

OVINGTON ORACLE

APRIL 2009

04/09

Hi everyone,

Welcome to the April edition of our Village Newsletter, It's good to see the daffodils giving a golden glow along the roadside again, this despite the ravages caused by the diggers and ditching brigade last year whilst the flowers were still in bloom. It would appear from a letter below that there are certain selfish people around who consider it their unassailable right to help themselves to our blooms-----Hmmmmm.

Keep your eyes open folks, don't let them get away with it, after all you paid for the bulbs in the first place.

APRIL EVENTS DIARY

April 1 st	Gardening Club	7.45pm
April 4 th	Starters/Puds 7pm for 7.30pm	
April 6 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
April 13 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
April 14 th	Pre Fete Meeting	2.00pm
April 17 th	Ladies Dinner	7.00pm*
April 18 th	Village Litter Pick	10.00am*
April 20 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
April 21 st	Ladies Group	7.45pm
April 22 nd	Village Hall Association	8.00pm
April 27 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
May 2 nd	Quiz & Supper	7.00pm

All events in village hall except marked *

OVINGTON VILLAGE QUIZ

– Saturday 2 May, 7.30pm

Just a timely reminder to get your teams together and enter into this year's quiz as soon as possible. At time of going to press (mid March) almost half the spaces have been booked already, so don't delay, as places are limited!

Call Christine on 885848 to book in your team. Details: Teams of 4 @ £6 a head which includes a cold salad buffet-style supper and tea/coffee afterwards. All proceeds, including the raffle, go towards Village Hall funds, which need boosting to cover this year's planned improvement projects.

MARCH LOTTERY RESULTS

£10.00	No. 10	Rosemary Philpot
£10.00	No. 36	Ethan Tomkins
£ 5.00	No. 22	Angela Wynne

PRE FETE MEETING

Our Summer Fete will be held on **Saturday June 13th**. There will be a pre fete meeting to discuss the format and plan the arrangements at the Village Hall on **April 14th at 2pm**.

Do come along, if you feel you would like to help in any way, with new ideas, by assisting on the day. If you are unable to attend the meeting but would still like to contribute to the fete please contact Christine 889920 or any hall committee member. This meeting is open to everyone in the village.

OVINGTON GARDENING CLUB

The March meeting welcomed Richard Ford of Park Green Nurseries who specialises in Hostas. Over the last twenty-five years they have gained more than 170 gold medals at national shows, including 7 gold medals at Chelsea for their exhibits. We learnt that Hostas are the most preferred foliage plants and range from small varieties which produce a plant only 6" high and wide to very large 3' high and 9' wide. There are over 50 species and more than 8,000 varieties with leaf colours form almost white through yellow to variegated, different greens to almost blue. Any variegated plants require full sun to maintain their colouration and any Hosta does best with a minimum of 8 hours' sun.

Hostas can last 20-75 years without moving their position or dividing, as the plant reaches an optimum size and then does not grow any larger. We were told to start their life potted in container or hanging basket compost until they fill a 6-8" pot and then plant out into soil improved by organic matter. Soil should be damp (but not boggy) and mulched to keep the soil cool and moist. Feed with bone meal every two years and feed twice each year with half-strength fertiliser to get best results. Slug control should begin with 4 or 6 pellets per plant as soon as the first shoot appears after winter and then maintained to prevent leaf damage.

These were some of the useful tips picked up during the talk and if you would like to gain more gardening information, we would be pleased to welcome you to Ovington Village Hall at 7.45pm on **Wednesday 1 April** for our next meeting: "Making a Wildlife Pond". For further information, call Ed on 01953 885848 or Carol on 01760 440719.

SELFISHNESS.

About 4.30pm on Saturday 14 March, I was in my garden when a car reversed down the road and then stopped. A woman got out and to my surprise started picking daffodils from our verge-side plantings. I dashed out to find the driver picking daffodils on the other side of the road by the bridge. When I asked what he thought he was doing, his response was that he was picking daffodils from council land and that he was fully justified in this as he had paid his council tax. I pointed out that the bulbs had been planted as a community improvement project and that he was denying others the opportunity to see the plants in bloom. His response was to ask to see proof that I had planted the bulbs, but that as they were on council land, he had paid his council tax and that he had checked with the council that he was entitled to pick them and carried on!

Thanks to the couple in a grey Mercedes, their arrogant, selfish vandalism has deprived villagers and visitors of the chance to see those flowers this year.

