

The Ovington Oracle

August, 2015

The storms on 4 July caused damage to several in the village.

We received a fair bit of lightning damage (electrical equipment including the main computer) and are still sorting through the mess. So, this month's Oracle is produced on a ten year old laptop running Linux. There maybe some subtle differences in fonts and layout but hopefully it is a seamless transition.

Diary Dates

All at Village Hall unless otherwise indicated

Mondays, 10:30am	Coffee morning, until 11:30am
Mondays, 1:45pm	Bowls
-	Breckland Js Junior Choir (Resumes Sept)
2 Aug, 9:30am	Holy communion (church)
5 Aug, 11:00am	Crafters' session until 4:00pm
5 Aug 2:30pm	Gardening Club visit to Ben Potterton's nursery
9 Aug, 6:00pm	Hymns for a Summer Evening (church)
15 Aug, 11:00am	Table-top sale, until 3:00pm
16 Aug, 10:30am	Lay Led Family Service (church)
18 Aug, 7:00pm	Ladies Group – picnic

To book the village hall contact Lyndia Lewis 882222

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Ladies Group

Angela Wynne



For our July meeting on 21st the committee had organised a fun Treasure Hunt in the Village Hall and Church grounds. The ladies seemed to enjoy the evening as it was a bit different. Refreshments were in the village hall and there seemed to be a lot of chatting and laughing. So I think a good time was had by all.

Thank you Jayne and Rosemary for your help.

Our meeting on August 18th will be our annual picnic in the Village Hall grounds. We are just hoping for another nice sunny evening. All ladies are asked to bring a sharing plate of food. The evening will begin at **7:00pm**. There will be the usual raffle and competition which is something beginning with '**J**'.

Unfortunately the speaker for our September meeting has had to pull out due to family problems. However, I have managed to secure a speaker. Mr Stephen Pope will be coming along to talk to us about Norfolk Work Houses. More details next month.

Coffee Morning

Jane Lambert

In aid of Ovington Church on 5 September, 2015.

In the village hall between 10:00am and noon.

Cake Stall, Raffle, Tombola

Any ladies willing to make a cake or donate any prizes will be much appreciated

Please drop in to Jane Lambert at 25 The Street.

with many thanks.

Table Top & Book Sale

Saturday 15 August, 11:00 – 3:00pm

Now is the time to de-clutter and sell off all those 'treasures' you have been accumulating! Book a table at Ovington Village Hall for Saturday 15 August and turn your trash into cash. Tables cost only £5 if booked in advance, rising to £6 on the day (space permitting). Ring 01953 882222 or 885848 to ensure your booking ASAP as space is limited.

The village hall kitchen will be open for lunch/tea, selling filled rolls and cakes with tea and coffee – plus, if the weather allows, burgers and bacon rolls from the BBQ. There will also be a selection of 2nd hand books on sale in aid of village hall funds. Any donations of books for this will be gratefully received by any committee member, or can be left at the village hall on a Monday morning. Thank you.

NAVH Quiz

Once again Ovington Village Hall were able to provide a quiz team to compete with other village halls in the Norfolk Association of Village Halls' annual quiz at Yaxham village hall. Our quiz team, comprising Adrian Malton, Chris Lewis, Sheila and Dave Edwards, were again successful (including a perfect score in the Joker round on Geography with 20 points) in winning the Julian Goody Cup and a cheque for £250 for village hall funds. This is the fourth time we have won the trophy, despite coming second last year, so very well done to the team!

Crafters reminder

Craft sessions resume at 11:00am on Wednesday 5 August in the village hall. Come along with whatever you are making at the moment, or come and have a coffee and a chat, with a view to learning a new craft.

Recycling

The more observant among you will have noticed the revamped textile recycling bank outside the village hall. Breckland have recently changed over to Cookstown Textile Recyclers who send around 65% of the materials for re-use in Africa and Asia, while the remaining 35% are sent to pulping mills in the UK. The rate of

payment (which goes to village hall funds) is roughly the same as before. Although the wording on the bank itself says "Clean usable clothing only", they will also accept: shoes, bed linen, towels, curtains, belts, handbags, hats and scarves. Everything must be clean and, in the case of shoes, bags and hats, usable. Please make sure that all items are in carrier bags so that they remain clean.

Ovington Speed Watch Team

Rod Rumsby

The combined forces of the Ovington and Shipdham speed watch teams spent a day with year seven pupils at Wayland Academy on July 8th, where a speed awareness day was being held.

This was organised by our local Community Police Officer, PCSO Tonya Winsley, and involved the students, all 140 of them, being made aware of the dangers and consequences of speeding.

Students were involved in in-house activities and competitions, but for them, and to us speed watch operatives, it seemed that the highlight of their day was a chance to come out onto the roadside and operate the speed guns.

We were pleasantly surprised at the enthusiasm of the youngsters when using the speed watch kit, and some of their ideas about how more speeding motorists could be educated was quite enlightening.

