

The Ovington Oracle

March, 2017



British Summer Time starts on Sunday 26th March.

Clocks go forward one hour, so we miss an hour of sleep but have lighter evenings to do all those outside jobs.

To help us enjoy the lighter evenings, the day prior to the clock-change is our village **litter pick** – Saturday 25th March. Young and old, please come and help give the village a spring clean.

Diary Dates

All at Village Hall unless otherwise indicated

Mondays, 10:30am	Coffee morning, until 11:30am
Mondays, 1:30pm	Bowls
Mondays, 6:00pm	Breckland Js Junior Choir
2 Mar, 7:30pm	Parish Council
4 Mar, 11:30am	Soup and Sale, until 2:00pm
5 Mar, 9:30am	Holy Communion (church)
9 Mar, 7:30pm	Village Hall AGM
19 Mar, 10:30am	All Age Service (church)
21 Mar, 7:45pm	Ladies Group
25 Mar, 10:30am	Litter Pick (meet at village sign)
26 Mar, 10:30am	Mothering Sunday Service (church)

To book the village hall contact Lyndia Lewis 882222

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Obituary

Editor

Tony Watson died suddenly on 8th January 2017, aged 67. He leaves his wife Heather, son Nathan and sister Cath. Tony lived in Ovington for several years and carried out many improvements to village properties and helped in the restoration of the Village Sign. His funeral took place at Mintlynn on 8th February. We send our sincere condolences to his family and friends.



Ladies Group

Ann Johnson



On Tuesday, 21st February 24 ladies enjoyed an evening of decorating pots with Christine. There were some beautiful looking ones at the end of the evening and everyone showed their artistic skills. Thank you Christine for all the trouble you went to in the preparation of this very enjoyable evening.

The competition was jointly won by Joyce with her Tartan Clown Scissors and Ann with her Dutch Clogs.

Next month, on Tuesday 21st March, at 7:45pm, we are being 'whisked away to Vietnam' to watch a video and hear all about Geoff and Rosemary's wonderful holiday there at the end of last year. An evening not to miss.

The competition will be the colour **yellow**.

Home Alone?

Angela Wynne

Are you Home Alone on a Friday night?

Do you enjoy good food, good wine and good company?

Then join "**ONE FRIENDSHIP**"

On March 10th at Broom Hall country hotel 7:00pm for 7:30. Fine dining for folks on their own. 3 course meal £21 or 2 courses for £16.50

Please phone Simon on 01953 882125
or Angela on 01953 884594 to book your place.

A very warm welcome awaits you.

St John's Church

Ann Johnson

Sunday, 5 Mar

9:30am Holy Communion

Sunday, 19 Mar

10:30am All Age Worship

Sunday, 26 Mar

10:30am Mothering Sunday Service

Monday, 27 Mar

1:30pm Church cleaning



How lovely to welcome all our friends from the parishes of Ashill, Carbrooke, Saham Toney and Watton on 29th January at St John's. It was a memorable service and it was so good to present Jean Rockett, in front of a full church, with a Home Communion Set and a Book Token in recognition of her becoming a Reader / Lay Minister.

It is wonderful to see our church being used on a Friday for the Schools Community Project, as part of our success with the Heritage Lottery Funding. We look forward to welcoming many more children throughout the year and to display some of their work.

2017 Special Services and Events:

Fri, 14 Apr	10:30am	Good Friday Meditation
Sun, 21 May	10:30am	Rogation Service
Sat, 10 June	10am-12	Coffee Morning
Sun, 25 June	5:00pm	Hymns for a Summer Evening
Sun, 23 July	5:00pm	Hymns for a Summer Evening
Fri, 25 Aug	7:00pm	2nd Emma Nuule Concert – Carbrooke
Sun, 27 Aug	5:00pm	Hymns for a Summer Evening
Sun, 17 Sept	10:30am	Harvest Thanksgiving
Sun, 24 Sept	5:00pm	Hymns for a Summer Evening
Sun, 15 Oct	10:30am	Pet Service
Sun, 12 Nov	10:30am	Remembrance Service
Sun, 17 Dec	6:00pm	Carol Service
Mon, 25 Dec	10:30am	Christmas Day Family Service

Village Hall

Christine Reilly

Soup & Sale

On Saturday 4th March we will be serving home-made soups for lunch between 11:30am and 2:00pm. Come along for a light lunch or coffee and cake, then pick up a bargain from the bric-a-brac and gift stalls. There will also be a large book stall with even more bargains on offer. All proceeds will go to village hall funds.

