

THE OVINGTON ORACLE

FEBRUARY 2010

2/10

Hi Everyone

Looking out of the window at this moment we feel we should have left the snow covered font on our heading for another month, hopefully the real snow will have moved on by the time this is delivered.
Ever the optimist.

Last month if you recall, we put in a little puzzle for you to unravel. We were not exactly inundated by solutions to the problem, but we did have three correct answers submitted by our readers. So we had to revert to the age-old decision making process known to all and sundry as "Names in a hat" to see who the lucky winner would be. Which in this instance turned out to be Barbara Powdrill, who is in receipt of our top prize, this being a week in the Algarve!!!!. For those of you dying to know the answer, here it is:- It must be the room with three lions, if they had not eaten for three years they would have expired long since, even if they had taken the odd bite out of one another in the meantime.
If time and space permits we will try and squeeze in another little brainteaser for you to have a go at whilst waiting for the spring flowers to burst forth

FEBRUARY DIARY 2010

Feb 1 st	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Feb 3 rd	Gardening Club	7.45pm
Feb 8 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Feb 12 th	Cheese/Wine	7.30pm*
Feb 15 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Feb 16 th	Ladies Group	7.45pm
Feb 20 th	Soup n' Spud 7 for 7.30pm	
Feb 22 nd	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Feb 23 rd	Village Hall AGM	7.30pm

All in the Village hall except where marked*

SOUP n' SPUD SOIREE

This is the final event for the Village Hall before the AGM (Feb 23rd) and, hopefully, we are able to welcome new members on to the Committee!

On Saturday, **February 20th at 7.30pm**, come and enjoy some good company and excellent food in the form of homemade soup, filled baked jacket potato and a dessert, all for the trifling sum of £6 per ticket. Fillings will include chilli, coronation chicken, etc.; the more tickets sold, the more choice we can offer!

Tickets are currently available from Christine R on 885848, so call a.s.a.p. to reserve yours. There will also be a mini-quiz to exercise the mental faculties and a raffle. All in aid of village hall funds.

VILLAGE HALL AGM

The village hall committee invite everyone in Ovington to their AGM to be held in the village hall on **Tuesday February 23rd at 7.30pm**.

This wonderful facility, which we all use and benefit from, at one time or another, sadly, does not run itself. So every year at this time we look for a few willing volunteers to assist in maintaining this vital asset.

Please note we only accept volunteers, no one is press ganged or forced into helping to keep our hall ticking over. We would however, welcome new members on the committee.

The meeting is open to all and is arranged to show the achievements of the past year and the aims for the coming one. Even if you don't initially want to become involved in the running of the hall, the actual meeting itself can be an eye opener and is only marginally formal, plus in true Ovington tradition there is sure to be a modicum of refreshments. Come along and join in with a friendly and welcoming group.

CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH ROTA – FEBRUARY

Feb 14th	9am Holy Communion
Steward	Mrs B Hicks
Lesson	Mr C Springford, Mrs M Warwick
Flowers	Mrs B Hicks
Feb 28th	10am Group Confirmation Service at Watton
8am each Thursday Said Communion	

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way in making the Church look so special for our Christmas services. The Carol Service was very well attended on such a cold and frosty evening and over fifty people came and sung the carols and listened to the readings. It was good to serve them with the mincepies and mulled wine before they set out on their journey home.

ROADSIDE MARKER POSTS

For some time now, the Parish Council have been pestering Highways department to replace the missing marker posts along the roadsides in the village, particularly those which have deep ditches alongside. The aforesaid Highways gang did just that late last year and all drivers were thereby encouraged to stay on the road. Sadly on New Years day between 12.30am and 1.30am somebody with excess intelligence coupled with unbounded energy decided they would feature more prominently if pulled up and deposited in the middle of the road.

Fortunately a vigilant taxi driver, bringing home some revellers, saw them in time and moved them to the verge, thus preventing what could have been a nasty accident, considering the state of the roads at that time of night.

The perpetrator is no doubt extremely proud of his or her nocturnal activities and is most deserving of our admiration for his or her physical prowess. So if the responsible person would care to step forward, there is no doubt that a suitable reward will be forthcoming. -----Why am I not holding my breath?

Rod Rumsby O. P. C.

OLD RED TELEPHONE BOX.

The Parish Council have been advised by British Telecom that the Telephone box which stands in The Street, is likely to become redundant and have offered it to the said council for the paltry sum of one pound. This initially seemed a good bargain, until it was revealed in the local newspaper that the enterprise could be costly to the Parish Council and ultimately you the taxpayers. Following protestations from other Parish Councils it would appear that BT and the electricity supply organisation have decided to be less demanding and the acquisition of this iconic edifice might not drain the P. C. coffers entirely.

What do you think, should the P. C. buy the familiar Red Box and continue to maintain it at the Parish's expense for posterity, or should they leave it in the hands of B.T? Who may well decide to abandon it and allow nature to take its course?

Your views on this matter are welcomed and the editors will take all your opinions and pass them to the Parish Council, democracy at work here folks.

The box will of course lose its telephone connection to the outside world, whatever decision is made. Should you have **strong** feelings on this matter then it is advised you contact the parish clerk, John Goode 889342.

