

# THE OVINGTON ORACLE

MAY 2010

5/10

Welcome once again to Ovington's answer to the Financial Times and Sun newspaper all rolled into one.

Simply bursting with news and views this month, with startling revelations of fascinating events just on the horizon, tales of changes within the Church hierarchy, updates on the horticultural revolution taking place behind the Village Hall, even an invitation to a Public Meeting to address the problems associated with dragging the Village into the next decade. For those who were inconvenienced by the cloud of volcanic ash which covered most of the UK and Europe-----well just think of it as a welcome extension to your holiday and, be honest, things still ticked over nicely whilst you were away.

We are conducting a survey, just to pass the time, you understand.

Right. Question 1. How many people in Ovington have been struck down by the insidious "falling down" disease?

Question 2. How many of you thus affected were stone cold sober?

We hope to publish the results next month.

## MAY DIARY

May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	Polling Day	7am-10pm
May 8 <sup>th</sup>	European Evening	7 for 7.30pm
May 10 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
May 15 <sup>th</sup>	Garden Club Sale	10-noon
May 17 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
May 18 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies Visit	*6.30pm
May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Oracle Deadline Day	12noon
May 24 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
May 26 <sup>th</sup>	Annual Parish Meeting	7.30pm
May 31 <sup>st</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
June 12 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Fete	3.00pm

All in the Village hall unless marked with \*

## APRIL LOTTERY WINNERS

£10.00	No 64	Sylvie Ives
£ 5.00	No 25	Mollie Tucker

## FOUND

A red envelope containing records of financial transactions, these may be of importance to the loser. Contact Rod at 31 The Street with proof of identity should you want the papers back.

## OVINGTON GARDENING CLUB

The April meeting was a talk on 'setting up a wormery' by Jan Hunt who gave us an insight into the trials and tribulations of starting a wormery from scratch. The methods used to keep the worms in a tip-top condition were discussed, with more about what not to do, and to throw away the instructions which came with the unit!

The May meeting will be at the village hall from 10-12 noon on Saturday 15 May when we will be running our plant stall, coffee and cakes and the raffle to bolster our funds. So, if you need any plants, come and see us first!

Any further information can be obtained from Ed on 01953 885848 or Carol on 01760 440719.

## GARDENING CLUB ANNUAL SPRING SALE

SATURDAY 15<sup>th</sup> MAY

10-12noon

OVINGTON VILLAGE HALL

STALLS: PLANTS, CAKES,  
and RAFFLE  
TEA, COFFEE and CAKES

POLLING DAY - MAY 6<sup>th</sup> 7am - 10pm

Another notable date not to be missed.

Just in case you may have dis-remembered, it is of course the date of the General Election.

Now we the editorial team are of completely apolitical persuasion so we will not be promoting any particular political party or candidate.

Having said that, when we discovered there is a candidate living in the village then a touch of proprietorial influence creeps in, especially if his campaign includes promises of home rule for Ovington! So whatever your political affliction we would urge you to cast your vote, and try to match the phenomenal turnout we had for the last Parish Council election. Don't forget, it's votes that count.

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Will be held in the village hall on

**Wednesday May 26<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm.**

This is the date you have all been waiting for, the time of year when you of Ovington can have your say on how you feel things should be done in the Village, a time to heap praise on those folk or organisations that you feel deserve a pat on the back. Conversely you may wish to castigate the profligacy of certain elements of local government, feel free. All organisations within the Village will be invited to give a brief report on their activities and plans for the forthcoming year, which could serve as encouragement for you to join in, once you know how they operate. The meeting will also give any Ovington associated organisation the opportunity to explain how they can be of benefit to us all.

In true Ovington tradition there will no doubt be a smidgen of nourishment on offer for those of you who missed your tea.

A very short Parish Council AGM, and election of officers will follow the public meeting.

Please come along, you are assured of a warm welcome.

## RAIN

March 2010	60mm or	2.40ins
March 2009	59mm or	2.36ins
March 2000	26.5mm or	1.06ins

Pretty constant rainfall over this period it seems. Thanks again to Ted for these figures.

## ALLOTMENTS

The majority of the plots have been allocated, and judging by the frantic activity of late we can expect crops of some magnificence later this year. The Parish Council have

completed negotiations with the Diocesan Board and we are reliably informed that the rent for the next six months has been paid.

There is still much work to be done, mainly that of erecting a fence around the entire allotment area to deter the local wildlife from having a free feed.

