

The Ovington Oracle

January, 2016

Happy New Year !

With special thanks to all those who make our village great:

Be that running or maintaining the village hall or church, putting on village events, arranging flowers, looking out for neighbours, delivering the Oracle; or the myriad of other things. Thank you one and all.

If you haven't yet come along to a village event or club, how about making it a new year's resolution ... you will be made most welcome.

We are always looking for new or different content for the Oracle, so maybe this is the year you might write a small piece.

Diary Dates

All at Village Hall unless otherwise indicated

Mondays, 10:30am	Coffee morning, until 11:30am
Mondays, 1:45pm	Bowls
Mondays, 6:00pm	Breckland Js Junior Choir [from 11 Jan]
3 Jan, 9:30am	Holy Communion (church)
6 Jan, 11:00am	Crafters' session until 4:00pm
7 Jan, 7:30pm	Parish Council
?* 15 Jan, 7:30pm	* Provisional HLF public meeting
17 Jan, 10:30am	Lay led family service (church)
19 Jan, 7:45pm	Ladies Group
?* 22 Jan, 7:30pm	* Provisional HLF public meeting
23 Jan, 7:30pm	'Allotment Dig in Supper' (1 Church Rd)

?* date to be confirmed, look out for notice.

To book the village hall contact Lyndia Lewis 882222

Village web-site: www.ovington-village.org.uk

Contents

Diary Dates.....	1
County Council By-election.....	2
Parish Council (PC).....	2
Ladies Group.....	3
Allotment Association.....	3
Our Community – Our Church.....	4
Gardening Club.....	4
Village Hall.....	5
St John's Church.....	5
Rainfall.....	6
Shaping the new Breckland 'Local Plan'.....	6
Village Lottery.....	7
What's on locally.....	7
And finally	8

County Council By-election

Editor

With a turnout of 21% and after one recount Claire Bowes was declared the new County Councillor for Watton division, full result was as follows:

BIRT, Timothy Edward (Green Party)	81
BOWES, Claire Rosemary (The Conservative Party Candidate)	822
GILBERT, Keith Stephen (Independent)	793
SISTO, Joseph Manuel (Labour Party)	105

As usual, our County Councillor will be invited to Parish Council meetings to offer an update on County issues.

Parish Council (PC)

Timothy Birt

Next meeting is 7 January at 7:30pm, in the committee room of the Village Hall. Councillors usually arrive 15 minutes early for informal discussion. All are welcome.

Reports and discussion to include:

Budget and precept for 2016/17, tree surveys, A1075 speed 50mph restriction (Norfolk County Council)

Ladies Group

Angela Wynne



The last meeting of 2015 for Ovington Ladies group was our Christmas Social. The evening began with Breckland Harmony Junior Choir singing lots of carols and Christmas songs. There was only 4 of them but it was so enjoyable. Thank you to Paula and Christine for your dedication to these young children. We then had a delicious hot meal which the committee had prepared. The table looked very festive and there was much chatter and laughing :- always a good sign that everyone was having a good time. After the meal Rose had organised a short Quiz which was a lot of fun. Rosemary then announced the winner of the competition – Grace Rumsby. Well done Grace.

I would like to thank the outgoing committee for all the help over the last 3 years. I wish the new committee a happy year ahead.

The January Meeting is on January 19th when Julian Horn will be giving us a local talk.

Lastly I would like to wish Linda Murray a speedy recovery after her recent spell in hospital and hope 2016 will be a better year for you and Mike.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Allotment Association

John Hardy / Krissy Harwood Cross

Any village resident who would like to be considered for an allotment please contact the secretary:

'Krissy Harwood Cross' krissy335@btinternet.com

Social function: "**Allotment Dig in Supper**" 23 January 2016 at Lyndia & Chris Lewis, 1 Church Road, Ovington. 7:30 @ £7.50 each including a drink.

All welcome, allotment holders, friends, potential allotment holders and villagers. Ring Lyndia on 01953-882222 for tickets. Look forward to seeing you.



Our Community – Our Church

John Hardy

St John the Evangelist Church has been successful in gaining Lottery funds based on the involvement of the Ovington local community and the urgent restoration work required on our church.

Public meeting

We are now at the Development Phase of the project and are hoping to bring together every aspect of the project to be able to give all the residents of Ovington a chance to learn what is happening, and to give you a chance to contribute.

We hope to have our architect, a member of the diocese, historians, community project organisers, students constructing the new web site and other interested parties

Provisional dates to be confirmed early January to everybody are either Friday 15th or Friday 22nd January @ 7:30pm in Ovington Village Hall. This is a free meeting with wine and refreshments.



Gardening Club

Ed Reilly



Following the December Annual General Meeting, it is with great regret that I have to inform you that the Gardening Club is no more.

Only three villagers were members of the club and with a further three proposing not to renew their membership and the majority of the committee resigning this year, this left insufficient numbers to carry on the business of the club. The decision of the retiring committee – to split the funds between the East Anglian Air Ambulance and Ovington Village Hall – was approved by all members in attendance and the Gardening Club ceased to exist.