Or, as previously stated convey your comments to the editors, whose contact details are appended at the end of this Newsletter.

OVINGTON CARPET BOWLS CLUB

We meet every Monday at 1.45pm at the Village Hall to play carpet bowls. We are not serious bowlers but play solely for pleasure and fun, although the spirit to win a head of bowls against the opposing team is inherent amongst us!!!

We are not bound by rules and there are no chiefs among us, everyone, despite age or handicap does something toward the smooth running of the club.

We are very fortunate that we have the use of this splendid Village Hall, in lovely rural surroundings, easy car parking and great amenities for us to enjoy.

We at the club extend our heartfelt thanks to all the people who gave of their time to make this all possible.

Thanks, Denis

GARDENING CLUB

Regretfully the January meeting was cancelled due to the weather, but we are looking forward to the February meeting with David Boulton on 'Gardens Great & Small'. This is at Ovington Village Hall at **7.45pm on Wednesday 3rd February**. Membership for the whole year costs only £5 but visitors are always welcomed (£1).

Please note that the March meeting is a visit to the early spring garden of Mrs Pat Mansey at East Lode, Nursery Lane, Hockwold, Thetford IP26 4ND. This is at the earlier time of **4pm on Wednesday 3rd March** and there is a charge of £2 for this visit.

The next meeting at the village hall will be on **Wednesday 7th April** with Jan Hunt on 'Setting up a Wormery'. Further details can be obtained from Ed on 01953 885848 or Carol on 01760 440719.

THANKS

My thanks to our paper delivery young man, our milkman, postman and dustmen, who have all had a hard job over the past few weeks during the snow and slippery conditions. Also to everyone who has made contact with us to make sure we were alright. Once again, thank you. Grace

To everyone who offered me lifts/help etc.. during the snow, my grateful thanks.
Sue Mortimer

SPRING ART EXHIBITION

(Mixed Media) **10th - 17th April 2010**
Dragonfly Exhibition Centre Wayland House, Watton. (next to Police Station)
The exhibition is open to local amateur and professional artists and art groups. If you would like to take part please contact Susan Hollingworth at Wayland House on 01953 880205 or email her on susan@wayland.org.uk for more information or to request an application form.

LADIES GROUP

Our first meeting of 2010 was on January 19th. Thankfully the snow had gone and we enjoyed a really nice talk on "Organic Flower Gardening at Chanticleer" by Terry Rands. Maureen also came along to give Terry any prompting needed for the names of some of the flowers. The ladies all thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

It was nice to see three ladies who are new to the village. So welcome Lynn, Linda and Maggie. We hope to see you at future meetings.

CHEESE AND WINE

Our annual Cheese and Wine will be held on **FRIDAY 12TH FEBRUARY** and once again will be hosted by our Chairperson, Lyndia and her husband Chris, Thornborough, 1 Church Road, Ovington.

The evening will begin at 7.30pm and will cost £6. There will be a Raffle. This is one of our main fund-raisers, which we rely on to raise money to pay for our speakers throughout the year. We welcome **everyone** to all our fundraisers, so bring along your husband, partner, friends and relations. They will all be welcomed with open arms. We look forward to seeing you at Lyndia's.

Our meeting this month is on **FEBRUARY 16th** in the Village Hall and begins at 7.45pm. Our speaker will be Richard Wright and his talk is entitled "From Pigs To Oil Lamps. The competition is something coloured **GREEN**. We look forward to seeing you all then.

DECEMBER RAINFALL

December 2009	95.5mm or 3.62ins
December 2008	44.5mm or 1.78ins
December 1999	88.0mm or 3.52ins

Average 2.14mm or 0.085ins per day
Total for 2009 was 780.50mm or 31.22ins
Average per month 65.04mm or 2.62ins
Average 2.14mm or 0.085ins per day

Thank you Ted for all this information throughout the year.

OVINGTON VILLAGE LOTTERY

Thank you to the 64 people who have joined the Village Lottery for this year.

The January winners are

£10.00	No 15	Lyn Campey
£ 5.00	No 50	Eileen Gammons

Do those sums of money make you feel envious? tempt you to join? There is still time, and because you missed the first month's draw you will be able to join at a reduced fee. Go on, you know you are tempted-----give in to it, you might well be a winner next time round. Contact Grace on 882246 or bang on the door of No 31 The Street for instant access

BRAIN TEASERS

This is easy.

What English word can be made from the following letters?

PNLLEEEESSSSS.

OR

You are running in a 400metre race and you overtake the last person. What position are you now in?

OR

What is so special about the word?

UNCOPYRIGHTABLE

As usual all answers to the editorial team on a crisp note of the realm before the deadline date below. Prizes will be considered.

DAFT BIT

If your parents never had children, chances are that you won't either!

DEADLINE DAY for the **March** issue of the **ORACLE** is noon
On February 17th 2010.

DIARY DATES

April 24th Annual Quiz and Supper

May 6th Polling Day

May 8th European Supper

June 12th VILLAGE FETE

December 4th BAZAAR

Please make a note of these forthcoming dates to be held in the Village Hall.

VILLAGE HALL FOR HIRE

Have you booked your groups meetings for this year?

Special rates for those within the village, ideal for meetings, parties etc..

Please phone Christine Hardy on 889920

Editors

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