

THE OVINGTON ORACLE

June 2011

www.ovington-village.org.uk

6/11

Hi,

By the time you read this there will only be about 4 weeks to our summer Fete.

A lot of work goes into organising a fete, and I guess like me you would hate to see all that effort wasted. Many thanks to the volunteers, who have agreed to help run the competitions, stalls, serve food and drink, and to those who contribute by donating goods for the fete, your help is much appreciated.

We hope you will come and enjoy yourselves and help raise money for our Village Hall and Church.

OVINGTON SUMMER FETE

WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE GROUNDS OF THE VILLAGE HALL

SATURDAY 25TH JUNE 2011

2pm – 4pm

Everyone welcome, Free Parking and Entrance

We will be having the following stalls:

Books/Toys: Christopher

Cakes: Rosemary and Linda B

Crafts: Christine H

Bric a Brac: Daphne and Lyn

Gifts: Joyce

Hamper: Jill M

Bottle Tombola: Grace and Rod

Plants: Pat

Raffle: Ann J and David (drawn 3.45pm)

Competitions and Sideshows: Ed, Jeremy, Alan, John H, Martin, Janet and others.

Refreshments: Lyndia, Angela and Dot, will be serving tea, coffee and the usual cakes, sausage rolls etc.. plus Cream Teas £1.50. and Strawberries and Cream £1.00.

NB We will be collecting for the Fete, in the main village on the 14th June at 7.00pm.

Please place any items you wish to contribute near your front gate or leave them with Grace at 31 The Street or any Village Hall committee member.

Contributions of Cakes for the Stall or for the Refreshments to be brought to the Hall after 11.00am on Saturday morning,

Thank you in anticipation for any contributions you may be able to donate.

GENTLEMEN: If you are able to give us a helping hand to erect the gazebos and awnings and set up tables at 9.30am on fete day, and dismantle afterwards we would be most grateful.

WANTED - URGENTLY:

For the fete any cracked Crockery for the Aunt Sally Game

June Diary

June 1 st	Gardening Club visit	6.30pm
June 6 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
June 13 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
June 14th	Collection for Fete	7.00pm
June 20 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
June 21 st	Ladies Group	7.45pm
June 22 nd	Parish Council	7.30pm
June 25th	Village Fete	2.00-4.00
June 27 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm

Fete

Tombola stall requires bottles of all sorts: sauce, shampoo, bubble bath, shower gel, wine, cordials, etc..

Bric a Brac No furniture or large items.

Cakes - To be wrapped and labelled,

Gifts – Good items to sell

Crafts – Home made knitted or stitched goods

Books/ Children's Toys /Puzzles

Plants – of any description

Raffle – Good prizes

Refreshments – Sponges, sausage rolls, cakes

Bottle Bank

We do apologise for the bottle bank being out of action recently due it becoming full just before the numerous bank holidays. The operators were notified as soon as it was full, but as stated, the holidays slowed down their response times.

Breckland have asked that **ALL BOTTLE TOPS** must be removed before placing the bottles in the bottle bank.

The good news - we have received £20.23 for the bottles collected up to April.

So thank you for supporting our bottle bank and raising money for the village hall.

Dog Owners

Beware – 2 Dogs disappeared from their backyard in Ovington. We are pleased the dogs have returned home very tired and muddy. So what happened, the dogs didn't say.

Collectors of scrap were seen in the area around the time the dogs disappeared. Please take a note of registration numbers of any strange vehicles seen around just in case these may have been involved in any untoward activities.

