

THE OVINGTON ORACLE

February 2011

www.ovington-village.org.uk

2/11

We are well into the New Year now, so it won't be long before we get the hang of writing 2011 instead of the previous year.

We don't know about you but our New Year resolutions went out the window by Jan 3rd, there seemed to be so many surplus chocs laying around, which needed to be consumed before the use by date, --- need we say more! Going to need those allotments this year to get our respective waistlines under control.

February Diary

Feb 2 nd	Gardening Club	7.45pm
Feb 4 th	Cheese & Wine	7.30pm
Feb 7 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Feb 14 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Feb 15 th	Ladies Group	7.45pm
Feb 19 th	Starters/Puds	7.00pm
Feb 21 st	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Feb 22 nd	Village Hall AGM	7.30pm
Feb 28 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm

Starters & Puds Evening

To be held on **February 19th at 7.00pm**
Get your tickets for this enjoyable feast as quickly as possible because space is limited. There will be an array of different starters and desserts, both hot and cold, to tickle your taste buds. Diners will be able to help themselves to whatever takes their fancy - so if you prefer savoury things you could choose soup, then paté and finish with cheese & biscuits. Or if you have a sweet tooth, try one starter and then get stuck into a couple of puddings. As usual you must bring your own preferred liquid refreshment, but everything else (including tea/coffee) will be provided for the very reasonable sum of **£7.00** per head. There will be a raffle (and no doubt some sort of quiz or entertainment) and all proceeds from the evening go to village hall funds.

Village Hall AGM

The village hall committee invite you to come along to the AGM on **February 22nd at 7.30pm**. You are welcome to attend whether you wish to stand for election to the committee, or not, you will be most welcome.

The hall is the only facility of its kind in Ovington and needs a dedicated team of helpers to ensure its survival.

Recycling Banks

Hopefully, by the time you read this, Ovington village hall will be the proud possessor of two recycling banks - one for mixed glass and another for textiles. We hope that everyone in the village will use them and help to raise money for the running of the village hall. In order to avoid disputes with the recycling firm, please can everyone observe the following:

Glass bottles of any colour can be put into the bank, but bottles should be rinsed out (to avoid attracting insects) and without tops.

Definitely **NO** Pyrex, **NO** toughened glass, **NO** greenhouse glass and **NO** window glass.

So please, **only glass bottles**

Textiles (which can include wearable shoes, each pair to be placed in a separate bag) must be clean and in carrier or bin bags.

The area around the bins must be kept clear and tidy, so don't leave boxes or bottles if the bins are too full. Tell someone on the committee or ring the phone number posted on the bins.

Finally, a BIG thank you to Chris Woods for all his hard work and assistance in preparing the site. We couldn't have managed it so quickly without you, Chris. Sorry we picked such a lousy day to do it!

Also we would like to thank Geoff Smith for offering to carry out the work for us. Sadly, the weather and ill health conspired against him. We hope Geoff you are now recovered and the lambing goes well.

Litter Pick

As the Parish Council were unable, or unwilling, to organise the annual Village litter pick, the Village Hall committee have decided to undertake the task this year.

The date of this venture will be on **Saturday March 5th** meeting at the Village Hall at **10am**. There will be the usual refreshments in the Village Hall on completion of the task. It has been noted that there is an inordinate amount of litter despoiling our roadside verges this year, so we hope to see as many volunteers as possible to help restore our Village to its pristine condition.

Ladies Group

By now every lady in Ovington should have received a copy of our programme for 2011, which shows an interesting and varied list of speakers and events for the next 12 months. The meetings take place on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in the village hall at 7.45 pm. If you would like to attend at any time, please just turn up or, alternatively, contact a member of the committee who will be pleased to take you along and introduce you to the group.

Committee members are as follows:

Chairperson - Christine Hardy, tel: 889920
Treasurer - Jill Malton, tel: 881053
Secretary - Maureen Simmons, tel: 882772
Birthdays/Refreshments-Sheila Scotton, 889441
Raffle - Daphne Preece, tel: 883173
Competitions - Joyce Woods, tel:883953

My apologies to Rosemary Philpot for not mentioning that she also left the committee this year after 3 years. Thanks Rosemary for keeping the accounts in order and your continual support.

On January 18th we were entertained by Mike Wabe, dressed as a Victorian gaoler, with a very interesting – and sometimes bloodthirsty - talk about life and death in a Victorian prison. We certainly won't think of a bread poultice in the same way ever again!

At our next meeting on **February 15th at 7.45pm**, Dianne Cuthbert will be returning to give us all some gentle exercises to help keep us supple and fit. Don't worry ladies, this is not a hard work out and Dianne makes it a fun evening for all. The competition will be "a favourite jug".