The entrance to the allotments from the road will need further attention to prevent a reoccurrence of the mud bath, which prevailed earlier.

The Parish Council is at pains to try and let the remaining field for agricultural or grazing purposes as soon as possible, in an attempt to defray the mounting costs of providing the allotments.

The PC would, we are sure, welcome a representation from anyone interested in making use of this highly productive land.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PANSY WESTWOOD

On a day that dawned cold and wet it was lovely to see so many of Mum's friends and neighbours at her funeral at Ovington Church. We wanted a celebration of her life rather than a morbid service and the tributes certainly summed Mum up to perfection!

Thank you very much to everyone who helped in any way with the arrangements on the day – from organising cars in the very slippery car park (I was so glad I didn't have to drive!), to the magnificent spread at the wake in the Village Hall – and all the other important matters such as shopping, cleaning, cooking and visiting that was taken care of by her many friends in the village since her fall last October – if I try to name people I'm sure to miss someone out, but you know who you are and your help was much appreciated.

Thank you, Yvonne Westwood

## LADIES GROUP

It was decided, with Lyndia's encouragement, that we would try a Cake Stall in Watton High Street. Lyndia sorted this all out and booked a spot near the town sign for Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> April. All the ladies were asked if they would be able to make cakes. Lyndia was inundated with beautiful cakes and the stall was well stocked. It was a shame that the weather was so cold. Dot helped Lyndia on the stall and of course with it being a market day there were plenty of customers and all the cakes were sold. A wonderful total of £125.41 was added to the Ladies Group funds. So, a huge 'thank you' to Lyndia and Dot and to all the ladies who made cakes.

## Annual Dinner

This was held on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April at The Windmill, Necton. Everyone had a wonderful evening. The food was so delicious and the atmosphere in the restaurant was great. The staff certainly served us well and were very attentive. So once again the Ladies Group had a lovely evening out and everyone had a safe journey home thanks to Salec Travel.

## May Meeting

The May meeting is on **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May**. We are having a visit to Holme Hale Hall. We have to be at the Hall by 6.30pm. Angela has names for this trip and will contact those going to let them know the time and driver. The evening will be subsidised by the Ladies Group funds so each member attending will be paying £3 each.

## **CHURCH NEWS**

Hello from Jo, Ann, Christine, Mary, Martin, Chris, Harry and Barbara: the new PCC of St. John's, Ovington.

We wish to thank the gallant band of workers who spring-cleaned the church on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March. Photographs of the momentous occasion were taken.

Harry removed the cobwebs of centuries aided by a band of bamboo sticks and a feather duster! The men of the village, including Rod and his marzipan, and Harry's cleaning skills are a force to be reckoned with.

Also a big thank you for the flower displays placed in the church for Pansy's funeral, and for Easter. Friends from Ovington, Ashill and Saham Toney decorated the church beautifully.

Thank you to Isabella Scott for giving out the Palm crosses to us on Palm Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March and to Richard Akister for his interesting talk about the composer of the hymn 'How great Thou art.'

A welcome to Luca of Crown Crescent who was baptised on 28<sup>th</sup> March; he was a really happy chap and his family and friends enjoyed a happy service.

Eighteen people bravely ventured out on the Monday of Holy week to the evening Communion service. The evening outside may have been wet and dismal but the candlelight and fellowship was very warm and comforting. Thank you Rev. Tim for our joyous Easter morning service. It would be wonderful if you could join us for any of our services in the future.

### **MAY CHURCH SERVICES - OVINGTON**

**9<sup>th</sup> May at 9am Holy Communion  
led by Rev. Jane Atkins.**

**23<sup>rd</sup> May at 9.30am  
Lay led Family Service**

**8am Every Thursday morning.  
A said (quiet, no singing) Holy Communion  
service.**

The **Benefice service**, when all four parishes join together, is here in Ovington on **June 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am** (not D Day, Ovington day! Geddit??)

### **CHURCH CONCERT**

a pleasant evening was had by all who attended the concert in the church given by Breckland Harmony. the choir were exquisite and the guest artists (a wonderfully talented young violinist, soon to be seen and heard at Glastonbury, and our very own Mr. Richard Akister).

The refreshments - thanks mainly to Christine - were enjoyed and devoured by all. Thank you to all who helped to make this a wonderful evening.

On Sunday 18th we had the baptism of Malina Angele Childs-Cazier and a full church! It was a beautiful service and the little lady was delightful.