Hopefully this enthusiasm will stay with them in the years ahead. Some were disappointed that more people were not caught speeding but the sight of twelve high vis jacketed youngsters accompanied by similarly clad speed watch team members, plus the obligatory police presence was enough to kill off any desire for motorists to exceed the speed limit.

The teams thoroughly enjoyed their day and felt quite satisfied with the students' eagerness to learn new tricks.

This sort of activity does not occur very often, but the Ovington team would welcome anyone interested in spending an hour a month in deterring speeding motorists through our Village.

The Parish Council are used to getting requests from the public asking "What is being done about speeding?" Here's a chance to do something towards making our Village a safer place, join our team.

Contact any member of the Parish Council for details.

Notes from a Norfolk Life

Anonymous – Editor

As a young girl, at the start of the summer, my friends and I would go fruit picking. On that first day the heat was sweltering, the back of my neck was soaked, the taste of the strawberries bitter and sweet making up for all my toil. Nobody minded how many you ate, by the end of the week I will have eaten the whole field! I thought. Life doesn't get better than this all you can eat and you get paid.

The older ladies just smiled.

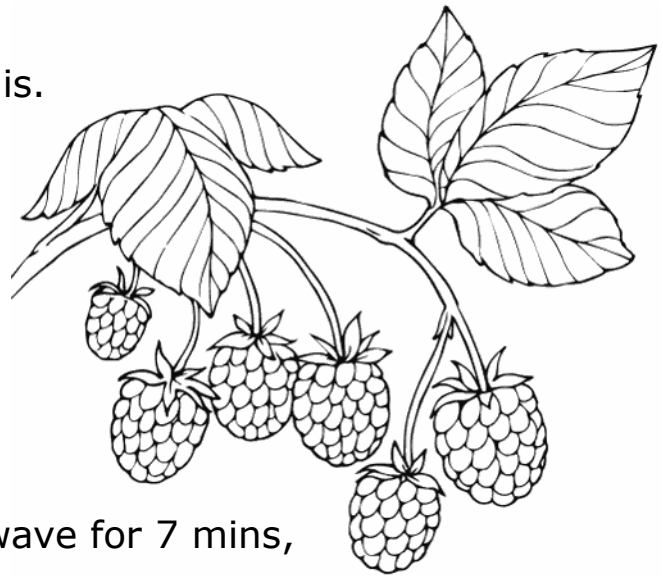
I was wrong it didn't get better than this, my tummy rumbled, my face was as red as my stained hands, oh how sick I was feeling.

The next day back on the field one of the ladies said to me
"would you like some raspberries dear? I saw you enjoying the strawberries yesterday".

"No thank you, I'm not keen on raspberries" I said, (my favourites)

The fruit gang all laughed.

What a glorious time of year this is.



Microwave Jam Recipe

700g any fruit

1kg sugar

Put fruit in large bowl into microwave for 7 mins,

Remove and mash up with potato masher.


Add sugar and stir, return to microwave for a further 7 mins

Remove and stir, return to microwave for a further 7mins but really watch this seven mins as it may boil over, (if this does happen stop and cool briefly and re-start) otherwise cool slightly and bottle up.

Yummy!

St John's Church

Ann Johnson

Sunday, 2 August 9:30am	Holy Communion	
Sunday, 9 August 6:00pm	Hymns for a Summer Evening (the previous one was a great success)	
Sunday, 16 August 10:30am	Lay Led Family Service	
Monday, 24 August 1:30pm	Church Cleaning	

The Norfolk Churches Trust Annual Bike Ride is on Saturday 12th September from 9:00am – 5:00pm. If anybody would like a sponsor form to raise money for St John's Church and the Norfolk Churches Trust please ask me for one. The church will be open during this time to welcome all cyclists calling in to our church.

Jean Rockett

In June we held a service of 'Summer Evening Hymns' which was enjoyed by all who attended. The hymns were chosen by the congregation for this event.

We were entertained by one child who read a poem and another who played 'Muss I'denn' on her ocarina (Elvis Presley's song Wooden Heart) and was joined by the congregation singing along.

We will be holding another Summer Evening Hymns service on Sunday 9th August at 6:00pm to which you are all invited. The hymns have all been chosen by the congregation of our previous service.

We look forward to seeing you there.

What's on locally

Susan Hollingworth - 01953 880205

The Dragonfly Gallery presents:

Summer Exhibition featuring 17 Artists

Saturday 1 August - Saturday 22 August

Mediums to include Oil, Acrylic, Watercolour,
Pastel, Textile, Photography, Silks, Fabric

Sculptures – such talent – featuring over 75 pieces of artwork on display, so much choice, where to start looking!



Dragonfly Gallery, Wayland House, High St, Watton IP25 6AR
Weekdays 10:00 – 4:00pm, Saturday 10:00 – 1:00pm.

Steve Jaggard



The Wayland Agricultural Show returns on Sunday 2nd August at the Wayland Showground, Brandon Road, Watton.

