

# OVINGTON ORACLE

AUGUST 2007

No. 8/07

## 'Ow do me old pals, me old bewties

Continuing our theme of international welcomes, we move this month to dear ole Zummerzet and 'er famous zyder.

Cider is not exclusive to Somerset you know, there has long been a tradition of brewing the golden liquor in Norfolk.

Indeed there are orchards in Ovington from where the very best apples are sent to the cider makers throughout this and neighbouring counties. If you find this difficult to believe just ask our incumbent apple crusher, Ed, who will be only too pleased to give you enlightenment on the restorative powers of cider. Enough of this talk of booze, my thirst is gasping to be quenched.

What's in store for you this month? Good question. Realistically this is the time of year when all those folks with children, recently sprung from the strict regimes of Her Majesties Institutions, (schools we mean) leap away to pastures new for a week or two. We have heard that flights from Carbrooke's recently opened international airport may soon be inaugurated. Contact your nearest travel agent for details.

It is not our intention to belittle Carbrooke Airlines aviatory enterprise. But, we were a little disconcerted to see, on a recent visit to their flight line, their latest acquisition, which turned out to be a Wellington Bomber!!! (Circa 1940) Liked the paint job though.

We know you are all waiting with bated breath to read how much rain we actually had during "Flaming June". So, with thanks again to Ted, (who must have been heartily sick of continually emptying his rain gauge) for the figures.

## RAINFALL FOR JUNE

June 2007	158mm or 6.32ins
June 2006	28mm or 1.12ins
June 1997	119.3mm or 4.77ins

## JULY LOTTERY WINNERS

£10	No 3	Rosemary Philpot
£ 5	No 43	Christine Hardy
£ 5	No 59	Mavis Scamell

## AUGUST DIARY

August 6 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
August 13 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
August 20 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
August 21 <sup>st</sup>	Ladies Group	7.45pm
August 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Deadline -Oracle</b>	12noon
August 27 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
August 30 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council	7.30pm

## VILLAGE HALL

**Don't forget we are holding a 50/50 Silent Auction on September 22<sup>nd</sup> between 11am – 1.30pm.** If you have any good quality items you would like to auction let any committee member know by September 14<sup>th</sup>. Full details will be available in next months Oracle.

## SPREE BOOKLETS

Still available from Christine on 885848

## BOWLS CLUB

Always ready to "Du Difrent" the club decided to have a change to their usual format last week. For a start they changed the day of their meeting to a Tuesday, which meant they could take advantage of the delivery service offered by "Watton Plaice" and thereby precede their bowling session with a hearty meal of Fish and Chips. These meals lived up to expectations, arriving on the dot, piping hot and beautifully cooked.

Some said it was a cunning ploy by Denis to slow down the competition so he could continue his winning streak. It worked.

To be fair though, grateful thanks were given to Molly & Denis for organising such a splendid meal and social afternoon.

## HOW TRUE

Marriage is a relationship in which one person is always right, the other is a husband.

## **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Meeting held on July 19<sup>th</sup> :**

The Parish Council was suitably encouraged by the unprecedented attendance of no less than three villagers at its meeting this month. They were privileged to hear that our campaign to get a footpath to Watton is still under consideration when a two page letter from the highways authority advised us that we have 38 points but, sadly, 45 are needed if they are to allocate us any of their meagre funds.

The good news, however, is that we may get a properly constructed bus stop on the A1075 with a hard standing to keep our feet dry (but no shelter, so bring your own umbrella). This is opposed by District Cllr. Rogers who would prefer that the bus be diverted through The Street and Church Road. There was some concern that this would increase the number of bus movements through the village to one an hour on some days which would add to the problems already caused by steadily increasing heavy traffic. It was noted that the status of the 7.5 tonne limit in Church Road needs clarifying. We were also advised that residents who have been attempting to maintain the grass verge in good order have been put under pressure by the County Council for planting shrubs intended to deter wearing down the edges. The council maintain that motorists have the right to drive over the verges and they (the NCC) have the right to level anything within two metres of the highway, including hedges, fences or any other obstruction. A quick look around the village shows that this may have implications for many of us whose property or hedge extends right up to the edge of the metalled carriageway quite apart from ruining our chances in the Best Kept Village competition.

We will be placing an item on the agenda of our next meeting to enable a wide ranging discussion of road and traffic matters so book your seat now!

### **Note from the Clerk.**

If you have a matter of importance that you wish to bring before the council, please could you let the clerk know before the actual meeting. This will ensure that the item is included in the agenda, thereby giving the Council authority to make decisions on the matter, Contact John Goode 01953889342.  
Next meeting on **August 30<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm**

## **LADIES GROUP**

**Meeting held on July 17<sup>th</sup>:** this months Ladies Group meeting was a meeting of intense activity. Colour paints and brushes were flying and the end result was a wonderful array of eggcups, plates, mugs and place mats – many named after the numerous new grandchildren recently presented to the proud grandmothers in the group.

The speaker for the evening, Mrs. Wallis – Johnson, has taken away the pottery to be fired and will deliver it back to Connie in time for the next meeting. A competition will be held to see which of our ladies has shown the most imagination and a prize will be given to the winner.

### **Next meeting – August 21<sup>st</sup>.**

Patricia Barton will be our guest speaker at the next meeting and will give us a demonstration on flower arranging. As usual, this will be held in the Village Hall at 7.45pm. Come and join us for this fun evening – new members always welcome.

### **Donation.**

It was agreed at the meeting this month that a gift of a much – needed vacuum cleaner should be donated to the Church – which has been received with grateful thanks.