Ed Reilly

LADIES GROUP

Our March meeting saw Mike Wabe, dressed as a medieval monk, telling us about life in the year 1175. I think he was the most entertaining speaker we have had in a long time. It was really interesting and held everyone's attention as he made it so interesting. Unfortunately due to illness, weddings and prior engagements numbers were a bit low but those attending had a very enjoyable evening.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 21st April. Gail Daines will be speaking to us about 1940's Fashions. She will be bringing examples of the clothes that were worn in that era. The competition is an object beginning with I. As usual the meeting is in the Village Hall and begins at 7.45pm. New members and visitors are always welcome.

ANNUAL DINNER FRIDAY APRIL 17TH 7pm for 7.30pm

Our annual dinner is being held at The White Hart at Rocklands. If you travel out on the Attleborough Road just before you get to Rocklands there is a junction on your right. It has a sign for the pub on the corner. Just follow the road and you will reach The White Hart. Take great care, as the road is very narrow and windy. There will be a taxi home arranged by the committee. The cost is £17.50, which is to be paid on the night. Angela will have notes for everyone with their choice of menu in case you have forgotten what you ordered. We look forward to seeing you all there.

CHURCH NEWS

Our Annual Parish Church Meeting will be held on **Tuesday 31st March at 7.30pm** at Redwood House (BKPO Richard and Ann Akister) and will be in the form of a Wine and Nibble evening. You are all invited and it would be good to welcome some new 'blood' at this meeting.

Each **Thursday 8am** Said Communion

April Church Rota

April 6th (Mon) 7.30pm Holy Communion

Steward Mrs B Hicks

Lessons Mrs B Hicks, Mr C Springford

April 12th EASTER DAY.

9am Holy Communion

Steward Mr R Akister

Lessons Mr R Akister, Mrs P Westwood

April 26th 9.30am Morning Worship

Steward Mr D Pritchard

Lessons Mr D Pritchard, Mrs A Johnson

The Church will be decorated for Easter on **Saturday April 11th from 10am** onwards. Help with flowers; greenery and decorating the church will be very much appreciated.

WAYLAND FIRST RESPONSE

This organisation has been instrumental in giving rapid first aid to Ovington's people on many occasions over the past few years. Organisations within Ovington have supported them financially but they now need more volunteers to enable continuation of their essential services.

If you think you could spare a few hours a month, then see the posters located around the village for contact details. A worthwhile cause.

LITTER PICK

This annual event now recognised as being one of the more significant social happenings, is to be held this year on **SATURDAY APRIL 18th**. If you are concerned that the untidy state of the village is not to your liking, then you will be welcomed with open arms and a full kit of safety and litter picking equipment to assist in changing the face of Ovington.

We foregather at the **village sign at 10am**, and after the tidy up you are all invited to the village hall for light refreshments.

PARISH COUNCIL

Unconfirmed Minutes of meeting 5/3/09

Present. Councillors Rumsby, Lewis, Armstrong, Woods, Hardy

In attendance J. C. Goode. Clerk.

1. Apologies for absence. County Councillor J. Rogers
2. Minutes of meeting 22/1/09 proposed as a correct record, agreed and duly signed.
3. Matters arising from minutes.
Clerk reported that CPSO Evans has left this post to go for Police Training; we shall be advised of his replacement in due course.
4. Correspondence.
 - Invitation to Watton Town Council Civic reception. Councillor Rumsby to attend accompanied by Councillor Armstrong.
 - Invitation received to St. John's Church Annual meeting on Tuesday 31st March at 7 30 pm.
 - All who are available will attend.
 - Breckland Council, re emergency coordinator, Councillor Lewis volunteered to fill this position, this was unanimously agreed.
 - Letter from Norfolk Accident Rescue Service requesting financial assistance.
 - Deferred to Budget meeting.
 - Letter from Mrs Lewis re: fly tipping. Clerk to write to Trevafield Fasteners, blank sheets of paper with their heading having been found amongst rubbish tipped on Church Road. Councillor Lewis to supply the address.
5. Finance.
 - Payment of Clerk's salary authorised and cheque signed.
6. Planning.
 - No applications received
7. Allotments
Preliminary enquiries are being followed up by Councillor Hardy with the Glebe surveyor for rental of land adjacent to the village hall and owned by the Diocese.
8. Breckland Council Financial Inclusion Strategy.
After discussion it was decided that no action needed to be taken.
9. Untidy Gardens.
Following a copy email from Mr. M. Pemberton received by the Chairman, Councillor Hardy said that he was following up the situation regarding the empty

property and the Chairman has spoken to others. This led to a wider discussion of the state of the village and the Clerk was asked to write to Mr. J. Pearson, NCC Highways to say that the inspectors visit is still awaited and that the chair of the Parish Council would like to accompany him. There has been no response to a number of phone calls. Concern was again expressed about used cars in Crown Crescent.