There will also be gnomes on sale for the 'Go-Go-Gnomes' artistic challenge. Join in the fun and get creative. You have until the end of July to create a work of art to be judged at the Wacky Scrappy Races on 5 August.

AGM

Our AGM on 9 March at 7:30pm and air your views on what you would like to see at the hall. You don't have to join the committee, but more members are always welcome to share the workload!

Ovington Quiz

This will be held on Saturday 6 May at 7:30 pm. Full details in the April Oracle.

Sunday Afternoon Tea

Following the success of last year's teas, there will be a full afternoon tea in the village hall on Sunday 23 April. Details next month – keep the date free!

Village Lottery

Adrian Malton



Lottery winners for February:

1st prize (£10) Geraldine Rowarth;

2nd prize (£5) Jill Malton.

Village Litter Pick

Timothy Birt

Spring has nearly arrived so it's time for our annual litter pick. As usual, it is hoped that there will be a big village effort for the spring clean.

We will conclude the morning's exertions with a 'gathering' ** in the village hall to put the world to rights.



The Parish Council has a limited number of litter pickers, not enough for the expected turnout, so as usual I have arranged to borrow Breckland Council's kit. This means I have signed 'in triplicate' so on no account must anyone hurt themselves or lose anything!

Meet by the village sign at **10:30am on Saturday, 25 March**

** ask me about the source of this delightful term.

Rainfall

Rod



The total rainfall for January 2017 was 32.5mm or 1.27"

On 11 February we had snow which, when melted, measured 4mm in the gauge. February to date is 30mm or 1.2" and it's still raining.

Breckland District Council By-election

Timothy Birt

Following the resignation of Breckland Councillor Charles Carter (Con) there is a by-election on 16 March for the Saham Toney Ward, which includes Ovington.

The ward is represented by two Councillors, John Rogers (elected as Con, now Unionist), continues in post.

Our polling station is the Village Hall which is open between 7:00am and 10:00pm. You do not need a poll card to vote, although it does make the process easier.

A full candidate list is available at:

www.breckland.gov.uk/article/4319/Saham-Toney-District-Ward

Parish Council (PC)

Timothy Birt

Next meeting

Thursday, 2 March 2017 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall committee room. Items for discussion will include the Wacky Scrappy Gravity Race 2017. As usual Councillors tend to arrive early for informal discussion.

Legal documents at: www.ovingtonpc.wixsite.com/home

Small Businesses in the Wayland area

Jan Godfrey

The Wayland Partnership has been approached by some small businesses who feel 'invisible' either because they are just getting started or they are in an isolated/remote location. We are proposing to hold a 'Business Showcase' event in September to give such businesses an opportunity to tell other businesses and potential customers what services they offer. We have provisionally booked the Queens Hall on September 13th.

Everyone we have mentioned this to so far thinks it is a great idea, but before we commit any resources to this project we need to know if the small businesses themselves think it would be helpful, or if they can suggest any better (low-cost!) ways in which we can help to promote them.

Please contact us at Wayland House (next to Watton Police Station) or phone (01953 880202/880204) or email:suzanne@wayland.org.uk, to tell us whether you would support this event.

What's happening nearby

Susan Hollingworth

'Once Upon a Time'

Wayland book week launches
The Dragonfly's 2017 season.



25 February through to 11 March

– Original Paintings – Prints – Photographs – Crafts – Gifts – Greeting Cards –

Wayland House, High St, Watton, Norfolk, IP25 6AR
Monday - Friday 10:00–4:00pm, Saturday 10:00–1:00pm
Contact Susan: 01953 880205, susan@wayland.org.uk

Margaret Cator



WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

(International & interdenominational)

FRIDAY 3rd March 2017

At 10:30am at St Mary's Church, Church Road, Watton IP25 6DQ

Am I Being Unfair to You?

On Friday 3 March over 5,000 services will be held in the British Isles on the theme of 'Am I Being Unfair to You?' The Christian women of the Philippines wrote the service and it has been translated into 1,000 different languages and dialects, to be used, throughout the whole world, on Friday 3rd March, starting at sunrise over the island of Samoa and continuing until sunset off the coast of American Samoa.