Village Hall

Ed Reilly

Christmas Bazaar

Thank you all for the efforts that you made in preparation for the bazaar, helping on the day, preparing food and crafts, and clearing up afterwards. The result was almost £441 each for the Church and the Village Hall. This was slightly down on last year's total, but we did have a wet day and it was a week nearer to Christmas than last year's event.

The breakdown of the amounts raised is as follows:

Raffle £127, Hamper £60, Soups £120.10, Refreshments £33.86, Cakes £59, Gifts £99.39, Crafts £100.50, Chocolate Mountain £59.20, Lucky Dip £30, Cake Weight £9.50, Children's Tombola £51, Tombola £124, Donations £16.72.

After deduction of £8.37 for electricity, this left £881.90 to be divided between the Church and the Village Hall.

Thanks to all who helped in any way.

St John's Church

Ann Johnson

Sunday, 3rd Jan
9:30am Holy Communion

Sunday, 17th Jan
10:30am Lay Led Family Service

Monday, 25th Jan
1:30pm Church Cleaning



What a wonderful Carol Service we had – one of the best ever. A big thank you to all who made this possible; to those who decorated the church and made it look so beautiful, to Jean for preparing and taking the service, to all those who took part in the service, whether reading, singing, or playing music and to those who provided refreshments and served them afterwards. It was a memorable occasion.

Rainfall

Rod Rumsby



Summary: "Ovington under water"

Final total for November: 79.5mm or 3.13"

December (up until 19th) 24.5mm or just about an inch in old money.

Shaping the new Breckland 'Local Plan'

Pam Sayle (Breckland Council)

On 11 January 2016 Breckland will begin the next stage of public consultation in the development of its new Local Plan and will be asking local people for their views on the Preferred Options documents.

These documents set out strategic issues such as housing and employment targets, put forward potential site options for meeting these targets and outline the planning development policies that will direct future growth.

Nothing has been decided yet and all the sites and policies put forward in the Preferred Options documents remain options. Once finalised late in 2016, the Local Plan will set out a vision for growth to deliver the Council's aspiration that the District develop and thrive. It will provide the framework for planning decisions for the next 20 years so it is important that residents, businesses and community groups take the opportunity to have their say and help shape the final Plan.

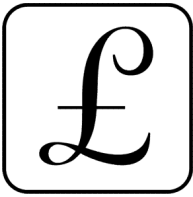
The Local Plan process lets Breckland set its own housing targets, based on an objectively assessed local need, rather than on a national formula. Once adopted, it will identify a five-year housing land supply, giving Breckland greater control over where new developments are built and reducing the likelihood of ad-hoc developments.

The consultation will run until 22 February 2016 and there will be open public events, an online consultation and documents available to view. More details of the consultation, together with the dates and venues of the open events will be published on the Council website nearer the time, or email:

planningpolicyteam@breckland.gov.uk

Village Lottery

Adrian Malton



The December lottery draw took place at the Christmas Bazaar in the Village Hall on Saturday 12th December 2015, and the winners were as follows:

1st prize (£50)	Maureen Rands (no.42)
2nd prize (£25)	Rose Angell (no.45)
3rd prize (£15)	Alan Burkin (no.44)
4th prize (£10)	Jill Malton (no.26)
5th prize (£5)	Peter Walmsley (no.10)

I should like to say a big thank you to all who participated in last year's lottery; we ended up with 57 members.

There were 33 draws and 27 different numbers were drawn. Maureen Rands was the most successful with 3 wins in 2015; Jill Malton, Peter Walmsley, Roger Kennaugh and Rose Angell each had two wins throughout the year.

I would ask you to support the lottery again in 2016 and I am very grateful to the 44 people who have already signed up. The cost is £12 for the year. The first draw of 2016 will be at the coffee morning at the Village Hall on Monday 18th Jan, so you have plenty of time to register before then. After that, the draws are normally held on the second Monday of each month. Please use the form in enclosed with last month's Oracle, or ask myself or Christine Reilly for one and get the £12 to one of us by 17th January.

What's on locally

Susan Hollingworth - 01953 880205

The next Dragonfly Gallery event is a:
'Ceramic Showcase' in March.



Sue Rothwell

Friends of
Dereham
Memorial
Hall



Coffee Plus – Free Live Music!

28 Jan, 10:00am-noon

Free event, just buy a coffee or tea

Full details of all events at:

www.derehammemorialhall.co.uk

And finally ...

Rod & Tim

My New Years resolution is 1080p

--oOo--

A new teacher was trying to make use of her psychology course.
She started her class by saying:

"Everyone who thinks they are stupid, stand up!"

After a few seconds Little Larry stood up.

The teacher said,

"Do you think you are stupid Larry?"

"No Miss, but I hate to see you standing there all by yourself!"

--oOo--

A New Years resolution is something that ...
goes in one **year** and out the other.

--oOo--

Barrister: What gear were you in at the moment of impact?

Witness: Primark sweater and trainers.

--oOo--

New Years resolution for all dogs:

I will NOT chase the stick until I see it leave the hand.

Deadline for next issue: January 23rd

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