

OVINGTON ORACLE

APRIL 2011

4/11

Hi everyone,

SPRING IS IN THE AIR: This is official, as we write it's noted that we have had two full days of uninterrupted sunshine, and its possible to have tea in daylight. Wow!

Someone was heard to remark that his observations at the allotment site revealed that "Never before in the history of Ovington, had so much soil been turned by so many in such a little time"

In our last Oracle we highlighted the issues concerning the forthcoming Parish and District council elections. Our roving reporter has discovered that as yet there have not been many volunteers for the Parish Council side of things. Should there be a lack of potential candidates there could be serious repercussions if a Parish Council is unable to be formed.

It is not our place here to anticipate the actions which Breckland could take if we are unable to have a council of our own, but if another adjacent council be given the authority to run Ovington can we be sure they would not use our council tax for their own projects? Would they wish to take over the allotments and associated field rental which the current council has worked hard to get up and running? Would the interests of Ovington people feature on their agendas? Would they view local planning applications in a sympathetic light?

Who knows? Worth thinking about is it not..

Not too late to put your name forward.

Contact Pat Powell on 880975.

APRIL DIARY DATES

Apr 4 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Apr 6 th	Gardening Club	7.45pm
Apr 8 th	Ladies dinner	7.00pm
Apr 11 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Apr 12 th	Pre Fete meeting	7.45pm
Apr 14 th	Annual Parish Meeting	7.30pm
Apr 18 th	Bowls club	1.45pm
Apr 19 th	Ladies Group	7.45pm
Apr 25 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
May 5 th	ELECTION DAY	7.00am
May 6 th	VH Quiz/Supper	7.15pm

Dogs & Dog Fouling

It has been noted that during February dogs were seen running loose around the Churchyard, the Church authorities would ask that whilst pets are welcome they should be kept on a lead.

The same applies to the allotment area, the holders have worked hard to put their plots in order and do not welcome dogs running loose over the cultivated ground, especially as the planting and sowing period is in full swing. Once again there have been occasions of dog fouling in the street, around the allotment area and the village hall grounds. The Breckland Dog Fouling officer has been made aware of this problem and will be carrying out patrols around the affected areas. Should any dog owner be identified as allowing fouling then we are assured the fines can be quite heavy. Parents please ask your children, if they walk dogs, to heed this warning. Having cleaned up the litter we would hate to see the village fouled in other more offensive and health threatening ways. You have been warned.

Litter Pick

Saturday 5th March may not have dawned sunny and bright, but at least it kept dry and not too cold.

Around 28 desperately keen volunteers gathered at the Village sign and after having the riot act read to them by the organiser, armed themselves with pickers and rubbish bags and clad brightly in fluorescent jackets, set off to do combat with the rubbish which had accumulated over the past twelve months.

There was plenty. Some of it was beyond the pale, and tribute must be paid to the stalwarts who conquered their revulsion and garnered all safely in.

Overall it seemed to be a successful exercise, and listening to the ribald comments and hearing laughter rather than recriminations the volunteers seemed almost to enjoy leaping in and out of ditches.

In traditional Ovington fashion there was a bite or two to eat on completion.

The organiser has asked us to thank all volunteers be they pickers or caterers for giving so generously of their time.

Pre Fete Meeting

Don't forget the pre fete meeting to take place in the village hall on the **12th of April at 7.45pm** to discuss arrangements for the fete to be held on the **25th June**. Please come along if you can help in any way or have some suggestions for different stalls or competition. If you are unable to attend the meeting and would like to be involved, please inform the editors or any hall committee member beforehand what you would be willing to do.

Parish Council News

The minutes of the last meeting are not as yet to hand, but various issues concerning the finalisation of agreements for the allotment holders / PC were discussed with apparently satisfactory results. Nomination papers for the Parish Council election were available for potential candidates to complete.

The next meeting will be the **Annual Parish Meeting, on April 14th at 7.30pm** in the Village Hall. As always, all villagers are welcome to attend, in fact it is your meeting and if you have any issues concerning village matters, then this is the ideal time to bring them up. There will be a speaker who will be talking and advising on how to combat the various scams that are prevalent in today's world.

No doubt there will be a little light refreshment during the course of the evening.