Why not find out more about the theme, the Philippines and the service?

The Day of Prayer is not just for women. Everyone is welcome to attend the service and enjoy refreshments afterwards.

Contact details: Margaret Cator 01953 882187/881252

What's on Elsewhere

Tim Cara

Friends of
Dereham
Memorial
Hall



13 March - '**The Little Bit the Boys Admire**', Marie Lloyd, the scandalous music hall superstar's story – it's getting rave reviews around East Anglia

Doors open 7:00pm

Tickets £10, from Bright and Beautiful Flowers, Wellington Road, Dereham 01362 288124 or online: www.ticketsource.co.uk/fodmh

www.derehammemorialhall.co.uk

Bar Pritchard

Swaffham Jazz

The Colin Mason Quartet with John Wilmot on sax and Ed Taylor on electric and Spanish guitars



Tuesday 14th March 7:30pm

Swaffham Conservative Social Club, 23 London Rd PE37 7DD entry £6 on the door.

More information: bargeoff@yahoo.com or Norman 01760 722384

Our Community – Our Church

Chris Springford & John Hardy

It's now up and running

Last month we were frantically getting ready for our first school to arrive, and were about to have our training day to give everybody a good understanding of the programme designed for the students.

Training day was enjoyed by all. We had the serious part where everybody did their Safe Guarding training, we were made aware of the responsibilities while pupils were under our care. The fun part then started where everybody had a go at many of the activities that would be undertaken by the schools when they visited. Without exception everybody joined in and enjoyed taking part.

Thompson school years 1 and 2 were our first pupils on what was probably one of the coldest days of the year on January 27th. The children had an outstanding day and did not want to get on the bus back to school, each of them eagerly clutching various things they had made during the day. Leaders and helpers were exhausted after they went with this being the first one, but everyone was exhilarated at how well it had gone and the pleasure that could be had from assisting the children.

Westfield Infant school and Watton Junior have also visited, and we are preparing for Gt Hockham years 5 and 6 to visit. We are extremely grateful for the contribution from leaders and helpers to this rewarding project that will run during school term time till late autumn. We hope to run a Refresher Day after the April break at the beginning of May, new faces will be very welcome and briefed fully. There will be more information next month.

Work on the church will not start for a short period as bat boxes have to be installed before work can commence. Next month a detailed programme may be published.

Have a look at the website and see what is going on:

www.ovingtonchurch.co.uk

there is also a link village website, see 'Church' | 'more details'



Supported by

The National Lottery[®]
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



Fake meter reader

PCSO Tonya Winsley

Police are urging residents to be vigilant following a suspected bogus caller incident in the Watton area.

Officers have received reports of incidents in Stokes Avenue on 13 January 2017, where a man has knocked at the door claiming to be there to read a water meter.

Police are reminding householders to be vigilant when dealing with cold callers and offer the following advice:

- ◆ Close and lock the back door before answering the front door.
- ◆ Use a spy hole or window to look at the caller before answering the door.
- ◆ If you do not recognise the caller, speak to them through the closed door.
- ◆ If the caller is selling something or offering work on your home, tell them you are not interested and ask them to leave.
- ◆ If they do not leave or you need assistance - call the police.
- ◆ If the caller is valid, always ask for proof of identity. Phone the company or organisation the caller claims to be from while the caller waits outside.
- ◆ Tell someone you trust about the uninvited callers to your home.
- ◆ If necessary, report it to police with a description of the people involved and details of their vehicle if possible.

To report suspicious activity call Norfolk Constabulary on **101**. In an emergency always dial **999**.

And finally ...

Tim



'Cracker' jokes: bigger the groan, better the joke.
Maybe the first was a Boy Sid expression?

Q: What flowers grow on faces?

A: Two-lips!

Q: What do you get when you pour hot water down a rabbit hole?

A: Hot cross bunny

Q: Does February like March?

A: No, but April May

Q: Why shouldn't you write with a worn pencil?

A: Because it's pointless.

Q: What is red and smells just like blue paint?

A: Red paint

Rod

Did you know ...

I expect you know that Ovington Village Hall was once the Village School, but did you know that there was an earlier school situated just round the corner from Water End Lane.



Education in the early 19th century was purely voluntary, and to attend this school would have cost the parents 1 old penny (2.4p) a week.

Deadline for next issue: 24 March

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Download a large print version from the village web-site.