Connie Springford  
(Sec. Ovington ladies group)

## **BRECKLAND HARMONY**

Breckland Harmony have been very busy in 2007 including joining the Gt. Ellingham Methodists for their anniversary celebrations and recently a summer concert at St. Mary's Church Watton.

Our next event will take place in the Wayland Hall on **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October**. This is in aid of the Royal Air Forces Association and other charities, so we look forward to seeing both old and new friends there.

If you enjoy singing please do come along and join us. We are a very friendly group of ladies and our conductor is Julia Grover.

We meet every Monday at 7.30pm in Ovington Village Hall. Contact Julia on 01953 483654 or Hazel on 01953 483771.

## CHURCH NEWS

### Church Services for August

Aug 5 <sup>th</sup>		No Service
Aug 12 <sup>th</sup>	9am	Parish Communion
Lessons		Mr C Springford Mrs P Westwood
Steward		Mrs P Westwood
Flowers		Mrs C Springford
Aug 19 <sup>th</sup>		No Service
Aug 26 <sup>th</sup>	9am	Parish Communion
Lessons		Mr R Akister Mrs B Hicks
Steward		Mrs B Hicks
Flowers		Mrs B Hicks

### SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE

I now have the sponsor forms for the cycle ride, which takes place on **September 8<sup>th</sup>**. The money raised is divided equally between the Norfolk Churches Trust and our Church. If you prefer to walk this is also acceptable, especially if you visit the towns and city. For forms and further information please contact Pansy on 883978.

### CONGRATULATION

Saturday 30th June was a bit of a Red Letter Day for our church. Our Curate, Revd Julie Oddy, was ordained priest. She is still training, but is now allowed to preside at the Eucharist, give God's blessing, and pronounce absolution. It may not seem a 'big deal', but, for those of us who have spent many years testing our vocation and then training for the priesthood, it is more than we ever dared to hope or imagine.

The Ordinations took place at Norwich Cathedral and were led by the Bishop of Norwich, Bishop Graham. It was a wonderful service and several of us went from the five churches in our Group. Afterwards there were the celebrations, which were originally planned for the Rectory gardens, but eventually changed to the Wells Cole Centre at Saham Toney to avoid the rain.

Julie led her first communion service on Sunday 1st July and is still looking as though she is drifting around on a cloud of happiness.

**We are so pleased that Ovington is part of Julie's formation as a priest and we wish her well for the future.**

**Rev Jane**

### OVINGTON CHURCH OPEN

Just a reminder that St. John's is open for visitors, quiet reflection, prayers etc. every Wednesday afternoon from 2pm to 3pm.

### THANKS

Very many thanks to everyone who supported the Church at the open-air service. For another year the sun shone for the service, but not long after it rained hard. Pansy

### A CHRISTMAS TRIP

### VALKENBURG CHRISTMAS MARKETS

**4 Days/ 3 Nights From £209pp**  
**Departs 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2007**

### What's included:

- **Local coach pickup**
- **Return tunnel crossings**
- **3 Nights accommodation in the Schaepkens hotel, centrally located hotel in Valkenburg on half board basis**
- **Visits to Maastricht and Aachen Christmas Markets**
- **Visit to Bruges**
- **Stop at Pidou Beer & Wine Warehouse**

Prices are based on 2 people sharing a twin/double room. Single room supplements of £30 per person will apply. Entrance to Valkenburg Caves – 3euros – payable locally. Hotel Website [www.hotelschaepkens.nl](http://www.hotelschaepkens.nl)

For further details ring Barbara Harrold  
01953 883394

(Item 6 looks good. Ed.)

## **GARDENING CLUB**

Members were disappointed that the garden visit planned for our July meeting had to be cancelled due the amount of rain we had suffered in June and July.

No meeting in August.

We are back in the Village Hall for our September meeting on **Wednesday**

**September 5th** when we have a talk on herbs from Old Hall Plants Nursery.

Meetings are held in Ovington Village Hall from 7.45pm and visitors are always welcome. (£1.00 a meeting). For further details of the club or the meeting please contact Jenny on 01760 723306 or Carol Salmons on 01760 440719.

## **STORY FROM DENIS**

George the farmer had a large orchard at the bottom of his garden; he also had a lovely clear, cool pond just beyond the orchard.

George loved to sit by the pond and contemplate his good fortune. On this particular day George took a bucket to the orchard and filled it with his rosy red apples.

Feeling pleased with himself, George wandered down to the pond but was surprised to hear amidst the splashing of water, laughter and the happy sounds of ladies. He was even more surprised to see on the edge of the pond several piles of ladies clothing including underwear!! The ladies saw George at the ponds edge and cried out that they would not leave the water no matter how long George stood there. George said "Stay as long as you like" holding up the bucket "I've only come to feed the alligators"

## **DEADLINE**

For reports, articles etc. to be included in the **SEPTEMBER** edition of **The Oracle**, to be with us before **12noon on August 22<sup>nd</sup>** anything received after this date will be included in the October edition.

## **HALL BOOKINGS**

Please contact Michelle on 01953 884544

To contact the editorial team, call: -

Christine, Saham Rd. on	01953 885848
Grace, 31 The Street on	01953 882246
Liz, Carbrooke Rd. on	01953 883851

**THIS SPACE HAS BEEN LEFT FOR YOU TO WRITE YOUR VERSION OF THE SURPRISE ENDING IN THE LATEST HARRY POTTER BOOK. PRIZE WILL BE AWARDED FOR THE BEST SUBMISSION. PENS TO PAPERS GUYS:-**