

The Ovington Oracle

June, 2017

With Christmas and New Year out of the way, before you know what's happening it will be summer ...

The summer solstice is at 5:24 on 21 June, from there on the nights will start pulling in!

Let's make the most of the fine weather with a number of village activities this month.

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
4 June, 9:30am	Holy Communion (at Village Hall)
8 June	General Election
10 June, 10:00am	Coffee Morning plus (in aid of church)
18 June, 4:00pm	The Great Get Together
20 June, 6:00pm	Ladies Group – Watton walk and meal (meet at Wayland House for walk)

To book the village hall contact Lyndia Lewis 882222

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Ladies Group

Christine Hardy



Unfortunately, due to health problems, Jody was unable to do her make-up demonstration this month. We hope to invite her on another occasion. Despite the change of plan we had an enjoyable evening with some games and reminiscing over Ladies Group photos and village archives, plus quite a lot of chat. Maureen won the competition with her miniature green turtle.

Next month we will be joining Julian Horn for a walk around Watton. Julian has a wealth of information regarding the history of the town so we know it will be a really interesting evening. For those doing the walk we will meet at the Wayland Partnership at 6:00pm (lifts can be arranged from Ovington) followed by a meal at The Willowhouse at 7:30pm. As usual husbands/partners are very welcome to join us for this event as are non-walkers just for the meal. If you have not already chosen your menu but would like to come along please contact Christine (Tel: 889920) who has all the details.

Rainfall

Rod



Herewith my swiftly calculated rainfall totals for the month of April: 21mm or the British equivalent 0.8"

For the month of May so far I have applied the scientific approach and have reached an indisputable conclusion of: 40.5mm or 1.6"

Elections

Editor

The 'snap' General Election is Thursday 8 June, the third election this year so far. The Village Hall is our polling station, open between 7:00am and 10:00pm. You don't need your polling card, but it makes voting easier.

There are five candidates for the Mid-Norfolk constituency:

FREEMAN, George William	The Conservative Party Candidate
KNOWLES, Tracy Selina	UK Independence Party (UKIP)
LESTER, Hannah Louise	Green Party
SIMPSON, Sarah Alison	Labour Party
TOD, Fionna Margaret Ruth	Liberal Democrats

Last month we held the Norfolk County Council election with the following results:

Watton Division

216	BIRT, Timothy Edward	Green Party
1785	*BOWES, Claire Rosemary	The Conservative Party
356	GLAVIN, Danielle Clare	Labour Party
144	SCRIVENS, Victor Keith	Liberal Democrat
8	Spoilt papers	

*Claire Bowes is decisively re-elected as our County Councillor

Ovington Outdoors

Jeremy Woods

In Memoriam ...

Ginger, the stray tom cat, who was in the village for about 18 months, died from his injuries at the Old Golf House Vets. He had survived in our village with the help of Gerry and Kim in the Crescent, who put food out for him. He wandered the village extensively and was even seen at Waterend Farm! However he seemed to have been injured in various fights and trying to survive outside on winter nights was too much for him. He was found at the side of the road, in front of The Old Crown, and was unable to walk.

The largest apple tree in the village has now been cut down as it was very rotten. It was a Norfolk Beefing, located at the back of the Old Crown, standing some 50 feet high. In recent years it was home to about 6 squirrels and later on, to about 10,000 wild bees, who lost their home when a main branch was blown off in a gale. It must have been at least 100 years old

The only vineyard in the village, at Sunnyside Farm, has now gone. Heroically planted by Nick Sproston, the vineyard developed into mature plants and some villagers are known to have sampled the end product! Nick and Laura will be sadly leaving Ovington soon and the new owners want the field for grazing.

St John's Church

Ann Johnson



Sunday, 4 June Holy Communion
9:30am in Village Hall

On Saturday 10 June from 10:00am – 12noon we are holding a Coffee Morning in the Village Hall.

We will be having a Raffle, Tombola, Craft Stall, Jigsaw/Books and Cake Stall. Come and meet your friends for a coffee, cake and chat. All proceeds to go to St John's Church Ovington. If you have any items to donate to any of the stalls please drop them off to Jane Lambert, Christine Hardy, or Ann Johnson. Let's make this a grand occasion as this will be instead of a garden fête. Many thanks.



Notices / Comments

Editor

EDP Report

There was an article in the EDP about the HLF project, specifically concentrating on the schools involvement with some great pictures, see:

www.edp24.co.uk/newsp/project-hels-school-children-to-learn-respect-and-help-the-future-of-church-1-5026961

Wayland Volunteer of the Year Award 2017

Our congratulations to John Hardy and Rod Rumsby who were awarded volunteer of the year certificates at the Wayland Partnership Open day on Saturday 20 May 2017.

Parish Council (PC)

Timothy Birt

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

Reports from the Annual Parish Meeting and AGM just missed this edition, report to follow next month.

Next meeting

6 July, 2017 at 7:30pm in the committee room at the Village Hall

The Great Get Together

Karen Weir

"... we are far more united and have far more in common with each other than things that divide us."

