

# THE OVINGTON ORACLE

NOVEMBER 2009

11/09

**Hurrah! We hear you yell;** the drought's over, and it'll be nice to get a fork in the ground again. To be honest tho' those long weeks of mild weather and spells of sunshine were a pretty good way to end the summer, and at least the early sugar beet harvest didn't spread quite so much mud on the roads as in previous, slightly soggy, years.

We understand the allotment saga has yet to reach a satisfactory conclusion, the proposed plot of land designated to be, eventually, the allotments, is actually owned by the Church, or to be correct, the Diocese. Sadly it would seem the Christian ethic has been replaced by one of a more mercenary nature, and the Church are seeking to maximise their income by demanding quite substantial rental, which the Parish Council, and by default you the taxpayers, may find difficult to fund. Right, now for the good news, read on.

## NOVEMBER DIARY

Nov 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Nov 4 <sup>th</sup>	Gardening Club	7.45pm
Nov 9 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Nov 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>SUPPER EVE 7pm for 7.30pm</b>	
Nov 16 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Nov 17 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies Group	7.45pm
Nov 18 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council	7.30pm
Nov 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>DEADLINE Oracle</b>	<b>12noon</b>
Nov 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Nov 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Collection-items for Bazaar</b>	<b>2pm</b>
Dec 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>BAZAAR</b>	<b>12noon – 3pm</b>

## VILLAGE HALL SUPPER

We will be holding another supper evening on **November 14<sup>th</sup> 7pm for 7.30pm.**

Tickets priced £7.50 are available from Christine Reilly (885848) or Grace (882246).

To help with catering we must know by **November 7<sup>th</sup>** at the latest.

There will be a raffle with attractive prizes.

All proceeds for Village Hall funds.

Please do come and join us, especially if you have never been before, you will be surprised at the quality and variety of dishes on offer, the social chit chat throughout the evening is sometimes most revealing. Seriously though, these events are representative of all that is great about living in Ovington.

## OVINGTON CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday December 5<sup>th</sup> 12noon – 3pm

Once again, the village hall will be full of festive goods and goodies, stalls to visit, games to play and, in the Ovington tradition, plenty to eat. Stay for lunch – there will be a selection of homemade soups as well as the usual tea and cakes. We expect Father Christmas will pop in (to check who has been good this year!). All proceeds from this event are split between Ovington Church and Village Hall, so please come along and join in the fun to support a worthwhile cause.

We will be collecting around the village any items you may wish to donate for the Bazaar on **Monday November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2pm.**

Please could you leave them on your doorstep clearly marked for the Bazaar, or drop them into Grace at 31 The St or any committee member any time before then. This gives us time to sort them out for the various stalls.

Stalls will include Cakes, Books, £1 stall, Homemade gifts and cards, Christmas Gifts, Tombola, Raffle, Hamper Competition and Refreshments.

## WELCOME TO OVINGTON

Welcome Maggie and Michael Leeper who will be moving into The Street in December

Welcome Linda, Tim, Samuel and Emily, who have moved into Stone House Farm.

As always we look forward to meeting and greeting you at some of our many social gatherings.

## SEPTEMBER RAINFALL

September 2009	21.50mm	0.86ins
September 2008	85.25mm	3.41ins
September 1999	75.50mm	3.02ins

Thanks Ted, you didn't have to empty your rain gauge on many occasions last month that's for sure.

## **OVINGTON GARDENING CLUB**

The October meeting was a practical evening with Alan Barson on 'Pruning – How, When and With What' and we were treated to a dry-humoured demonstration of the pruning tools required and how to use them by an expert practitioner. The differing techniques required for different plants and seasons were shown by actual pruning of specimens brought for the demonstration and many useful tips were passed on for our use – a most informative evening.

The November meeting on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> at 7.45pm** in Ovington Village Hall will be the intriguing subject of "Squash it or not" by Robert Maidstone. For further information, contact Ed on 01953 885848 or Carol on 01760 440719.

## **BOWLS CLUB**

Continue to meet in the Village Hall every Monday at 1.45pm.

New members are always welcome whether you be beginner or, like Denis, are up to Olympic standards. It's all good fun and they usually throw in (not literally we might add) a good cuppa and something nice to eat.