As reported in last months Oracle the show's major attraction is the livestock competitions, with a variety of classes including, pigs, cattle, sheep and fur and feather. There are competitions and demonstrations for both children and adults with various themes – something for everyone

Much more information and how to enter the competitions can be found at:

www.waylandshow.com

or follow on twitter:

@WaylandShow

Geoff Pritchard

The next **Swaffham Jazz Club** session will be at:

The King's Arms Coaching Inn
21 Market Place Swaffham. PE37 7LA

Tues 11th August with Peter Bell and his "Four for Jazz" trad band.

Open for FOOD from 7:00 pm and JAZZ from 8:00pm.

£5 entrance on the door.

More information from Geoff 01366 328730, Norman 01760 722384 or info@kingsarmscoachinginn.co.uk

DEREHAM 5K TOWN RACE

If you can complete the 5k course in less than 40 minutes, then you are eligible to take part in this popular annual road race which is now in its 5th year.

The race will be held on 23 August and starts at 9:15am from the Recreation Ground on Station Road (opposite Dereham Leisure Centre). Runners follow a fast, flat route through the town centre, and complete two laps of the course. To be eligible to compete, athletes must be over 12 years on the day. All finishers receive a medal.

There's tailor-made challenge for mini-athletes too, with a 1k *Fun Run* taking place on the Recreation Ground on the same day. To register for the 5k race, look on the Dereham Runners website

www.derehamrunners.co.uk

The Dereham 5k Town Race is organised by Dereham Runners in partnership with Breckland Council. For more information, call Stefan Clifford at Breckland Council on 01362 656870.

Gardening Club

Ed Reilly



The July meeting was held at High House Garden Centre in Shipdham and it was very interesting to see how much the garden had changed in the six years since our last visit.

The August visit will be held on Wednesday 5th August and is an afternoon meeting at 2:30pm to Ben Potterton's nursery: Blacksmith's Cottage, Langmere Road, Langmere, nr. Dickleborough IP21 4QA. If you have any queries, or would like transport, please contact Ed on 01953 885848.

Parish Council

Heidi Frary (Clerk) & Timothy Birt

A report based on the unconfirmed minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 2 July.

General

The Council was please to receive a report from PCSO Winsley, who reported the crime figures for May – one 'domestic incident' and one 'violence against person'.

Matters Arising (from previous minutes)

There has been no reply from Highways requesting rectification of the surface of the trod. Clerk to take legal advice from NALC, Zurich and Nicholas Hancox.

Three "*no dog fouling*" signs have been purchased and are ready to install on confirmation of location.

Correspondence

An FOI request has been received about the committee structure of the PC, but we suspect it is actually checking how well the FOI response is conducted – gold stars are expected for Ovington.

A new round of 'Parish Partnership' bidding for jointly funded projects between the County Council and Parish Council. The Clerk will investigate if a bus stop at the Ovington Crossroads would qualify. This would fit nicely with Konect bus route 11.

The Parish Council responded in to a request for information from 'What Watton Wants', a group who want to develop a neighbourhood plan for Watton.

A request was received from residents for a Community Car scheme. We understand there are early plans for a community car scheme in Shipdham which Ovington could join. Further details and investigation is needed.

A suggestion that an online village forum could be useful. Initial consideration suggest that a village forum on the Ovington website might be successful. The software is free with a server cost is likely to be in the region of £25. There was discussion and it was agreed that a Facebook page might be more popular. Karen will create a Facebook page.

Actions

It was agreed to purchase an additional dog waste bin for Carbrooke Road. The Clerk will request a license to place it on highways land.

We have purchased our own litter pick equipment, following successful grant application. We are considering the best way to distribute and use these tools.

The accounts were reviewed and cheques signed.

Future Event

To consider organising a scrap cart 'gravity race' community event. The Clerk reported that a road closure would require a Section 16A road closure which would cost approximately £36. There was discussion about the practical issues surrounding the event and other organisations who might like to be involved. The provisional date was agreed as 30 May 2016, subject to further consultation.

Next meeting

3 September, in the committee room of the Village Hall. Councillors usually arrive 15 minutes early for informal discussion. All are welcome.

Police Connect

Norfolk & Suffolk Constabularies

Police connect is a free messaging service which connects the latest policing news in our area via email, text or phone. Localised information such as emergency alerts, missing people appeals, crime reports and neighbourhood policing news & events are provided.

To register either complete a form at the police station or online at
norfolk.police.uk/policeconnect

Rainfall

Rod Rumsby - Raindrop counter

Final rainfall for June was: 27.5mm
which in *old money* equates to 1.08"

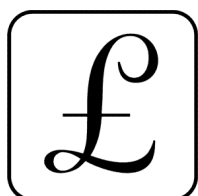
Sporadic spots for July are 77mm or 3.03"

It can only get worse / better (delete as appropriate).

Village Lottery

Adrian Malton

Winners of the July draw:



1st Prize (£10)
2nd prize (£5)

Daphne Preece,
Jill Malton

Deadline for next issue: August 24th

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Please send contributions to either above or email:

oracle@ovington-village.org.uk

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