

The Ovington Oracle

November 2013

The village sounds like it has been under military attack recently with a big gun exercise at Stanta. The noise is going to continue at the beginning of November from a different source with bonfire night celebrations; be prepared for noise, smoke and fireworks!

A letter has already been circulated from Anglian Water but a quick reminder to fill your kettle before 10:00pm on Wednesday 6th as they are flushing the water main.

Diary Dates

Mondays @ 10:30am	Coffee morning, until 11:30am
Mondays @ 1:45pm	Bowls
Mondays @ 6:00pm	Junior Choir
31st Oct @ 7:30pm	Parish Council
6th Nov @ 11:00am	Crafters session, until 4:00pm
6th Nov @ 7:45pm	Gardening Club
9th Nov @ 7 for 7:30pm	Village Supper – Curry Evening
10th Nov @ 9:30am	Morning Worship (Church)
19th Nov @ 7:45pm	Ladies Group
27th Nov from 2:00pm	Doorstep collection – Bazaar

All at Village Hall unless otherwise indicated
To book the village hall contact Lyndia Lewis 882222

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

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Obituary

Timothy Birt

It is with great sadness I report that Janine Fairburn died in a road traffic accident on the A1075 in September. Janine was a valued member of the village contributing to the Oracle and Parish Council meetings. She was greatly respected by Councillors, and will be sadly missed. A memorial service was held at St John's Church on 9th October, so many people attended there was standing room only at the Church door. Her ashes are peacefully laid to rest in the village churchyard.



Ladies Group

Christine Hardy



In October we held our AGM. Sadly this was poorly attended, but nevertheless the reports by our chairman and treasurer showed we had had a successful year with many interesting speakers and popular socials and fund-raisers. Members elected to next year's

committee are: Lyndia Lewis, Rosemary Philpot, Joyce Woods, Angela Wynne. We are very grateful to these ladies who have volunteered to organise us in 2014. After the business everyone enjoyed a few games of bingo.

In November Christine Herbert will be visiting us again. Christine is a qualified herbalist and allergy specialist and kept everyone enthralled with her knowledge of herbs last year. Everybody welcome as usual, visitors pay just £1 for the evening.

Advance Notice:

Our Christmas Social on 17th December will start at 7:00pm.

Parish Council

Timothy Birt

The Parish Council meeting scheduled for earlier in October was postponed after printing last month's Oracle. I believe we managed to contact all who usually attend, but please accept apologies if we missed you.

We will now meet on 31st October at 7:30pm. As usual Councillors will be available 15 minutes or so before the meeting for informal discussion.

Gardening Club

Ed Reilly



The October meeting had a last minute change of speaker due to a bereavement: the new speaker was Pauline Harper, who spoke with great authority on growing vegetables. She has gardened all her life and the results were to be seen in the trug of vegetables that she brought with her and the photographs of her produce and garden. This talk proved to be superb and was all the better for being arranged by the speaker who could not come.

The next meeting is a talk by Robert Maidstone on 'Our Little Lodgers' which will be held in the village hall on Wednesday 6th November at 7:45pm. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting and if you have any queries, phone Ed on 885848 or Carol on 01760 440719.

Make a Will Week

Natalie Hickman

Support YOUR local hospice during Make a Will Week 25th – 30th November 2013

Make a Will Week is an opportunity for people to write their will knowing that £50 of the fee will be donated to the Norfolk Hospice, Tapping House. Local solicitors are working with the Norfolk Hospice, Tapping House to increase their awareness and income by agreeing to donate £50 of the will writing cost to the Hospice during the 'Make a Will Week'. If you wish to write a Will and support the Norfolk Hospice, Tapping House please make an appointment with one of the participating solicitors listed on our website:

norfolkhospice.org.uk/

or call our office on 01485 542891.

Editor: If you don't specifically wish to support the worthy Norfolk Hospice, other charities are also supported by solicitors on the 'Will Week' list.

Church

Ann Johnson



Well done to Peter, Chris and Isabella following the recent Churches Bicycle ride, who collectively raised £412 which has been sent to the Norfolk Churches Trust. Half of this amount will be returned to St John's Ovington. This was an amazing amount from such a small village.

How lovely to have a Choral Evensong which was held in the church on Sunday 20th October, followed by a tea in the village hall. Thank you to Lorraine for all your hard work in arranging this service and directing the rehearsals for the choir. And thank you to Anne Leighton for conducting the service.

