

The Ovington Oracle

August, 2013

We have received a number of comments about dogs recently: the vast majority of owners are totally responsible but just one or two spoil it and give everyone a bad name ... please clear up after your dog and don't leave dogs to bark for extended periods. Any wrongdoing should be reported to the Dog Warden (01362 858500) or environmental health at Breckland Council (01362 656870).

We have eventually reached the top of the rota for the vehicle activated speed sign, however it doesn't work !! The Parish Council have reported the problem and are looking at alternative longer term solutions.

There is a slightly different mix of reports in this months Oracle, so read on ...

Diary Dates

All at Village Hall unless otherwise indicated

Mondays @ 10:30am	Coffee morning, until 11:30am
Mondays @ 1:45pm	Bowls
Mondays @ 6:00pm	Junior Choir
7th Aug @ 11:00am	Crafters session, until 4:00pm
11th Aug @ 9:30am	Holy Communion (Church)
20th Aug @ 7:45pm	Ladies Group
1st Sept @ 10:30am	Harvest Festival Benefice Service (church)

To book the village hall contact Lyndia Lewis 882222

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Messages

The Village

Welcome:

To the new arrivals at No 3 The Street.

Get Well Soon:

Our good wishes for a speedy recovery go to Gordon who is in hospital following a major operation.

Births:

Congratulations to John and Maureen Simmons on the birth of their Great Grandson;

and also to Rod & Grace Rumsby on the birth of their Great Granddaughter also called Grace.

Ladies Group

Christine Hardy



July has been a really good month for the Ladies Group. Firstly we enjoyed a wonderful buffet supper evening in Angela's garden. Not only was the food delicious, but the sun shone too. A great way to while away a Saturday evening. Thanks to Angela for letting us use her lovely garden.

At our monthly meeting Simon Partridge gave us a very informative, light-hearted and humorous insight into Great Yarmouth's fishing industry and how the town has changed over the years. Simon kept everyone enthralled with his knowledge and easy-going manner. A great evening.

In August our meeting will be a Picnic at the Village Hall where everyone is asked to bring a plate of food to share. Hopefully the sun will be shining again so we can have this event outside, but if not we shall still carry on inside the hall. Competition will be something beginning with 'Q'. We look forward to seeing everyone on the 20th at 7:45pm. As usual guests/new members are very welcome, why not come along for an informal natter and nibble!

Duxford Airshow

Rod Rumsby

A coach trip is being organised to the big Airshow at Duxford on September 8th, a few seats are still available. For details and prices contact Rod on 882246 or e-mail kestle@supanet.com . Preferably before August 3rd as prior booking ensures a generous discount on entrance fees.

Garden Waste Bins 2013

Dale Wilder @ Breckland Council

Did you know that residents recycled an amazing 7,801 tonnes of garden waste last year? This diverted it from land fill, produced masses of natural compost and helped to keep your Council Tax levels down. Thanks to everyone for doing your bit!

Here are a few points to remember about using your brown bin.

- No bagged waste.
- No pet waste or bedding.
- No ash.
- No large tree pieces or fencing and wood.
- No flower pots or rubble.
- Please do not overfill, it can damage the bin or the lifting mechanism.
- Remember to have your bin out by 6:30am.

The cost for 26 collections per year is currently £40. If you don't have a brown bin for garden waste, but would like to subscribe to the scheme, please call Breckland Council on 01362 656878.

Breckland ward boundary changes

Pam Sayle @ Breckland Council

The boundaries for some or all Breckland Council wards will change in 2015. The Boundary Commission for England has accepted Breckland Council's recommendation, submitted earlier this year, that the number of wards in the district be reduced from 54 to 50. This will mean that some or all of the present district council ward boundaries will have to be redrawn. Parish Council boundaries will not be affected.

Any Breckland resident who wants to put their views forward about where the new Breckland district ward boundaries should be can visit the Boundary Commission website, www.lgb.org.uk, to take part in their consultation. Residents have until 23 September 2013 to submit their views.

Recycling – waste wood

Jeremy Woods

Several households in the village burn wood, but many folk have a problem of getting rid of unwanted wood waste. The local tip restricts the size you can take and also the quantity. Fear not. Help is at hand. Just contact Jeremy Woods who will put you in touch with friendly wood burners who can cut it up and collect it too!

Calling all Breckland artists!

Sam Dawson @ Breckland Council

Breckland Council is calling on local artists to get in touch to take part in the 2013 Breckland Art Trail.

Following the success of the 2012 Trail Breckland Communities Officer, Sam Dawson, has started work on the 2013 event contacting public spaces throughout the district and arranging for them to display the work of local artists; these spaces could be shops, businesses or public buildings. Last year saw a fantastic range of exhibits on show from over 70 local artists including paintings, prints, photographs, ceramics, textiles and sculpture; organisers are hoping for a similar range this year.

