

# THE OVINGTON ORACLE

October 2011    [www.ovington-village.org.uk](http://www.ovington-village.org.uk)    10/11

Greetings folks, the mists of Autumn descend upon us, the fruits of the hedgerows abound yet again. There are assumptions that should there be masses of berries along our hedges then we are destined to suffer a hard winter, we think the reason is that we have had a good growing season. Mind you, if we have another winter like last year we may have to revise our thinking.

The year might be slowing down but village activities continue apace, see below.

## October Diary

Oct 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Oct 5 <sup>th</sup>	Gardening Club	7.45pm
Oct 10 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
<b>Oct 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Pre Bazaar Meeting</b>	<b>2.30pm</b>
Oct 17 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Oct 18 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies Group	7.45pm
Oct 24 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Oct 26 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council	7.30pm
Oct 31 <sup>st</sup>	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Nov 12 <sup>th</sup>	Supper Evening	7 for 7.30pm
Dec 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bazaar	

## BBQ

The village BBQ on 4<sup>th</sup> September was blessed with fine weather and many folk came along for sustenance and socialising. Many thanks to Jon Wheeler for taking charge of the cooking and for his delicious sausages! Thanks also to everyone else who helped in any way to make it a successful and enjoyable evening, raising £91 for the village hall.

## Supper Evening Saturday 12 November

Once again the village hall will be putting on a Supper Evening, providing a two course meal with coffee on **Saturday November 12<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm**. Tickets will be on sale from the middle of October, but you can ring Christine on 885848 before that to reserve them. This event is always a popular fundraiser for the village hall and there will be a raffle to boost funds.

## Pre Bazaar Meeting

A meeting has been arranged for **October 12<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm** in the village hall, to discuss the forthcoming Bazaar.

This meeting is open to anyone interested in supporting the organisers of the Christmas Bazaar due to take place on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you are unable to attend the meeting and would be willing to help in anyway, or have new ideas please let Christine, MarieAna or Grace know. As usual the profit will be divided between the Village Hall and the Church.

## Macmillan Coffee Morning

I would like to thank everyone who supported Lyndia and me at our Macmillan Coffee Morning. It was lovely to see the hall buzzing with people sitting chatting and drinking coffee/tea and then of course putting their hands in their pockets to buy cakes and produce and to try to win a prize on the tombola. The raffle was also really well supported. We must say a huge thank you to all our helpers – Dianne, Christine Hardy, Joyce, Dot, Rosemary Philpot and Sheila Scotton. We couldn't have done it without you. I must also thank all the kind people who donated cakes, raffle and tombola prizes. It is very much appreciated. We made a handsome amount of £290.50. From such a small village as Ovington it is a great result for such a worthy cause. Many Thanks Angela and Lyndia

## Welcome

We welcome Jayne, Matt, Jacob and Callum, who have come to live in The Street. It was good to meet you all at the BBQ.

We also welcome the family who have come to live at the Crossroads, and anyone else who has moved into the village recently, that we were unaware of.

## Ovington Gardening Club

At our September meeting we were entertained by our speaker, Robert Maidstone, on the subject of 'Butterflies & Moths'. This proved to be a very interesting talk on the subject of disguise and foodstuffs of the insects where the photographs showed how the eggs were laid individually or in groups, hatched into caterpillars and turned into pupae - many of which were cleverly matched to their surroundings. The final emergence of the butterflies was also depicted with variations in colour and size dependent on when the butterflies emerged from their chrysalis. The October meeting will be held on **Wednesday 5th October at 7.45pm** in the village hall, when Rory Hart will be talking about 'Heaths and Heathlands'. For further details call Ed on 01953 885848 or Carol on 01760 440719.

### Ladies Group

On 9<sup>th</sup> September we held a 50/50 Sale in the village hall. Unfortunately, despite extensive advertising and with an enormous amount of clothes and household items for sale, only a few people turned up at the event. Our grateful thanks to the few ladies group members and people from the village that did support us. A final profit of £67 was made which will help pay for speakers at the meetings.