Jo Cox MP, Maiden speech to Parliament (3-6-2015)

As part of the national 'Great get Together' the Parish Council has been awarded a grant of £200, so on Sunday 18 June between 4:00pm – 7:00pm we will be celebrating together what we have in common at the Village Hall, all are welcome.

Burgers, buns and non-alcoholic drinks will be provided, please bring your own "stronger stuff"!

See the leaflet included with this month's Oracle.

Our Community – Our Church

Chris Springford

The building programme for the HLF project at the church commences on 22 May and continues until 3rd November. As a consequence, we have had to re-arrange the church services to take account of this.

Mostly, they will be held in the Village Hall – except for 18th and 25th June and 3rd September, because the Village Hall has already been booked for other events.

This affects not only the church services, but also the important school classes that are held inside the church – that are part of the very successful HLF Community and Schools programme.

The original intention had been to run both services and classes inside the church, while the builders worked externally on the church tower.

We have been caught out unexpectedly by the Health and Safety requirements that has designated the area close to the church and the inside as a building site.

This due primarily to two bats being found at the church by Norfolk Wildlife Trust (on their third visit) and a subsequent order from Natural England.

Last minute negotiations to work around this have not been successful in changing the building schedules for the contracted work.

So the church will be closed to the public for 24 weeks from 22nd May to 3rd November.

While this is an inconvenience to the village, the much-needed repairs to the church should put it in a good state for the next 50 years or so.

In a project of this complexity, it is always difficult to anticipate all the things that can go wrong, in spite of the risk assessments.



Village Hall

Christine Reilly

The Gnomes of Ovington

We still have a few gnomes at the village hall who are looking for artistically inspired people to take them home and create a 'work of art' for our 'Go-Go-Gnomes' competition. This will take place at the Wacky Scrappy Races day on 5 August, when the public will be invited to vote for their favourite gnome. The wackier the decoration, the better. There will be cash prizes for the winners, so put your creative hats on and join in the fun! Gnomes cost only £5 each and are available from the village hall any Monday morning, or ring Ed on 01953 885848.

WANTED!

The village hall is in need of internal redecoration and we would like to obtain quotations from three local firms. If anyone in the village is in that line of work, or could recommend someone who would be willing to undertake a large-scale job, please give Ed a ring on 01953 885848.

Sewing Classes

I am currently enjoying a sewing class on the outskirts of Norwich and the tutor would be prepared to bring some sort of class to Ovington – perhaps in the form of a one-day session in the autumn. If anyone is interested, please give me a ring or see me at a coffee morning. If you would love to make yourself something to wear and need to acquire some sewing machine skills, or would like to know how to alter something to make it fit better, let me know. It would be open to anyone (male or female), any age. We would probably need at least a dozen people to make it a viable proposition, so ask all your friends. The tutor is willing to 'tailor' the class to whatever the majority would like to learn.

Village Lottery

Adrian Malton



Lottery winners for May:

1st prize (£10) Christine Reilly;

2nd prize (£5) Ed Reilly

What's happening nearby

Susan Hollingworth

Exhibition: **The Tiffey Valley Painters**

Saturday June – Saturday June 17

Are a group of 24 artists of varying degrees of efficiency and skill levels who meet once a week in Wymondham to work with their tutor and mentor, Malcolm Jarvis. Some have been working with Malcolm for almost four years whilst others joined the group less than six months ago.



Malcolm says, "My teaching philosophy is 'less is more': fewer brushes for livelier, quicker painting; fewer paints for easy, straightforward colour mixing; fewer techniques for optimal results. I teach lessons for improving students' artistic potential by sharing the best tips, techniques and ideas in the simplest way possible. Through my classes they discover the power of dominance, how to simplify shapes, the importance of value masses and contrast and the key to simplified, unified colour."

– 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



For more from The Wayland Partnership see: **wayland.org.uk**

What's on Elsewhere

Fiona Roat

Norfolk Wildlife Trust – Breckland Group



On Saturday 10 June we have an evening walk at East Wretham Reserve to find Nightjars. Numbers are limited, please ring 01953 727227 to book.

No dogs allowed on this one please.

Bar Pritchard

Swaffham Jazz

Tuesday 13th June at 7:30pm, £6 on the door.

Colin Mason Quartet joined by the fabulous sax and flute virtuoso Myke Clifford.



Swaffham Conservative Social Club, 23 London Rd PE37 7DD

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

Karen Mason

Community Yard Sale – Shipdham

Saturday 10 June, 9:00am to 1:00pm

Maps showing those participating (over 60 stalls last year) will be available on the day at £1 from the Thomas Bullock School and from the FOSS shop. Toilets and refreshments available at the school

And finally ...

Rod + Tim



- I hate Russian dolls ... they're so full of themselves.
- Police officer: "Sir, can you identify yourself?"
Driver, looking in his mirror: "Yes, it's me."
- A plateau is the highest form of flattery.
- Exaggerations went up a million percent last year.

Did you know ...

Did you know that the only German aircraft (a Heinkel HE111) brought down by rocket fired steel cables crash landed just beyond Water End Farm. It's not there now sadly ... the Aircraft not Water End Farm.



More info: rafwatton.info/heinkel-he111-ovington

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