## **SEWAGE SYSTEM.**

The village's poor little sewage works has been undergoing an inordinate amount of malfunctions of late, requiring the attention of numerous engineers and operatives from Anglian Water, even into the early hours of the morning. Certain defects are due to wear and tear on mechanical components, but the majority are attributable, so we have been informed, to certain contaminating materials being introduced into the foul water drains from properties connected to the system.

There are only 22 such properties in the village and the A. W. engineers inform us that it will be no difficult task to determine the source of such contamination.

A. W. are therefore advising people connected to the sewage system, or those that have access to it, not to put oils, chemicals, or solid objects into the drains. They also mentioned that the consequences of such illegal actions, once ascertained, could result in financial penalties up to £10,000.

This could make a hole in your Christmas Budget .

## **OVINGTON V. H. AND CHURCH GROUNDS.**

Earlier this year during the school holidays a normally responsible group of young children asked if they could play in the Village Hall grounds and walk their dogs there.

The committee agreed to this as long as dog mess was cleared up and no damage was done to the hall and surrounds' it was also pointed out that if other parties were using the hall, then in the interests of safety the children should use the play area at Crown Crescent, not the Village Hall Grounds.

Sadly the children did not adhere to this, and damage to trees and pipe work took place and people using the hall for practice had their rehearsals interrupted by children peering through the windows and making unwarranted noise. The Churchyard was also used as a playground which was not part of the original agreement.

Therefore the Village Hall committee have been forced to decide that, unless attending a community function to which all members of the populace are invited, then children should not use the Village Hall and Church grounds for play, but should in future utilise the official and council provided play area in Crown Crescent.

Signed

Ov V H Man Committee.

## **OVINGTON WEB SITE.**

For those of you connected either digitally, electronically or wirelessly to the interweb, then, the recently constructed Ovington Website might enthrall you.

This is not entirely finished as Ovington events happen thick and fast and would require constant attention to maintain accuracy. However we are getting there.

So type in [www.ovington-village.org.uk](http://www.ovington-village.org.uk) and have a look. The webmasters will no doubt accept recommendations for improvements, modifications, and insertions of special events, which need publicising; they can be contacted via the editors of this newsletter. Google hasn't quite got the plot yet so don't try them for a while.

## **OCTOBER LOTTERY**

£10.00	No 38 Grace Rumsby
£ 5.00	No.17 Chris Lewis

## OVINGTON LADIES GROUP

Our October meeting was the AGM. There were 14 ladies present plus 5 committee members. Christine Hardy has completed her 3 years and Ann Akister is standing down a year early as she has a lot of other commitments. This will actually help with next years AGM, as we shall need only 3 new members instead of 4. Daphne Preece said she would be willing to serve and Jill Malton also volunteered to stand on the committee. After the business of the evening Rosemary had organised a game for us all to play. It was a lot of fun. Thank you Rosemary. Once again we had a nice lot of entries for the competition. This year's result will be announced at the Christmas Social.

The November meeting will see Linda Scoles giving one of her entertaining talks entitled "God Rest Ye Merry". The meeting is on **November 17<sup>th</sup>** and will begin at **7.45pm**. The competition will be something beginning with Z.

Please note that on some programmes the December meeting is listed as 16<sup>th</sup>. Sorry ladies, a bit of a senior moment, it should be **December 15<sup>th</sup>**

The Ladies Group would like to wish Pansy a speedy recovery from her broken hip. Our thoughts are with you Pansy.

## CHURCH NEWS

### November Rota

#### Remembrance Sunday

<b>Nov 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9am Holy Communion</b>
Steward	Mrs B Hicks
Lessons	Mrs B Hicks Mrs P Westwood
Flowers	Mrs P Westwood

<b>Nov 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>9.30am Lay Led Service</b>
Steward	Mr D Pritchard
Lessons	Mr D Pritchard, Mrs A Johnson
Flowers	Mrs B Hicks

#### Each Thursday 8am Said Communion

We wish Pansy a speedy recovery after her recent fall and hope she will soon be out of hospital and back in our midst.

## BULB PLANTING

Once again, and despite several instances of blatant theft earlier this year, there will be further daffodil bulbs planted along the roadside verges. Should anyone have a property bordering any of the roads through the village and feel inclined to enhance their outlook with a golden display of dafs as well as providing a show for passers by, then contact any parish councillor who will gladly give you a bag full of bulbs.

(Let's face it, the councillors are just asking you to do the grafting for them. Ed.)