At the meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> September we held a Fashion Show in conjunction with the Sue Ryder charity. Around 40 ladies (and even one gentleman!) watched the nine "models" showing off the clothes, which were later offered for sale. After a nervous beginning the models soon got into the swing of things and strutted to the sounds of Abba. In all a very different evening and hopefully a nice profit for the Sue Ryder charity.

The next meeting on **18<sup>th</sup> October at 7.45pm** will be the A.G.M.

One member will be leaving the committee and we will therefore be looking for a replacement. The business part of the meeting will be followed by prize bingo. We look forward to seeing you all in October.

## Samaritan's Purse

It was mentioned at the Ladies group about the Shoebox Appeal, which is the world's largest children's Christmas project since 1990. These filled boxes are given to children who would otherwise not have a present at Christmas.

If you have any items to fill shoeboxes for children aged between 2 and 14 years old. Perhaps you could let the ladies group members have them before their next meeting.

Or if you so wish fill a box yourself and wrap the lid and box separately with wrapping paper, enclose £2.50. and secure the lid with an elastic band. Mark whether it is for a boy or girl and what age.

Suggested gifts, which should be new: soft toys (must have a CE mark) jigsaw, doll finger puppets, building blocks, felt pens, pencils, eraser, colouring book, chalk, puzzle book, toothpaste, tooth brush, comb, bar of soap, gloves, scarves, hat, bangles, necklaces, tennis ball, skipping ropes, trucks, cars, toy medals, stop watch, **NO Thanks** to the following: chocolate, Toy guns, soldiers, or war related items, glass items, bubbles, shampoo, toiletry sets, Aerosols, scissors etc.

Further details can be obtained from Grace.

### Congratulations

To Geoff Angell, for his magnificent achievements in the recent 34 mile Yare Navigation Race.

Sailing his boat Pippa, he gained a first in the Jeckells Trophy for boats between 25ft and 28ft in a time of 5hrs 8mins 17secs. He also achieved a creditable second in the Yare Navigation Race trophy for the fastest with handicap on a day when winds were light.

Well-done Geoff, one up for Ovington's fresh water Navy.

Mind you, the Salt water element, not to be outdone, also achieved a record breaking run from the river Orwell to London and back, over a long weekends sailing, where the winds were far from light, and mostly blowing in the wrong direction.

Congratulations to Jeremy Woods and crew.

### Parish Council.

The PC met with the allotment association prior to the last PC meeting, where it was mutually agreed that certain changes needed to be made to the contract between the two parties.

The Parish Council meeting followed and was attended by the full council and five members of the public.

Matters discussed were to determine whether funding could be made available for facilities for the youth of Ovington.

Planning applications for wind turbines in two separate areas of Ovington were approved.

Concern was expressed over the performance, or lack of, from the Councils bankers, the matter to be discussed further at a later date.

The search for a new Clerk had attracted several applicants, interviews will be conducted shortly.

In the absence of a Clerk it is advised that all communications or queries on Parish Council matters, be directed to the Chairman, Rod Rumsby. 31 The Street or tel. 882246.

Work was still in progress on the Village Sign, with the above ground work proceeding satisfactorily, plans for a new base mounting are being formulated.

A suggestion was made to ask the youngsters of the Village what facilities they think would improve their social and play activities. This was agreed and this article is the first step in asking the young people to come forward to the Parish Council with their ideas and suggestions.

District Councillor John Rogers suggested that the Council should again approach NCC highways asking for a footpath along the A1075 to Watton, to be situated on the west side of the road where the verge is wider. The Council to pursue this matter.

The meeting, agreed by all to be most amicable, closed at 8.40pm.

Full approved minutes will be displayed in the notice board following the next meeting. Which is on **October 26<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm** in the village hall small committee room.