Finally, a reminder to all members and other halves that our *Cheese and Wine evening* will take place on **Friday 4th February, at 7.30 pm**, in Joyce and Jeremy's home – *The Old Crown, The Street*.

Wayland News

We have just been notified that the Wayland News is being re-published in March. **DEADLINE DATE is February 16th 2011**
The editor, Julian Horn, welcomes local enterprises to advertise their services in the W. N. at competitive rates, he will also include advertising for local events ie Fetes, Bazaars, Barbeques, firework displays etc. etc.
Information on Church activities and services will also be found a space.
He can be contacted at:-
news@waylandnews.com or 01953 858908

Allotment Corner (or Round the Bend)

Now the snow has gone (hopefully for good!) and the ground is thawing out, the area seems more suited to growing rice than anything else. We could do with a couple of weeks' fine weather if only to stop me wrecking any more gardening gloves with gloopy mud. However, despite some frosts and chilly winds, things are starting to grow and look a bit more cheerful generally. If you are contemplating the good life, there are still some vacant plots available at only £20 for the year. These are predicted to disappear quickly once the spring weather kicks in and people become bitten by the gardening bug. Ring me on 885848 to book your plot - don't hang about! It keeps you fit, gives you a healthy glow (a tan if you are lucky) and provides scrummy things to eat. So, forget the gym - get an allotment! Members who haven't yet ordered discounted seeds will have a further opportunity in February, which is another good reason to join.

Parish Council Elections

It doesn't seem four years since the last elections for our Parish Council, but as the Councillors themselves agree, time flies when you are having so much fun.

We have been asked to publicise the election, which will be held on **May 5th**, and to suggest that anyone in the village over the age of 18 who feels they can contribute to our community, or want to have a say in how the village services are run, to put their names forward as a potential councillor to the Parish Clerk on 889342 or the Chairman on 882246 as soon as possible. Even if you do not wish to stand as a councillor you can influence the future of Ovington by turning out to vote, every vote counts, and on a high note the weather by then will be more suitable for venturing out.

Hello and Goodbye

We welcome Selena and Richard into our community, hope your time in Ovington is a long and happy one. We look forward to seeing you at some of our village extravaganzas. Sadly we bid a fond farewell to Barbara and Harry who are leaving us for a coastal paradise. They have been stalwarts in reviving the fortunes of our Village Church and will be sadly missed by the Rector and congregation.
We wish them well in any new venture.

Ovington Gardening Club

We started the year with Terry Rands on the subject of 'Self Sufficiency'. This talk was well received by members and we all learnt something new. The February meeting will be held in the village hall at **7.45pm on Wednesday February 2nd** when we will hear a talk on 'Bees and Beekeeping' by Tom Thurston, who is one of the members of our club. Please note that it is not too late to join the club, as membership only costs £5 for the year. For further details, contact Ed on 01953 885848 or Carol on 01760 440719

December Rainfall

December 2010 28.00mm or 1.12ins
December 2009 95.50mm or 3.82ins
December 2000 48.50mm or 1.94ins

Thank you Ted

Church News

Thanks

A big Thank You to Barry and Jane who helped Harry and Barbara to decorate the church for the Christmas Eve Carol Service, even though the water in the flower vases was already frozen! Peter donated the beautiful red and yellow carnations in memory of his family. He used to live in Ovington and went to Sunday School with Barry. We also thank Westfield Infant School for giving us their Christmas tree; recycling with a difference!

The church looked particularly beautiful with all the candles lit: well over 100 of them, and easily enough light to read by.

Sponsored Lights

£150 was raised in sponsoring the church lights being left on for the nights of Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Eve.

The money raised will go towards the heating fund, which – hopefully in the next few weeks – will be utilised when we get permission to install new heating and lighting systems.

The lights were sponsored by:

Mrs. H. Woods, because she likes to see the church lit up;
Mrs. A. Johnson for her parents Lucy and Joe Sculfer;
Mr. D. Pritchard for his granddaughter;
Miss Y. Westwood for her parents Pansy and Victor;
Tracy Munn for her sister Tina James;
Mr. & Mrs P. Johnson for her parents Sylvia and Edward (Ted) Lambert;
Barbara Hicks for her parents and aunts,
Harry Hicks for his nephew Matthew and new grandniece Alma. Thank you all!

Church Safe

We have found out that for all these years the church safe has been on its back! (Thank you, Chris!) Now a special stand (with extra storage space) has been made and it has been repositioned so that it's no longer a struggle to open and close. Raising it up was – er – interesting. And hair raising (if I had any....)

Art Competition

The Biblical Christmas Art Competition was won by Emily Birt for her beautiful drawing of a stable with collage and 3D effect. Her picture is displayed in the church and her prize was presented during the carol service.

