pottery evening with Mel Wallis-Jones as that was such a success. We look forward to seeing all the new ladies in the village at our meeting and we can recommend this as a really enjoyable evening.

### Annual BBQ – July 28<sup>th</sup>

Don't forget we have our fund raising barbeque on July 28<sup>th</sup> at 6.00pm at the home of Marie and Bob Warwick. (2 Church Road).  
Connie Springford.  
(Sec Ovington Ladies Group)

## PARISH COUNCIL.

Next meeting is on Thursday July 19<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Everybody welcome. (Beats Coronation Street – just)  
Any matters you wish to raise at the meeting, contact the Parish Clerk on 01953 889342

## CHURCH NEWS

### Church services for July

<b>July 1<sup>st</sup></b>		<b>No Service</b>
<b>July 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>Parish Communion</b>
Lessons		Mr R Akister
		Mr C Springford
Steward		Mr R Akister
Flowers		Mrs A Akister
<b>July 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>3pm</b>	<b>Open Air Service with Watton Silver Band</b>
<b>July 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>Parish Communion</b>
Lessons		Mrs A Johnson
		Mr D Pritchard
Steward		Mr D Pritchard
Flowers		Mrs C Springford
<b>July 29<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Joint Benefice Service</b>

The Church wishes to thank everyone who supported the summer fete. We thought we were going to be rained off, but like true "Brits" we pressed on regardless. The afternoon was lovely and we raised a good sum of money, which will be divided equally between the Church and Village hall. (See page one for details)

On July 15<sup>th</sup> at 3pm we are holding our 'Open Air' Songs of Praise with Watton Silver Band, followed by cream teas (at £3.50 per head) in the Village hall. Please bring your own chair and, if it is hot and sunny, a hat.

Congratulations to the Rev'd Julie on the occasion of her ordination at Norwich Cathedral on June 30<sup>th</sup> 2007.

St John's Church, whilst not being in the centre of the village is, nevertheless, a building of which Ovington can be proud. It has a wonderful quality of peace and tranquillity, as well as a beauty that can be quite overwhelming. Sometimes, when we are burdened or have concerns or worries, we look to go to a place where we can contemplate these in peace. Until now, we have kept St. John's Church locked, for fear of theft or vandalism, but one of our members has offered to open it every Wednesday afternoon from 2pm to 3pm. If you would like to spend some time quietly sitting in our Church, please do take advantage of this. If Wednesday is not convenient, you may always obtain the key from Pansy Westwood or Connie Springford.

### FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH.

This happy band of pilgrims is still thrashing up and down behind, or on, their grass cutting machinery. (Despite the current weather) We have noticed the Church Yard is looking far neater than it has for some time, this being reflected by the positive comments from the, surprisingly, large number of visitors to the Church.

### DOG FOULING

You may recall we mentioned the new laws regarding Dog Fouling in public areas. The penalties for allowing, or not clearing up, dog mess will in future be more severe.

This warning does not seem to have entirely sunk home with some dog owners, as there is, if anything, even more dollops of dog mess along The Street and Carbrooke Road. The Parish Council have asked us to point out that they are taking these new measures seriously and will definitely prosecute anyone seen to be contravening the act. Ovington folk on the whole are not happy with the mess in their village, and are becoming ever more vigilant in attempts to spot and name the culprits. You have been warned.

### BONFIRES

We were asked by a correspondent sometime ago to highlight the problems caused by bonfires being lit when the wind direction is inappropriate and sends smoke into peoples property, gardens and over drying washing. It would seem that this wish for consideration has not been heeded. Please, before lighting fires check on wind direction and ensure the smoke does not affect your friends and neighbours, otherwise you could easily lose the former and be confronted with the latter in a not too happy mood. Consideration please.

### VACANCY

Lodger required to share recently refurbished, furnished two bed-roomed bungalow in Watton. Own bedroom, sharing other facilities, gardens front and rear, parking space. Non-smoker.

For further details Contact Barbara or Harry on 01953 881848

## RECIPES

The Wayland Partnership, enterprising as ever, are looking to publish a selection of recipes with a local flavour, reflecting where possible the tastes of the villages in the Wayland area. We thought that as a major food producer, Ovington folk will have a head start on our neighbours, and would effortlessly conjure up a recipe knocking spots off all other offerings. Way back in 1980, the Ladies Group published a whole book of recipes, which were tried and tested ones, favourites of their families at that time. Most of them were based on good old country fare such as Norfolk Dumplings, Sheep's Hearts, Cider Cake, Apple and Blackberry Crunch, Jam Roly Poly, you know the sort of thing we mean. So the challenge is issued, can you produce a recipe, with the flavours, colourings and peculiarities (not too peculiar, please) that you feel represent the uniqueness of Ovington. Either send, transmit, telephone, shove through the letterbox, dictate, or pass to any of the editorial team. Failing that you may send direct to the Wayland Partnership at Wayland House, High Street, Watton, Norfolk, IP25 6AR. e-mail [jan@wayland.org.uk](mailto:jan@wayland.org.uk) (Rod says he is willing to taste test all dishes submitted, the deadline for his testing will extend to 2010) (Gluttony is a sin Rod. Ed.)

## ON BEING BRITISH

Being British is about driving in a German car to an Irish pub for a Belgian beer, then travelling home, grabbing an Indian curry or Turkish kebab on the way, to sit on Swedish furniture to watch American shows on a Japanese TV.

And the most British thing of all? Suspicion of all things foreign!

Only in Britain can a Pizza get to your house faster than an ambulance.

Only in Britain do banks leave both doors open and chain the pens to the counters.

Only in Britain do we leave cars worth thousands of pounds on the drive and lock our junk and cheap lawnmower in the garage.

Only in Britain are there disabled parking spaces in front of a skating rink.

## DE / RE-FORESTATION IN OVINGTON.

To compensate for the removal of two extreme conifer hedges from properties along The Street, it is good to see that the green lungs of the village will continue to function with the introduction of a minor forest along Church Road.

Well done.

**Question: -**

When is a bridge not a bridge?

**Answer: -** When it is in Saham Toney!

**THINK ON.**

A little lad was asked by his teacher what the word BENIGN meant?

His answer was "Benign is what you will be after you be eight"

His friend was asked how you could stop milk from turning sour?

He replied "Keep it in the cow!"

A commercial traveller was nearing the hotel where he hoped to spend the night, when his car broke down. Lifting the bonnet he was checking the connections when a horse put his head over the hedge and told him it was the distributor cap. After checking this he was able to resume his journey. Arriving at the hotel he promptly told the manager of his experience. The manager asked if it was a black horse and when he was told it was, he replied, "Good job it wasn't the white one – it knows nothing about distributors"

**DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES, REPORTS, FUTURE EVENTS, ETC. FOR THE AUGUST EDITION OF THE ORACLE BY JULY 20<sup>TH</sup>. THANK-YOU.**

<b>To contact the Oracle editorial team, call: -</b>	
<b>Christine. Saham Road</b>	<b>01953 885848</b>
<b>Grace. 31 The Street</b>	<b>01953 882246</b>
<b>Liz. Carbrooke Road</b>	<b>01953 883851</b>

**To book the Village Hall your contact is: - Michelle on 01953 884544.**