## WILDLIFE SURVEY

Have you seen any of these species in Norfolk? Brown hare, grey partridge, barn owl, harvest mouse

Our countryside is not only an important area for food production, but also an **important** home for some of Norfolk's most charismatic wildlife. Marshes and meadows provide hunting grounds for barn owls; arable fields, cover for young hares and coveys of grey partridges; hedgerows and field margins, feeding sites for tiny harvest mice – Norfolk has some amazing and special wildlife.

Norfolk Wildlife Trust and Norfolk Biodiversity Information Service are asking for your help in recording these four species. Join in the survey, learn more about Norfolk's wildlife and help us secure a future for these animals.

When you have spotted one of the four animals above in Norfolk, visit

[www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/naturalconnections](http://www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/naturalconnections) and add your sighting online.

Alternatively phone NWT on 01603 598333 and request a survey card.

In the early twentieth century it is estimated there were more than 4 million hares in Britain. Today the population is thought to be around 800,000.

The harvest mouse is Europe's smallest rodent. Local names for the barn owl include Billy Wix, Hushwing and White Owl.

The grey partridge is a red-listed species (one of the birds of highest conservation concern) because it has declined by more than 80% since the 1970s.

## HOME INSURANCE

No doubt you may have read or heard in recent media that there have been instances where insurance policies have been declared invalid due to the insured having been convicted of, or cautioned for, some minor offence.

Now quite a few of us have had the odd driving or other offence recorded on our file, any of which can be considered as rendering your policy void.

It is not certain at this stage whether all insurance companies are following these criteria, but if it is a means by which they can save money no doubt it will be readily adopted. Therefore if you have any doubts about this matter, it might be a good idea to contact your insurance company to ask whether they apply this condition to any policies you might hold. Should you have a conviction of any sort (heaven forbid) or anyone living in your household, then, once again the recommendation is to seek and obtain written confirmation of the companies policy towards these matters and whether your insurance policy is effective. This is a pretty sad affair but to be on the safe side it is worth checking.

## WAYLAND RADIO

This unique local radio station has been broadcasting in our region since August this year. Anyone from the local communities can go on air to publicise major events happening in their village or town. Ovington (always to the fore) was featured in October, when our very own Chris Lewis was given a slot to tell the world, well Wayland, all about what happens in Ovington and what a splendid, self sufficient community we live in.

The radio presenter welcomed his broadcast and Ovington has been invited back to spread the word about things that affect us, and what progress is being made in planned projects.

Any one fancies themselves as the new Terry Wogan? We are certain that someone out there would love a few minutes of fame, who knows what it might lead to.

Anyone wishing to go on air can contact Lesley email [Lesley@lesleycowling2wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:Lesley@lesleycowling2wanadoo.co.uk) or tel. 01760 441094 or via the studio tel: 01760 441161 or email [studio@waylandradio.com](mailto:studio@waylandradio.com)

Advertising events need to go to the studio by an email or on a flyer/poster etc (not over the phone) and we do have a web site which I think is [www.waylandradio.com](http://www.waylandradio.com)

## HEATING OIL

The next delivery of syndicate oil will be the middle of November. If you wish to join please ring Rix Oil on 01953 457057 and say you wish to join Ovington's syndicate and leave the rest to them.

## DAFTISH BITS.

A couple were lying in bed. The man says "I'm going to make you the happiest woman in the world"

The woman replies, "I'll miss you!"

He said. "What have you been doing with all that grocery money I gave you?"

She said. "Turn sideways and look in the mirror you fat slob"

Three surgeons were chatting in the bar.

The first one states that he prefers to operate on librarians, as everything is in alphabetical order.

The second disagrees and considers electricians to be preferable as everything is colour coded.

The third says, "No, politicians are easiest, they have no heart, no guts, no spine and their mouths and bums are interchangeable"

## POPPY COLLECTION.

Pansy has managed the poppy collection for many years with the help of Sheila; this year of course as you may have read, she is in hospital recovering from a nasty fall. She has asked us to record her grateful thanks to Jane, Sheila and Richard who have stepped into the breach. Hope you have donated to the cause and are wearing your poppy with pride.

## DEADLINE for DECEMBER

**ORACLE. We would like all articles, letters and other contributions in by Thursday November 19<sup>th</sup> 12noon please.**

## VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS:

**Give Christine H a ring on 889920 to hire the hall.**

## TO CONTACT THE EDITORIAL STAFF.

**TRY**

**Christine R of Saham Road on 885848**

**OR**

**Grace of The Street on 882246**