May Lottery

1 st	£10.	No 32	Nic Sproston
2 nd	£ 5.	No 21	Christine Hardy

FREE to a Good Home

Approximately 5 cubic metres of reasonable topsoil, located just inside the entrance to the allotments off Church Road. Ideal for making raised beds, filling in old ponds or holes, can be spread over existing cultivated gardens to improve soil structure. Unlimited uses, and it's all free, a bargain at twice the price. **Please help yourself.**

Annual Quiz Night

On 6th May the village hall was once again filled to capacity with teams eager for glory in the annual quiz. After a close run contest, a team from Saham was victorious but everyone appeared to enjoy the evening. In particular, the buffet supper was attacked with great gusto, leaving very few scraps of anything behind. The magnificent sum of £300 was raised for village hall funds on the night. I would like to thank all those who rolled up their sleeves and helped to make the evening a success.
Christine

April Rainfall

April 2011	8.00mm	or	0.32ins
April 2010	26.25mm	or	1.05ins
April 2001	83.50mm	or	3.34ins

This will be the last record of rainfall as recorded by Ted. For the past nine years the rainfall in Ovington has been faithfully and accurately measured and printed in the Oracle and its predecessors. It is not due to the current drought conditions that is causing Ted to stop recording but the fact that he has now left the village and moved to Holme Hale. We shall sorely miss Ted and Cynthia, and wish them well in their new home.

European Evening - Saturday 9 July 7pm

Reserve your places for this gourmet event as space is limited. Ring Christine on 885848 to ensure you don't miss a culinary tour around some familiar and not-so-familiar countries. Last year there were dishes to sample from no fewer than 12 countries. For only £7 per person you can browse your way around Europe and enjoy a light-hearted quiz. Weather permitting; we hope to have some games available to work off the odd calorie or two. Naturally there will be a raffle to round off the evening and proceeds will go to the village hall.

Parish Council

Lack of space in the last edition of the Oracle prevented us from featuring one of the most important events of the Annual Parish Meeting. The Parish Council Clerk, Mr John Goode announced his wish to retire from his position as clerk, earlier in the year. A decision that was, no doubt, received with joy by Andrea his wife, but the feelings of the Council Members were far from joyful. John has served the council, and indeed Ovington, faithfully and diligently for over seven years. His quietly accurate guidance and common sense will be sorely missed.

In recognition of the high esteem in which John was held by the Parish Councillors, the Chairman presented John with a scale model of an LNER locomotive with which John had been associated in the past, a bouquet of flowers for the long suffering Andrea was also presented to John.

Well-done John, and grateful thanks from Ovington Parish Council.

The Parish Council AGM

Was held on Wednesday 11th May, where the council elected Rod Rumsby as Chairman and John Hardy as vice Chairman.

The co-option of another councillor was discussed and it was decided to interview prospective candidates.

The offer of the four drawer filing cabinet had elicited no response from the populace so it was agreed that it be put in the auction.

The chairman suggested that a letter of thanks to Chris Lewis be sent as a commendation of his work as a councillor. Agreed.

There are ongoing matters concerning the correct format for agreements regarding the allotments and letting of the land, the clerk has been asked to ascertain which are the best means by which the council is perceived to operate correctly.

The Village Website is still undergoing tweaking to ensure it works correctly.

The Chair indicated that he would be standing down as PC rep on the Village Hall Committee.

There were no other volunteers for this position, and although the Clerk seemed an obvious choice she considered it to be not in her remit, the position is therefore still vacant.

The next and subsequent meetings are as follows: 22nd June, 27th July, 24th August and 21st September.

The full confirmed minutes will be displayed in the notice board following the next meeting.

Ladies Group

We had a large gathering at the meeting on 17th May when we were entertained by the very funny Linda Scholes. Linda regaled us with stories of her life from when she was a child of 2 years, up until the present day as a grandmother. I think, as we looked back at our own lives we could all connect with some of the wonderful and funny stories she had to tell. However, I think she was quite unique in singing at the top of her voice for half an hour twice a day in the uppermost branches of a 35' cherry tree in order to attract a mate!

At our next meeting on **21st June at 7.45pm** the speaker will be the director of Scrubby Oak Fine Foods talking about Victorian style chutneys and vinegars. The competition for the evening will be a favourite handkerchief.