Celebration Thanks

We wish to thank all those lovely people who either attended our open afternoon or donated generously to our chosen charities. The beautiful flowers and selection of cards, which numbered well over fifty, were also greatly appreciated.

If anyone went home hungry, then R&G apologise for the lack of food!!!!

It was a lovely afternoon and served as a fitting reminder of fifty very happy years.

The donations have totalled thus far £260.00

Once again thank you all for sharing with us our celebrations.

Rod & Grace

March - Lottery

1st Prize	£10.	No 32	Angela Wynne
2nd Prize	£10	No 27	Maureen Rands
3rd Prize	£ 5	No 44	Jeremy Woods

Ladies Group.

At our March meeting we travelled to South Africa and Botswana when our guest speaker John Hardy kept us enthralled with photos, information and anecdotes of his and Christine's last years' holiday to these two very different countries. A really enjoyable evening and we're glad those lions didn't get you John.

It is the Ladies Group annual dinner on the **8th April 7pm for 7.30pm** at The Necton Windmill. If you missed the last meeting and are unsure about travel arrangements, please give Maureen a ring on 882772.

The next meeting is on **19th April** at the usual time of 7.45 pm in the village hall. Mrs Ann Durrant will be talking about the history of The Queens Hall in Watton. The competition for the evening will be "a favourite brooch".

So please, ladies, do come along and remember – you do not have to be a member - guests are always very welcome.

We look forward to seeing you soon

Ovington Annual Quiz & Buffet –

Friday, 6th May

This year's Quiz and Buffet evening will be held on **Friday 6th May in Ovington Village Hall**, 7.15pm to start at 7.30pm. If you wish to enter a team, hurry because space is limited.

Phone Christine on 01953 885848 to register your team of four. Entry costs £6 per head (£24 per team) and includes a cold buffet - usually cold meats/vegetarian options and lots of salads. You are guaranteed an evening of fun and a good rummage in the cerebral archives. Tea and coffee are provided, but you are welcome to bring your own favoured tippie. The raffle and quiz proceeds will all go to village hall funds.

Allotment Corner

As spring progresses, folk are coming out of hibernation and beginning work on their allotments. Plots are starting to look very tidy with neatly dug patches and rows of vegetables appearing through the soil. All the plots have now been taken for this year, so if anyone else is interested they will have to go on a waiting list for next year.

Church News

St John's the Evangelist Church, Ovington.
Rector: Revd. Jane Atkins 01760 441191

We are pleased to discuss weddings, baptisms or any other needs with which you think the church could help; please contact our Rector. The Rector's day off is Monday, but messages can be left on the answer machine and, if the situation is extremely urgent, she will get back to you as soon as the message is picked up.

April Church Services in Ovington

Sunday 3rd April 12noon Mothering Sunday
All Age Worship. All ladies will receive a posy.

Monday 18th April 7.30pm Holy Communion

Sunday 24th April 9.30am
EASTER DAY Holy Communion

Thursday 28th April 11.30 am
15mins of prayer for blessings on
Prince William and Catherine Middleton

Friday 29th April 9.00am Holy Communion
(traditional) with prayers for the couple

9am Every Friday.

A traditional service with no hymns, which lasts about 30mins. A gentle and prayerful way to start your day.

Other services in our Benefice for Holy Week and Easter:-

Tues. 19th April 7.30pm Holy Communion at
Ashill

Wed 20th April 7.30pm Holy Communion –
Carbrooke

Thurs 21st April 7.00pm Maundy Thursday
A Dramatic Presentation of Holy Week and
Easter by Lance Pierson. at St Mary's Church
Watton.

Friday 22nd April 2.00pm Good Friday
Meditation at Carbrooke

Saturday 23rd April 7.30pm Special Easter
Evening Service at Saham Toney

Royal Wedding Celebrations

There will be a book of congratulations at the front of the church by the Altar from Thursday 28th April - Sunday 8th May. Please come in and sign it at any time. The pages will be combined with those signed in all four of the churches in the Benefice and sent to the couple with our prayers and best wishes.

Mothering Sunday

Our next Sunday Service will be on Mothering Sunday, **3rd April, at 12 midday**. Come and help us celebrate this special service.

