

The Ovington Oracle

August, 2012

Welcome:

Linda & Tim

At last the sun is shining (well it was as we complied the Oracle). August will no doubt see many of us participating in national sporting events for the comfort of the sofa. Those of you who are very sharp eyed may even spot a fellow villager, Ann, who is a volunteer helper at the Olympics.

Diary Dates:

All at Village Hall unless otherwise indicated

Mondays @ 10:30am	Coffee morning, until 11:30am
Mondays @ 1:45pm	Bowls
1st August @ 11:00	Crafters
2nd August @ 9:30am	Said Holy Communion - church
4th August @ 3:30pm	Picnic at Chestnut House until 6:00pm
10th August @ 7:30pm	Supper evening in aid of PACT
12th August @ 9:30am	Holy Communion – church
21st August @ 7:45pm	Ladies Group
25th August @ 5:00pm	Village Hall barbecue

To book the village hall contact Christine Hardy 889920

More at: www.ovington-village.org.uk

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Notices:

Both Karate on Tuesdays and TaeKwondo on Thursdays have had to close due to lack of people.

There are still a (very) few tickets left for the Buffet Supper in aid of PACT on Friday, 10 August. Ring Christine on 01953 885848 as soon as possible if you have forgotten yours!

Ladies Group:

Christine Hardy



In July Paul Stancliffe from the British Trust for Ornithology spoke to us of the work of the Trust. He showed stunning slides of our native birds and told us the food they most enjoyed and when we were most likely to see them in our gardens also how we could prevent disease spreading. The evening was really enjoyed by everyone and in turn Paul was envious of some of the birds seen regularly by our members in their own gardens.

On 4th August we will be holding a Picnic at Chestnut House, Church Road 3:30 – 6:00pm £5 per head to include sumptuous food and soft drinks. Everybody welcome. Please call Christine on 889920 if you would like to reserve a place in advance, otherwise just turn up. We are confident the sun will be shining all day!

Our August meeting will be “Nibbles and Natter”, a chance to have a good social evening with a few games and quizzes as optional extras. Competition – something beginning with ‘G’. Again all ladies are welcome so we look forward to seeing you all for a good ‘natter’ and some home-made ‘nibbles’.

Nearby events:

Dragonfly Gallery, Wayland House, High St, Watton

4th August – 11th 2012 Wayland & District Photographic Club
Exhibition at the Dragonfly Gallery

18th August – 1st September Summer Art Exhibition - Mixed
Media with a selection of gifts, jewellery, ceramics,
sculpture and artwork, this is the BIG SUMMER SHOW!

Opening Times: Weekdays – 10:00 – 4:00pm,
Sat 10:00 – 1:00pm.
Contact Susan Hollingworth, 01953 880205

Parish Council:

Rod Rumsby

A vacancy has occurred for a Parish Councillor. Should any resident of Ovington be interested in becoming a councillor and be part of a forward looking team, with an interest in ensuring Ovington continues to move onwards and upwards, then please contact the Parish Clerk, Mrs Heidi Frary on 01603 759215, or the Chairman Rod Rumsby at 31 The Street, on 01953 882246.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held in Ovington Village Hall on Thursday 6th September at 7:30pm, all residents are cordially invited to attend.

Electoral Register

Everyone should have received by now the Voter registration form from Breckland Council. Please ensure the details are correct and that you either confirm this is so by the methods indicated on the form or return the form by post if you have any changes or additions / subtractions you wish to make. Don't lose your opportunity to vote, who knows, you could make dramatic changes to the way this country is governed at the next election. Hope springs eternal in the human breast.

Parish Council Meeting June 5th 2012

(Abridged and unconfirmed minutes of meeting)

The meeting considered adoption of revised Code of Conduct, the options being to adopt the Breckland Code or write the council's own. The latter would require some thought and discussion so it was agreed to adopt initially the Breckland version until the council can prepare its own more appropriate version.

The Council had received notification that Cllr Hardy wished to

tender his resignation from the council. This decision was met with significant regret by the Council, but felt that after all his hard work over the past three years he could not be denied a respite. The Clerk was asked to write a letter of grateful thanks on behalf of the council. Breckland to be advised of the vacancy.

The Council agreed to continue monitoring the dog fouling problem, which seems to have decreased of late. The question of footpaths was raised and it was noted that most of them are very overgrown, the Clerk was asked to write to Highways requesting clearance of footpath No 2.

Feedback from Jubilee celebrations had been positive, donations from visitors from outside the Village amounted to £175.00 and sale of mugs realised a further £210.00. Expenses to cover the outstanding costs of the festivities were authorised from Parish Funds.

There had been some confusion over the allocation of mugs for children under 16 years of age who lived in the village, with some families not informing the council of their requirements and some receiving mugs outside their entitlement. The Council agreed to try and recover some of the losses thereby incurred.

Planning application for a horse exerciser at King Row received no objections.

Payment of accounts and expenses were approved and cheques authorised.

Next meeting: Thursday 6th September at 7:30pm

Church:

Ann Johnson & Chris Springford

Thursday 2nd August @ 9:30am - Said Holy Communion
The Thursday Services are restarting on the first Thursday in the month on a monthly basis.

Sunday 12th August @ 9:30am - Holy Communion

Some dates for the future, further details to follow:

Sunday 9th September - Combined Open Air Service / Pet Service in the afternoon. The Watton Town Band will be joining us for this service.