Breckland-based artists have until 23 September to get in touch with Sam to find out more and to register to take part. Although Breckland will publicise the event by producing and distributing a brochure featuring all participating artists, the onus is on participating artists to promote the Trail and their work.

The dates of the Trail are 30 November – 8 December 2013. Artists who are interested in taking part should email sam.dawson@breckland.gov.uk to request a registration form. The cost to participate is £10 per artist or £30 per group. More details will be at www.breckland.gov.uk/arttrail

Ovington Navy – Late news

Jeremy Woods

Woodlark, our 6 ton Falmouth Pilot cruising yacht (built 1963), actually got launched this year after a summer on the car park. The problem was that a new deck was needed and work started in the snow in February 2012. This involved removing all the deck fittings and then lifting off the old teak strips and the plywood.. As this was done, it became clear that the surface rot had extended to many of the structural timbers underneath, so three main oak deck beams, the cockpit back and sides and a cabin side had to be replaced. In the end, some 250 pieces of wood were replaced!

As this was a low budget operation, it was decided to fit a "proper" deck using canvas laid onto the new plywood and painted with house wall paint. Many people donated wood for the project so I would like to thank Daphne and the late Bernard Preece for the oak posts from their 20 old garden fence and Chris and Lyndia Lewis for the mahogany stair rails.

Launching was interesting as the boat was floated off its steel cradle on the rinsing tide. As wood shrinks after a time out of the water, most of this came in. Floating was only possible with the help of Derek Greenwood (Saham Navy) and Bob Warwick (Crew member and shipwright - Ovington Navy). Three electric pumps, a hand pump and a saucepan were needed in the beginning and now there is hardly a leak!

So thank you to all those who supported and took an interest in this, Note that anyone from Ovington who wants to sail a classic yacht for a day should contact Jeremy Woods at the Old Crown. It is not too difficult and Holland is only a day away! You just need a pair of wellies and a sandwich.

Police report

PCSO 8401 Tonya Winsley

There has been an increase in shed breaks across the area. Please consider the following advice.

Internally:

- Ideally store high value items in the home.
- Use a padlock and chain to secure items such as lawn mowers, to a heavy anchor.
- Cycle locks can be used to secure cycles and other heavy items together.
- Make a property list detailing the make, model, serial number, value and description of valuable items. Use photographs to aid identification.
- Overtly mark your property with your house number and post code – permanently marked property is less attractive as it would be difficult for a thief to sell.

Externally:

- Fit quality mortice locks or padlocks 1/3 up and 1/3 down on the door to reduce the leverage available.
- Do not neglect the hinge either side and use security screws or bolts through their fixings.
- Secure the windows with a weld mesh or a crime shield product secured from the inside.
- Fit a security light to deter the thief and alert you to activity near your shed.
- Use a shed alarm, which sounds if the shed door is forced open.

Crime prevention tips:

If you find your shed or building has been broken into, leave everything in place to aid forensic detection and report it to the police on 101.

Village Hall Community Defibrillator Project

Matt Robertson

As previously reported the village hall is championing a scheme to provide potential lifesaving equipment to be readily available in the village.

As fund raising continues we are still considering the final location of the AED and will be working with the parish council to achieve the right placement.

About Automated External Defibrillators (AED):

A defibrillator delivers an electrical current through the chest which aims to shock the heart back into a normal rhythm allowing it to pump again. Rapid response using automated technology can significantly improve the quality of life of a survivor, as the longer the brain is starved of oxygen, the more damage that can occur. An AED is a portable defibrillator especially designed for people with no medical background. When applied to the victim, voice commands and screen messages will guide the user step-by-step through the process and its intelligent technology will only allow it to shock a 'shockable' heart rhythm. AED technology opens a window for the public to take on a key role to support emergency services who would otherwise be hindered by the time it takes to reach the victim. It is argued that AEDs should be as broadly deployed as fire extinguishers and first aid kits.

For any queries regarding the Village Hall Community Defibrillator Project contact Matt at matthew.robertson4@btinternet.com or phone 885244.

Village Lottery

Christine Reilly



Congratulations to the July winners:

First Prize (£10) Chris Springford,

Second Prize (£5) Sheila Edwards.

Church

Ann Johnson



2:00pm on Monday 5th August – church cleaning.

9:30am on Sunday 11th August – Holy Communion. The Revd. Doug Alexander will be returning to St John's to take this service. Do come and support him.

10:30am on Sunday 1st September – Harvest Festival Benefice Service followed by auction. Please bring your gifts of produce up to the church any time convenient to yourselves. The church is open daily from at least 9:00am to 3:00pm and we thank Jill for carrying on with this duty while Harriet has been recovering from her injury.