Church cleaning will take place on Monday 4th November at 2:00pm.

Our next Service will be a Morning Worship for Remembrance Sunday, 10th November, at 9:30am, conducted by the Rev Doug Alexander. Do come along to this special service when we particularly remember all those affected by the wars.

Our Christmas Carol Service will take place at 6:00pm on Sunday, 22nd December. Mulled wine and minced pies will be served as usual.

Village Supper

The Village Supper on Saturday 9th November this year takes the form of a Curry Evening (7:00 for 7:30pm). However, for those of you who don't appreciate curry there will be two other choices available (sweet & sour pork or beef with dumplings). All dishes, desserts included, will be home-cooked. Tickets cost only £8 for the 2 course meal plus tea/coffee afterwards and are available from Christine on 885848 before the 3rd November. The proceeds of the evening, including the raffle, will go to village hall funds.

Ovtoberfest

Many thanks to all who contributed to the success of our first "Ovtoberfest". A magnificent £370 was raised towards the defibrillator project and a great time was had by everyone. We were fortunate to hear the 'Backdrafts' before they launch their career on national TV. They were so good that several people were 'busting some moves' on the dance floor. Matt has some incriminating photos, but I am sure he is open to bribes not to publish them!

The Ovington Bazaar

Saturday 7th December, 12:00–3:00pm

Plans are under way for this, one of the two major events in Ovington every year supporting the village hall and the church. If you missed the planning meeting and would like to offer assistance of any kind, please contact Marie Ana at Church Farm (885019). Helpers are always needed for setting up beforehand, on the day itself and for clearing away afterwards. If you are unable to stand for long periods, there are several jobs that can be done seated.

As always in Ovington, refreshments will feature prominently: besides tea and cake there will be filled rolls and a selection of delicious home-made soups. Come for lunch – and stay for tea! Stalls include: books, gifts and crafts – you may well find just the present or stocking filler you had been seeking. As well as the main raffle and tombola, there will be various games and competitions – you could even win a hamper. With the resurgence of baking skills,

inspired by the many TV shows (in particular the Great British Bake-Off), we are hoping for a bumper selection of goodies for the cake stall. They don't have to be large or lavish creations – small plates of individual cakes, tarts or pies sell particularly well.

On the subject of donations, we will be collecting around the village from 2:00pm on Wednesday, 27th November. If you would like to donate any unused gifts, bottles for the tombola, items for the hamper or raffle prizes, please leave them in a bag or box on your doorstep (visible from the road and clearly marked if possible). Please check the expiry dates on consumables: if you don't want something ten years out of date (yes, really!) the chances are nobody else would like to win it either! Also there is NO bric-a-brac stall, so please save that for the stall next May at the Flower Festival. Donations can also be brought to the village hall on any Monday morning – we are open 10-12 every week – or handed to a committee member.

So, put a note in your diary or calendar not to miss the Bazaar. Tell all your friends and family to come along and join in the fun. Let's make this event a great start to the festive season. Details of stalls and stall-holders will be in next month's Oracle.

Village Lottery

Christine Reilly



Congratulations to the October winners:

First Prize (£10) Laura Sproston,

Second Prize (£5) Jeremy Woods.

What's On locally

Breckland Council

2013 Breckland Art Trail – coming to you in time for Christmas!

The 2013 Breckland Art Trail has some fantastic local artists showing and selling their work this year!

Running from 30 November – 8 December at venues throughout the Breckland district including our local Dragonfly Gallery in Watton, the Trail will feature a whole range of unique arts and crafts work including painting, sculpture, ceramics, prints, textiles and photography.

The Art Trail aim is to support local artists and encourage people to explore the district, whilst enjoying a range of work on display at different venues.

You can find out more about the Trail on Breckland's website and download details of the various participating galleries:

www.breckland.gov.uk/arttrail

Dawn Dewar

It's back to school for the Wayland Players

The staff room of the Gwendolen Kyte School for Girls is the setting for the Wayland Players next production "After September", a comedy drama by Jimmy Chinn.

As Miss Kershaw will tell you "changes, goodness no, nothing ever changes at Gwendolen Kyte's School for Girls" That is until a catalogue of calamities at the start of the academic year forces the somewhat eccentric and oddball staff of the school to re-evaluate their lives, their friendships and their futures. Can they rise to the challenge before the building collapses around them?