### Bottle Bank

There have been a lot of complaints recently about the bottle bank overflowing. The problem seems to be with the recycling firm at Thetford. At present it is full again, despite three phone calls over the past fortnight, warning them that it was approaching full, full and now overflowing. I have asked them to empty it regularly, every month and they have agreed to start doing that. Like everyone else, I am fed up with the lack of service, particularly as it is not a freefone number I have to ring! I will approach Breckland Council and see if there is anything they can do. One answer may be to have a bigger bank, but this may just create a bigger problem when it overfills. Please be patient in the meantime and, if possible, keep your bottles at home for a few more days. I do have to complain about some people who left bags of very dirty bottles and jars lying next to the bank the last time. There were unwashed sauce jars and a jar containing quantities of apricot jam, which was full of frenzied wasps! It is not a pleasant job dealing with stuff like that and I don't see why I should have to do it. Finally, when the textile bank was emptied there was a lot of rubbish (including a cast iron skillet, broken china and even food waste!) amongst unwrapped clothes and shoes. It states quite clearly what should go in the bank and how it should be wrapped in bags. Rubbish can ruin the good stuff and prevent us receiving payment.

Christine Reilly

**Good News – The bottle bank has been emptied today.**

Chris Warne returns for his second Solo Art Exhibition

1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> October

Preview Evening Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September  
7.00 – 8.30, join us for wine and nibbles free tickets available

The Dragonfly Gallery, Wayland House,  
High St, Watton.

Opening Times 10.00 – 4.00pm weekdays  
Saturday 10.00 – 1.00pm.

## OVINGTON CHURCH NEWS

Thank you to everybody who contributed in the many different ways to make our church look so beautiful for the Harvest Festival / Benefice Service. Cider and harvest cakes were served after the service and the auction raised £120.

A special thanks to the allotments holders for their contributions of fine produce.

It was good to welcome five dogs and their owners to the Pet Service and they were all so impeccably behaved. They were all rewarded with miniature 'bonios' as a little treat after the service.

A big thank you to all who manned the church for the Norfolk Churches Cycle Ride and especially to Chris and Virginia who rode to sixteen different churches to raise money for this cause.

Church cleaning will take place on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 2pm.

On 9<sup>th</sup> October at 10.00 we look forward to welcoming our friends from Watton who will join with us on this Sunday. Revd Geoff Garrett will officiate.

### Allotment Association

Ovington Allotment Association held a very successful Curry Night on Saturday. The hall was full to bursting with ravenous gourmets, all eager to try the delights of Eastern dishes. Many thanks to Stuart for creating a superb spread and boosting the Association's funds. It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening, even if the quiz did reveal a general level of ignorance about India! Thanks also to everyone who waded in and helped with the copious amounts of clearing and washing up afterwards.

The Allotment Association AGM was held on 25<sup>th</sup> September and a new committee is now in place, chaired by Paul Alford. If you would like to join us, there are still a few vacant plots available at £20 for the year. Come up and see us and we will happily show you around.

## Stay-at-home Christmas?

Are you staying at home for Christmas? Would you open your home and share Christmas with a student from China, India, or some other part of the world, who would otherwise be stuck at an almost deserted UK university? HOST invites you to give Christmas, perhaps for the first time in their life, to someone who is a guest in this country, who would love to experience your way of life and make your stay-at-home Christmas special. HOST will match you with one or two guests to suit your household. More volunteer hosts are urgently needed for 1-3 days at Christmas, and weekends all year round.

Please see [www.hostuk.org](http://www.hostuk.org) or call your local voluntary organiser for a chat: David Patey 01508 483838

HOST UK

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[www.hostuk.org.uk](http://www.hostuk.org.uk)

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### Lottery

£10.00	No. 33	Reg Farmer
£10.00	No. 8	Dudley Groom
£ 5.00	No. 47	Rosemary Angell

### Hall Bookings

Please give Christine Hardy a ring on 889920

### Deadline Date

For the November 'Oracle' is 12 noon on the 20th October 2011 or earlier if possible.

### Editors

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### Don't forget

to alter your clocks on October 30<sup>th</sup> when British summer time ends