Gardening Club

Ed Reilly



The July visit was to 'Dunbheagan' the garden of Jean and John Walton in Westfield. This garden was a delight to walk round with literally hundreds of different plant varieties flowering in profusion in almost 1.5 acres. The garden was only developed over the last eight years and still has a long way to grow to perfection, but it certainly looks good at the moment.

Please note that there is no meeting in August, so that the next meeting is in the village hall on the first Wednesday in September.

Parish Council

Timothy Birt

There is no planned meeting in August, so unless an extraordinary issue arises the next meeting is 5th September. The PC continues to progress the trod from the village to Watton. We are still awaiting final details and there might be a change to the arrangements at the bridge, but we are pushing this forward as best we can.

Not a Playground!

While it is wonderful that at last we have some good weather to enjoy, please can you ask your children not to hang around the hall in the evenings – particularly when the hall is booked out and cars are moving in and out of the car park. Some youngsters have been using the car park as a meeting place, up to about 10:00pm. I appreciate there is very little for them to do around here, but kicking a football around the hall is definitely out, as is leaving litter for other people to clear up. The ones I approached were perfectly polite and left when asked, but this doesn't mean that others may not follow.

On the subject of good weather, we have at last had sufficient sunshine to get all the chairs out of the village hall and give them a thorough clean. Many thanks to Marie-Ana for the loan of her machine and all her efforts on a meltingly hot day. In order to keep them clean, we would appreciate it if hirers could notify us of any spillages, etc., rather than just mopping it up and stacking them away again. There were many chairs stacked in the storeroom with advanced growths of mould!

Craft Sessions

Don't forget that the first Wednesday of every month is when crafters can get together and spend up to 5 hours indulging in whatever gets their creative juices going. The hall is open from 11am, tea/coffee and biscuits is provided. Come and take advantage of the space to spread out your crafting bits & bobs, and enjoy a peaceful day with like-minded people.

Spree Book

Do you like a bargain? Are you interested in saving money when you go out? If so, invest in a Spree book and support the village hall at the same time. The new books are now available (ring 885848 if you would like an inspection copy) full of money saving vouchers which are valid until 1st October 2014. Predominantly in the form of 'buy one, get one free' vouchers, there are some for

singles this year. Also, they are not all based in Norwich: there are 4 tickets for Hollywood cinema (worth about £24) and even a voucher for Unique Spice at Carbrooke! After around 3 years at the same price, books have gone up to £25 this year, of which £6 goes direct to village hall funds. As well as restaurants (anything from McD to pubs and fine dining) and take-aways, there are vouchers for the Body Shop, Van Dal shoes, museums and tourist attractions – something for everyone. They make great presents, so think ahead for birthdays and Christmas.

Matt Robertson

Due to low numbers it was necessary to cancel the summer supper evening, so the next village hall event is 'Ovtoberfest' on Saturday 5th October. This evening is to continue the great efforts already achieved fund raising for the Village Hall Community Defibrillator Project.

Ovtoberfest

Ovtoberfest will be attended by 'The Backdrafts' a local group of Fire-fighters from the Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service, covering music from many decades. The Backdrafts, whose members are stationed in Dereham, Thetford and Norwich, perform in full fire-fighting kit and are attracting a growing reputation across the county's live gig circuit.

As well as great music you will be able to enjoy a Bavarian themed buffet all included in the ticket price of only £8 a head. There will be a variety of local draft real ales available to purchase on the evening for you to wash down your Bratwurst as well as a raffle. Tickets are now on sale, and are limited, so don't miss out on this celebration of village life! For tickets or more info, please contact Matt on 885244 or matthew.robertson4@btinternet.com

Coming Soon at the Village Hall

Ovtoberfest (TICKETS ON SALE NOW)	Saturday 5th October
Curry Evening	Saturday 9th November
Christmas Bazaar	Saturday 7th December

Thank you to everyone who supports the village hall by attending events or donating towards them.

What's On locally

Susan Hollingworth

Summer Exhibition

Memories of Summer – Mixed Media Exhibition

Saturday 17th August – Saturday 31st August

Our main two week summer exhibition is dedicated to evoking the Memories of Summer. All the art work will be for sale and admission is free. Please come and visit what promises to be a wonderful sunny exhibition.

Preview Evening, Friday 16th August 7.00 – 8.30pm. A limited number of free tickets available. Delicious refreshments.

Wayland House, High St, Watton.

Opening Times: Weekdays 10:00 – 4:00pm,
Except Wednesday 4:00 – 7:00pm
Saturdays 10:00 – 1:00pm

For further information call: 01953 880205.

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