On **19th July** we are planning a day trip to Thursford to experience the wonderful organs and have lunch. We hope to leave around 10.45 am and return home by about 4.30 pm. Lifts will be provided by committee members. Please let us know by the June meeting if you are able to come.

Two future dates to bear in mind are the BBQ at Christine and John's home on Saturday **6th August** (as on previous occasions – a true feast!) and also the 50/50 sale of clothes and other items on **9th September**. Please keep any unwanted clothes for this date and hopefully raise some funds for both yourself and the club at the same time.

We look forward to seeing new and old members at our next meeting.

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.

9am Every Friday.

A traditional service with no hymns, which lasts about 30mins.

No details received for Church services during June.

Allotment Corner

Well, who can remember when we last had a decent drop of rain? I know I certainly can't. At time of putting pen to paper, it is trying to rain but only succeeding in leaving a damp aroma in the air and precious little on the ground! All the veggies are struggling to grow in near desert conditions, but curiously enough the weeds seem to cope and grow at twice the speed. Strange, that! Perhaps we should consider cactus crops instead. However, joking aside, things are gradually taking shape on the allotments due to a lot of hard graft. I am certainly losing weight with all the extra walking involved in watering and can highly recommend the regime, although my arms do seem a bit longer than usual ... One of the best features of having an allotment here is the opportunity to observe wildlife, particularly birds. There are almost daily sightings of skylarks and a pair of buzzards, but this week we have also seen yellowhammers and a hobby, giving a welcome excuse to pause and lean on your shovel. This time next month, I hope to be eating my first courgettes of the season. I can't contain my excitement at that prospect - after all, I still have about 142 recipes to try in my courgette cookery book!

Gardening Club

The April meeting was a talk by Tim Fuller of 'Plantsman's Preference' on the subject of hardy perennials. This was given by an expert in his field and many hints and tips were given to get the best from the plants.

The May meeting was a plant sale with coffee and cake stall held in the beautiful garden of Richard and Ann Akister at Redwood House. This was quite a success with £300 being raised to fund speakers for the next year. Many thanks to all who helped in setting up, providing plants, making cakes, serving tea and coffee and all the other things necessary for a successful morning (particularly the weather!).

The June visit is to Walnut Tree Garden Nursery on **Wednesday 1st June** with a **6.30pm** start. For further details, contact Ed on 01953 885848 or Carol on 01760 440719. Walnut Tree Garden Nursery can be found off the Eastern side of the Attleborough Road as you leave Caston and are entering Rocklands, and is signposted.

Thanks

Thank you, to the three gentlemen who have volunteered to help with the Church Grass cutting after our appeal in last months Oracle.

Welcome

We welcome the family who have recently moved into No 5 The Street. We hope you will enjoy living in the village, and look forward to meeting and greeting you in the near future.

Village Events

If you would like to be e-mailed and reminded about forthcoming Village events then register your e-mail address with Pat Powell at alanpowell1@btinternet.com

NatureFest2011

Breckland Council will be hosting their first biodiversity event this summer at the beautiful and enchanting Narborough Hall Gardens, Narborough. The event will be homage to our natural, local environment where there will be a number of wildlife exhibitors and a whole array of adult and

NatureFest2011

A fun filled day packed with nature based activities for children and adults including:
Hands on activities
Guided walks and talks
Craft and food stands
Featuring The Fairyland Trust's crown making workshop and the Nutmeg Puppet Theatre
Saturday 9th Jul, 10-5pm
Narborough Hall Gardens,
Narborough, Norfolk

children's activities to enjoy.
So come along and share in the delights.
Entry £2.00
Car load £5.00
Children under 7 Free
No dogs.
Further info
01362 656870

Village Hall Bookings

Please ring Christine Hardy on 889920 to book the village hall.

Deadline Date

For items to be included in the July edition of the 'Oracle' is 12noon on the 22nd June 2011 or earlier if possible.

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