"After September", Queens Hall, Watton, 14, 15 and 16th November at 7:45 pm.

Tickets, priced at £6.50, are on sale at Adcocks, Watton High Street or on-line at www.tinyticket.co.uk

Info: Watton Children's Centre

Stephanie Merritt-Morling

Watton Sure Start Children's Centre provides a range of services for families with children under the age of five years. From help with completing forms, managing debts, or finding childcare to support with housing and family support, are some of the issues that the centre can help families with.



We offer a varied time table packed with activity sessions for parents and their children to have fun, experience new play opportunities and meet new friends. You can view our full time table by visiting the website:

www.watton-surestart.com

If you are a parent or carer with children under the age of five years and have not registered with the Children's Centre why not pay us a visit and complete a registration form so you are kept up to date with the latest news and events. Each family who completes the form will receive a free rucksack goodie bag!

You will find the Children's Centre at West Road, Watton. IP25 6AU
Telephone: 01953 880175

Youth East 2 Project

Iain Cockburn |

The Wayland Partnership and the Wayland Business Centre in Watton are delighted to announce that they are working with City College Norwich on Youth East 2, a project run throughout the eastern region which is designed to actively and practically support young people.

The aim of the Youth East 2 project is to support the progression to employment, education or training provision for young people who are NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training) or those at risk of becoming NEET.

The project is funded through the European Social Fund and the

Skills Funding Agency and as such is subject to strict eligibility, outcome and audit compliance procedures which will be the responsibility of the Wayland Partnership.

The Wayland Partnership's role in the project is to provide a venue in Wayland for the training which is at the core of Youth East 2 but also to engage with young people in Wayland to ensure that they are aware of the opportunities available to them.

We will provide them with a supported environment and an introduction to vital learning and the opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills. We will also assist them in progressing to further suitable learning programmes or sustainable employment. In all of this the Wayland Partnership will be fully supported by City College.

If anyone in your family or you know any young people who would benefit from this project, please ask them to contact Iain Cockburn at the Wayland Partnership in Watton.

Tel: 01953 880204

Email iain@wayland.org.uk

The dates and training programme as well as updates on the project will be available at <https://twitter.com/WaylandRforW>, <https://www.facebook.com/readyforwork.wayland> and on <http://www.thebrecklandview.com/>

Letters to Editors

Field Damage

We have received the following request, something we have noticed too ...

Would people kindly not walk diagonally across the field at the corner of The Street and Dereham Road, as a short cut to Watton. This field has already been drilled with next year's crop and it is not fair on the farmer if this crop is continually trampled on.

Thank you.

The Parish Council has paid our contribution to Norfolk County Council for the foot-way alongside the A1075. Hopefully we will receive a work schedule soon.

Garage Sale

We need to clear the loft and put my car in the garage, so 10:00am Saturday November 16th we are holding a garage sale at 1, Church Road, Ovington.

Dining table,
Chairs,
Bedside table,
TV table,
... and lots more.

If you would like to look at anything before the 16th, Tel: 882222

Lyndia Lewis

And Finally...

Rod Rumsby

The Winter Boots

Did you hear about the teacher who was helping one of her reception class pupils put on his boots?

He asked for help and she could see why. Even with her pulling and him pushing, the little boots still didn't want to go on. By the time they got the second boot on, she had worked up a sweat.

She almost cried when the little boy said, "*Teacher, they're on the wrong feet.*" She looked, and sure enough, they were.

It wasn't any easier pulling the boots off than it was putting them on. She managed to keep her cool as, together, they worked to get the boots back on, this time on the correct feet.

He then announced, "*These aren't my boots*". She wanted to get right in his face and scream, "*Why didn't you say so?*", but she bit her tongue.

Once again she struggled to help him pull the ill-fitting boots off his little feet. No sooner had they got the boots off when he said, "*They're my brother's boots. My Mum made me wear 'em.*"

Now she didn't know if she should laugh or cry. But she mustered up what grace and courage she had left to wrestle the boots on his feet again.

Helping him into his coat, she asked, "*Now, where are your mittens?*", he answered, "*I stuffed 'em in the toes of my boots.*"

She will be eligible for parole in three years!

Deadline for next issue: 20th November

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Please send contributions to either above or email:

oracle@ovington-village.org.uk

Printed with an Ecosys printer.

A large print version is downloadable from the village web-site.