Thank you too, to everyone who provided the mince pies, sausage rolls, mulled wine and soup, and to all who consumed them at the Candlelight Carol Service.

Services for February:

Thursday services

Feb 3rd 8am Holy Communion.(Rev. Jane)
Feb 10th 8am Holy Communion (Rev Geoff)
Feb 17th 8am Holy Communion (Rev Geoff)
Feb 24th 8am Holy Communion (Rev Jane)
These are 30minute services with a little incense but no music.

Sunday services

Feb 13th 9.30am Holy Communion (Rev.Jane)
Feb 27th 9.30am All Age Worship(Harry).

From Friday March 4th the weekday Communion Service will move from Thursdays to **Fridays at 9am**. It is still only half an hour long, is still a quiet, contemplative service based on the words of the Book of Common Prayer, still using a little incense but no singing, and you're still all welcome!

These services are correct as we go to press, but please check beforehand by calling Rev. Jane (01760 441191) or the church office (01953 881252)

Bible Reading

Don't forget that the Ovington Church is open daily and you are invited to read aloud from the Authorised Version of the Bible (there'll probably be no one else there so you'll be OK) and fill in the sheet afterwards so that the next person knows where to start reading. It is on the lectern with a modern version beside it. This is in celebration of the 400th anniversary of the publication of the book that has influenced, guided, inspired, reprimanded and helped us so much, both as individuals and as a nation. Read all about it! Harry and Barbara

January Lottery

£10.	No. 11	Roger Kennaugh
£ 5.	No. 51	Sandra Groom

Bowls Club

We were saddened to hear of the recent death of Roy a member of the Bowls club for many years.

Parish Council

New Parish Clerk

As from April 1st the new Parish Clerk will be Mrs Pat Powell (tel No.880975). From that date all matters appertaining to parish business should be passed to her.

Neighbourhood Watch

A volunteer person is needed to run this scheme supported by four other volunteers.

Please contact clerk J Goode for further info.

(If the village were covered by a neighbourhood scheme it would benefit everyone by reducing their house insurance)

Website

Councillor Jeremy Woods would be pleased to receive any information or photos of old Ovington to include on the Ovington website. The next Parish Council meeting will be held on the March 9th 7.30pm. All welcome

Wayland Partnership Information

Calling all local Artists

The Dragonfly Gallery is seeking artists to take part in a Mixed Media Art Exhibition

The theme of this exhibition is All Creatures Great and Small celebrating the wonderful world of animals. From slugs to sea lions – and pets – from Dobermans to donkeys.

This will be from April 2nd – April 9th

If you are interested in taking part in this exhibition and would like to receive further information please contact Susan Hollingworth at Wayland House, 01953 880205 or email susan@wayland.org.uk

Disposal of used batteries

Another service being offered by the Wayland Partnership is a disposal facility for those dud batteries that have accumulated over the holiday period. A container for these is situated in the foyer of Wayland House (next to Police Station) please use it.

Fly Tipping

They are also offering to forward requests to clear up fly tipping. So if you see any unwanted detritus dumped at the roadside you can contact the Wayland Partnership on 01953 880205 with details of location and they will do the necessary.

House Numbering

In the magazine VOICE (Page 9) which was delivered to everyone last week, it states that “it is a legal requirement that where a property has been allocated a number and/or a name, it must be used and clearly displayed. Where a name has been allocated as well as a number this must always be used in conjunction with the number – it cannot be regarded as an alternative. So please make sure your house name, and for those living in ‘The Street’ that your house number is in a prominent position.

Breckland’s Greenest Family

Also in the VOICE – the search is on to find Breckland’s greenest family.

To be considered for Breckland’s Greenest Family, you must be able to show that you are doing your bit to help the environment and be willing to feature regularly in Breckland Council publications, such as Voice and other media to talk about what you as a family do to be ‘green’.

All you have to do is answer a few questions and return the questionnaire by the March 4th 2011.

Questionnaires are available online at www.breckland.gov.uk, from our Customer Service Centres, or by calling us on 01362 656878.

FOR SALE

Indian Carpet approximately 6ft x 6ft.
Good condition. £30

Metal Garden Shed. Approximately 6ft x 4ft.
Buyer collects. £30
Contact – Angela on 884594.

DIARY DATES

April 12th 7.45pm Pre fete meeting at Village hall
May 6th 7.30pm Annual Village hall Quiz/Supper

Village Hall Bookings

Please ring Christine Hardy on 889920
To book your group meetings or parties.

Deadline Date

For items for the March ‘Oracle’ is
12noon on 18th February 2011 or
earlier if possible.

Editors

Christine Reilly Tel 885848 e-mail reilly.cande@btinternet.com
Grace Rumsby Tel 882246 e-mail kestle@supanet.com