Afterwards traditional Simnel cake and tea or coffee will be served. Mothering Sunday was once known also as Simnel Sunday as, on this Sunday, the Lenten fast was relaxed in celebration of the family and the church.

Mothering Sunday became a day when servants were given the day off to visit their mothers and other family members. It was often the only time that families spent time together because of conflicting working hours. On their way home they picked posies of wild flowers and gave to their mothers, with the Simnel cake they had made. Now it is forbidden to collect wild flowers but we shall be distributing posies to all the ladies in the church.

April 3rd

Following the Mothering Sunday service **The Annual Parochial Church Meeting** will take place at approximately 12.45pm

This year is especially important, as we need to elect Officers for our church, following the resignations of our Church Wardens, Barbara Hicks and Jo Borrett and our Fabric Officer Harry Hicks.

If you would like to help make the decisions, or if you would like to help care for the church in any way, then please do come to this meeting. For too many years a lot of the work has been undertaken by the odd one or two people - it would be so good to share the workload out between more of us.

Thank you

To all who are coming up to the church to read a chapter or two from the Bible. It is worth a visit just to see the daffodil lined church path. The daffodils are still in bud but are promising to burst in to flower soon.

Royal Wedding Fete

The day after the Royal Wedding, on Saturday 30th April, there is to be a Four Parishes Celebration Fete. This will be held in the garden of **The Rectory, Ashill from 1pm – 5pm**

Includes Watton Silver Band, Afternoon Teas, Stalls, Games, Raffle, and Competitions etc. etc. Admission Free - programmes are available from members of our congregation for 20p.

There will be lots of games and all the usual stalls. There is a box at the back of Ovington Church if you are able to contribute to the raffle or tombola, or if you would like to help on the day or are able to bake a cake, then Ann Johnson at 47 The Street (tel. 885455) would be very happy to accept these, or just bring them along on the day. There will be a prize for the best dressed bride and groom for adults and children if you feel like a bit of dressing up! Come along and join in this special Royal Wedding celebration.

Ovington Gardening Club

The March meeting was a talk by Jan Hunt on 'Growing by the Moon'. The various ways in which this impacted on the ability to grow the four plant types was discussed and many examples of biodynamics were given.

The April meeting will be a talk by Tim Fuller of "Plantsman's Preference" on the subject of 'Hardy Perennials'. This will be held in the village hall at 7.45pm on **Wednesday, 6th April, 2011.**

For further details, contact Ed on 01953 885848 or Carol on 01760 440719.

Gardener's Question Time

You are invited to 'Gardener's Question Time' an afternoon with Mr Barry Gayton at Watton Christian Community Centre at **2.30 pm on Thursday 7th April 2011.**

Cost will be £3. per person payable on the door. Barry is well known for his Gardening talks and gave us a very interesting afternoon three years ago so hope you will be able to join us on this occasion.

February Rainfall

February 2011	58.50mm	or 2.34ins
February 2010	98.75mm	or 3.95ins
February 2001	65.00mm	or 2.60ins

Wayland Partnership's Easter Mini – Craft Fair Saturday 16 April

Between 9.30am – 2.00pm at the Dragonfly Gallery, Wayland House, High St, Watton. .
Admission is FREE

We are delighted to offer you a celebration of local crafts including, greetings cards, jewellery, wood turning, ceramics mixed textile art and *much* more.

Our aim is to promote the handmade work of talented individuals and provide them with a venue where they can exhibit and sell their work directly to the public.

We also want to provide the public with an opportunity to purchase quality handmade crafts and allow them to speak with the people who make them.

We carefully select exhibitors to ensure that the standards of crafts are kept high and that there is a varied range of crafts showcased at each event. If you are looking for something different and if quality and affordability are important to you, you will find what you are looking for at a Wayland Partnership craft fair.

. Contact Susan Hollingworth 01953 880205 for further information

For Sale

Childs desk – Wooden babies high chair –
Fold up bed and Telephone table/seat.
Offers to 882246

Did you remember to alter your clocks
on Sunday 27th?

Village Hall Bookings

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

Deadline Date

**For the May 'Oracle' is 12noon on
the 20th April 2011 or earlier if
possible.**

Editors

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