Harry & Barbara Hicks and the new PCC.

### **CHURCH CONCERT**

It was lovely to see Ovington Church almost full at the concert on Saturday 17 April. Breckland Harmony and friends put on a varied programme of songs, readings and instrumental music which contained, as one member of the audience said, 'something for everyone'.

We were all enthralled by the breathtaking talent of Tom Moore from Shipdham and the effortless way he played folk tunes on his violin.

In true Ovington fashion, there was plenty to eat in the village hall afterwards and a chance for everyone to mingle (and mardle). The evening raised a very welcome £250 for the church restoration fund.

Christine

### **EUROPEAN EVENING -**

**SATURDAY 8th MAY, 7pm**

Book your places for the above evening by the 4th May. Come and try a variety of European dishes for only £6 a ticket. Weather permitting, play a game of boules outside (other games may be available - details not available at time of going to press).

Bring along your best holiday photo taken in Europe. There will be a competition for the best and the funniest.

Compete in a 'General Knowledge of Europe Quiz' for a bit of fun.

Bring your own bottles or cans as there is no bar, and plenty of cash for the obligatory raffle.

Proceeds all go to village hall funds, necessary to maintain and update it for your use.

Ring Christine on 885848 for tickets without delay.

## WILFUL DAMAGE.

Would the bright spark who thought jumping up and down on the Village Hall fence until it broke was hilarious? think again mate, not really funny.

If the culprit would care to make the necessary repairs, then forgiveness may be in our hearts. If not, then be warned, the CCTV cameras have been updated.

Village Hall Management Committee.

## WAYLAND PARTNERSHIP

Reprographic Services at Wayland House  
The Wayland Partnership has recently invested in a high quality high speed A4/A4 copier/scanner/printer that is capable of producing small to medium (5 - 5000) runs.

We are now offering increased discounts to accredited community organisations for the following:

1. Printing of leaflets, flyers, booklets, calendars, village newsletters etc.
2. Photocopying of documents (copyright assumed)
3. Scanning and printing/saving of documents etc.
4. Printing of photo images from flash card/digital camera/USB memory stick

We can also design and publish all of the above using a range of MS Office products or we can use supplied art work.

In addition we offer an A4/A3 laminating service.

We are happy to provide a no-obligation quotation on request as each job is individually priced. Contact us on 01953 883915, mail to [iain@wayland.org](mailto:iain@wayland.org), uk or call in to Wayland House in Watton High Street if you want more information or a quote.

## LAST MONTHS BRAIN TEASER.

This toughie really had you flummoxed as no one came up with an answer at all.

A quick reminder.

What is Black when you buy it, Red when you use it and Grey when you throw it away?

Answer.

Charcoal, as used in BBQ's.

## TRY THIS.

Can you name three consecutive days without using the words Wednesday, Friday or Sunday?

E-mail answers accepted, otherwise its back to writing it on the back of a ten-pound note we're afraid.

## WISE BITS.

The inherent vice of capitalism is the unequal sharing of the blessings. The inherent blessing of socialism is the equal sharing of misery.

*Winston Churchill*

The only difference between a tax man and a taxidermist is that the taxidermist leaves the skin

*Mark Twain*

The Government is like a baby's alimentary canal, with a happy appetite at one end and no responsibility at the other.

*Ronald Reagan*

A Government big enough to give you everything you want, is strong enough to take everything you have

*Thomas Jefferson*

What this country needs are more unemployed politicians

*Edward Langley, Artist (1928 - 1995)*

In many years I have come to a conclusion that one useless man is a shame, two is a Law Firm and three or more is a Congress

*John Adams*

## EXERCISE FOR PEOPLE OVER 50

Begin by standing on a comfortable surface, where you have plenty of room at each side.

With a 5-lb potato bag in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them there as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute, and then relax.

Each day you'll find that you can hold this position for just a bit longer. After a couple of weeks, move up to 10-lb potato bags.

Then try 50-lb potato bags and then eventually try to get to where you can lift a 100-lb potato bag in each hand and hold your arms straight for more than a full minute. (I'm at this level) After you feel confident at that level, put a potato in each bag.

**Don't forget, if you wish to hire the VILLAGE HALL**

**Christine Hardy is the person to contact on 889920**

**DEADLINE DATE for the June ORACLE is 12noon on the 20<sup>th</sup> May.**

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