10 Litter Pick.

It was agreed that a village litter pick should take place on Saturday 18th April with, as usual, refreshments for volunteers afterwards.

11. Other matters.

Serious concerns were expressed regarding difficulties in contacting and obtaining appointments at Watton Surgery. It was suggested that an item should go into the next edition of the Oracle and the matter be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

12. Date of next meeting.

This will be the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting on May 14th at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 20.47 hours.

WATTON MEDICAL PRACTICE.

Following on from concerns expressed at the recent Parish Council meeting that the service provided by Watton Medical Practice is not to the standard that prospective patients expect.

It was agreed that if any person in Ovington who feels that there has been an occasion where the service of WMP has been sub-standard then they should contact either the Parish Clerk or any councillor with times and dates when they were unable to obtain the required attention.

Names and medical details are not required.

The PC will then undertake to contact the NHS in the hope that they can resolve the current unsatisfactory situation.

Clerk: Mr. J. Goode 889342

Chair: Mr. R. Rumsby 882246

Cllr Mrs. J. Armstrong 883363

Cllr. Mr. J. Hardy 889920

Cllr. Mr. J. Woods 883953

FEBRUARY RAINFALL

February 2009	75.0mm or 3ins
February 2008	39.5mm or 1.58ins
February 1999	27.0mm or 1.08ins

Thank you Ted

CASTON CAMERA CLUB

Is planning to hold its first open exhibition in Caston Village Hall of members work on Saturday/Sunday April 11th/12th 10am – 4pm. Refreshments available, as well as a Tombola stall. The club was founded at the end of 2006 and now has over 60 members from the surrounding area. Their skills range from complete beginners to experienced and skilful photographers. Everyone is welcome. Admission is FREE. Some of the Exhibits on display will be for sale.

UNWANTED COINS

If you have any foreign coins, or out of date English coins e.g. old 50p, 10p, florins, half crowns, thrupenny joeys etc.. please let Grace (31 The Street) have them, where they will be put to good use by 'Action for Children'

SAYINGS

Following on from the sayings in the February Oracle here are two from Pansy.

1. A patch on a patch is beggarly.
(Even though my mother never had much money she would never sew a patch on a patch)
2. A patch beside a patch is neighbourly.

THOUGHTS

We understand several people in the village have been in and out of hospital over the last few weeks. Our thought and prayers are with you, and we wish you all a speedy recovery and better health in the future. At the time of writing we know Nic is still in hospital and progressing slowly.

POINTS TO PONDER (For the oldies)

Frustration is trying to find your glasses without glasses

The irony of life is that, by the time you are old enough to know your way around, you are not going anywhere.

I was always taught to respect my elders, but it keeps getting harder to find one.

Then again:

A company, feeling it was time for a shake up, hires a new Managing Director. This new boss is determined to rid the company of all slackers. On a tour of the facilities, the MD notices a guy leaning on a wall. The room is full of workers and the MD wants them to know he means business! The MD walks up to the fellow and asks, "How much do you make a week?" Undaunted the young guy looks at him and replies, "I make £200 a week" The MD hands the guy £200 in cash and screams "Here's a weeks pay, now GET OUT and don't come back!" Feeling pretty good about his first firing the MD looks around the room and asks "Does anyone want to tell me what that slacker did around here?" With a sheepish grin one of the other workers mutters, "Pizza delivery guy from Domino's!"

OIL

The next syndicate cheap oil will be delivered in the middle of May. If you wish to register with the Oil company please telephone them on 01953 457057. If you are already registered with them they will contact you. Minimum delivery is 500lt per household.

CLOCKS

If this missive flops onto your doormat before March 28th, do not forget to put your clocks forward one hour that evening. Should this arrive after that date then we hope that you remembered to put your clocks forward.

HIRE OF HALL.

Give Christine Hardy a ring on 889920 if you wish to book the village hall. Don't forget that residents only pay 50% of the normal charges.

DEADLINE DATE for the MAY edition of the Oracle is 12 noon on Thursday April 22nd 2009.

EDITORS

Christine R at Saham Road on 885848 Grace R at 31 The Street on 882246