Sunday 7th October - Combined Harvest Festival Service and Auction with a Re-dedication of the Village Sign.

Sunday 23rd December @ 5:00pm - Christmas Carol Service.

Heating and Lighting in the church:

We are now within days of gaining final approval of the Faculty for replacing the heating and lighting in the church. It just requires the archdeacon to sign-off on the process.

It has taken approximately 2-years to get to this stage. All thanks to Harry Hicks and Rod Rumsby for their perseverance in sticking with the process – submitting and re-submitting plans and paperwork, posting all the regulatory notices and chasing-up all concerned.

It would be wonderful if this work could be completed in time for our Christmas Services this year.

Comment:

Editor note: We have had an interesting letter and thought we would share it. David's memories of his old Head Master's musing remind us all of the perils of gossip...

It was with great sadness that I learnt last year, of the death of my former headmaster. A wonderful human being and a terrific head, as decent a man as you could care to meet. I remembered one assembly my headmaster told us that no matter who we were or to what heights we might reach we would all at some time become the butt of the common gossip. He urged us all to remember that no matter how ridiculous or nasty the gossip might be how we dealt with it would be the real test. To give way to it would lead to depression and madness; to run away from it displays a weakness of fortitude and lends credence to the malicious. The way to deal with this situation is to embrace it with humour, shoulders back, head high and a positive eye. Further, should your friends desert you they were never true friends and therefore no loss. Such adversity teaches you who your real friends are. Therefore we should all avoid participating in gossip and see clearly through any gossip we might be privy to. It is down to each of us to seek the truth or dismiss the lie, remaining true to ourselves.

David Procter

Gardening Club:

Ed Reily

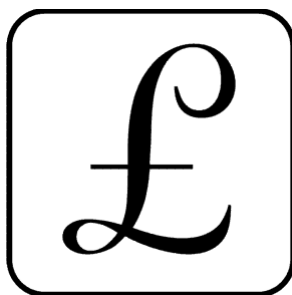


The July meeting was a visit to Norfolk Herbs in Dillington. This proved to be an interesting place to visit and we were given a practical demonstration in exactly how to propagate several different plants. The main secret was a purpose-built micro-spray system on a heated bed where the humidity is altered in accordance with the weather conditions. No special rooting compounds were used, as the system is organic, and plants were raised very rapidly in a large greenhouse. There were many plants available for sale and we left with several plants each!

There is no meeting in August and the next meeting is at the village hall on Wednesday 5th September at 7:45pm when Ian Stanton will be talking on 'Gardening in the Shade'. Further details from Ed on 01953 885848 or Carol on 01760 440719.

Village Lottery:

Alan Powell



June winners of the village lottery:

1st (£10) Vernon Conie

2nd (£5) Daphne Preece

Congratulations to both and good luck for August

BBQ

Well, at last we appear to be having some sort of summer - let's hope it isn't all over by Saturday 25th August when we get the BBQ out! Food will be available from 5:00pm on a Pay-as-You-Eat basis. At time of going to press, the menu is still Top Secret (i.e., still in the planning stage!), but this being Ovington, you can be assured of a good spread. Come along for a convivial evening (dogs on leads, please) with friends and neighbours. For those new to the village, come and meet everyone.

Table Top and Jumble Sale

There will be a *Table Top and Jumble Sale* at the village hall on Saturday 8th September, so start clearing out those cupboards and drawers to be ready in time. A limited number of tables will be available for a nominal fee inside the hall and depending on the weather, further tables outside. It will run from 11:00am to 3:00pm and refreshments will be available.

Crafters

Wednesday 1st August from 11:00am in the village hall. Bring your crafts, ideas and suggestions (plus a packed lunch if you intend to stay that long – drinks will be provided).

Allotment Corner:

Christine Reilly

It's been a Difficult Year for everyone weather wise, but at last things are starting to look up. There have been reports of blight on tomatoes and potatoes, a veritable army of slugs and snails wreaking destruction on anything green, and the ground is so waterlogged that the onions have developed something called 'wet rot'. Are we downhearted? Not a bit of it. On the plus side, soft fruit has been wonderful – ask any blackbird! I thought we had a rare, red-beaked variety until I realised what they were all up to. My personal favourite, the courgette, is coming in to full production and looking good this year after last year's disastrous crop. If I could harvest the very pretty Speedwell and sell it, I could be a millionaire. I feel it is up there with bindweed, thistles, poppies and groundsel in the *Mighty Weeds of all Time* list and will never appear on the *Endangered Wild Flowers* list. Applications will be invited next month for any plots becoming vacant.

Stop press:

On Saturday 28 July, we again achieved success at the Dereham & District Allotment and Gardeners Society Annual Show, proving that Ovington produce is in a class of its own! Most of our entries were placed 1st or 2nd and despite having fewer entries because of the awful weather this year, gained awards for '*Most points in the Fruit and Vegetable classes*' as well as '*Most Points in Show*'!

Children's Corner:

Tim

Joke:

Q: What colour socks do bears wear?

A: They don't wear socks, they have 'bear' feet!

Sudoku (quite difficult):

Using numbers 1 to 9, fill in so that numbers don't repeat in any row or column or in any 3x3 square.

	4	8		5				1
			8		6			5
		3						
	9							
		7					2	4
	2			8		1	5	6
5	3		9			6	7	
					2			
					1		9	

Deadline for next issue: 24th August

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A large print version is available for download at the web-site.