# The Ovington Oracle

July, 2017



Get your application in for the Wacky Scrappy Gravity Race. You have a little over a month to build a scrap masterpiece, the rattier the better!

Young or old, experienced or not all are welcome, see page 6.

**Aphelion** (the point the earth is furthest from the sun) is at 21:11 on 4 July. This makes our summer slightly longer than in the southern hemisphere – hurray!

## **Diary Dates**

All at Village Hall unless otherwise indicated

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Mondays, 10:30am	Coffee morning, until 11:30am
Mondays, 1:30pm	Bowls
Mondays, 6:00pm	Breckland Js Junior Choir
2 July, 9:30am	Holy Communion (at Village Hall)
6 July, 7:30pm	Parish Council
16 July, 10:30am	All Age Worship (at Village Hall)
18 July, 7:45pm	Ladies Group
23 July, 5:00pm	Hymns for a Summer Evening (at VH)

To book the village hall contact Lyndia Lewis 882222

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

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## Your Oracle

Editor

Could you write a report for the Oracle?

Been somewhere unusual?

Grown something different?

Found a gem?

Maybe you have recycled/re-purposed some unwanted item?

**Share it with us** ... interesting snippets from real life add greatly to The Oracle, just 150 words makes an half page story.

Or, perhaps you have something to sell or something you want?

-00000-

Ovington seems to be a target for a no-win-no-fee company claiming big "wayleave" payments are possible for power lines crossing your property. In most cases 'big' payments are only for high voltage lines very close to your house. Please consider carefully before responding; we all use electricity and low voltage distribution wires don't really affect your property value.

## **Ladies Group**

Ann Johnson



On Tuesday 20th June 19 members and friends enjoyed a most interesting walk in Watton with Julian Horn. Julian had been to the group in 2016 and talked to us about the history of Watton and suggested a walk through the town where he could point out some of the facts he had told us. We started off our walk at the

bottom of the High Street, where there had once been a crossroads and Back Street would have been the only road north. We then walked up the High Street looking up at the roof-lines and Julian pointed out how to recognise the oldest of the houses and how a façade had been built on the front of the original houses. We stopped at many interesting points and Julian also brought old photographs to illustrate his talk. We headed into Middle Street which was where the original, very important, market was held opposite Manor House. In Middle Street, we were taken through a very old passage way which was one of the lanes in the market and again Julian pointed out some really interesting facts. This was a wonderful walk through Watton's history and we are very grateful to Julian giving up his time to share his passion of the town's history with us.

We then walked round to the Willow House, where we met some more of our members, and enjoyed a lovely meal, drinks and chatter.

Next month, on 18th July, we look forward to hearing all about The Falconers Trust and the charity they work for in Zambia. The competition will be the colour **pink**.

## Rainfall

Rod



Final rainfall figures for May of this year were: 46.5mm or 1.83".

June to date is 30.5mm or 1.2" most of that falling in one day. Sadly there is no trace of it in the ground now.

#### General Election Result

Editor

Disappointingly, George Freeman was unable to attend any hustings or debates, so they were all cancelled except one in Attleborough, where the remaining four candidates engaged some very civilised sparring. Nevertheless, George Freeman was re-elected as Member of Parliament for the Mid-Norfolk constituency thus:

Votes	Candidate	Party
32828	FREEMAN, George William	The Conservative Party Candidate
2092	KNOWLES, Tracy Selina	UK Independence Party (UKIP)
1158	LESTER, Hannah Louise	Green Party
16742	SIMPSON, Sarah Alison	Labour Party
2848	TOD, Fionna Margaret Ruth	Liberal Democrats
96	Spoilt Ballot Papers	

# Shipdham Surgery PPG

Timothy Birt

The Patients' Participation Group (PPG) is a group of local people representing your views. Meetings take place quarterly, the next is 31 August. If you have any concerns or comments I (details back page) can take them to the meeting.

Please continue to use the suggestion box in the Surgery for constructive comments – they are all considered at the next PPG meeting.

Please remember to park considerately, as spaces are of a premium, there is always short term parking on the village green.

#### News

Plans are in place for total refurbishment of the waiting area, which will include new seating and flooring. Works will commence in future months. More news to follow nearer the time.

From 1 March to 31 May there were **224 missed appointments**, which amounted to 3260 minutes lost. If you cannot keep your appointment, please let the Surgery know as soon as possible, someone else will be glad of the appointment.

## St John's Church

Ann Johnson



Sunday, 2 July Holy Communion 9:30am in Village Hall

Sunday, 16 July All Age Worship 10:30am in Village Hall

Sunday, 23 July Hymns for a 5:00pm Summer Evening

Now that the church is closed for extensive repairs, the services are going very well in the Committee Room of the Village Hall.

What a lovely service we had for Rogationtide. We commenced the service in the Village Hall and then went outside for readings and prayers at various locations. We began by reflecting on water beside the water butts. We then walked up to the allotments and celebrated the wonders of creation. Next, it was back to the Village Hall grounds where we considered our community and finally we went to the recycle bins and thought about how wasteful we had become. We then returned to the Village Hall to complete the service. Thank you, Jean, for all the thought you had put in to this very special service, rekindled after an interval of many years.

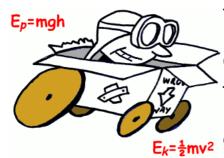
A very big thank you to all who helped in any way to raise £556 at our recent Coffee Morning. This was a tremendous amount to raise in our small village in two hours. Thanks to all who donated, made items, or baked items for the various stalls, those who worked hard beforehand and on the day and those who came and supported the event. It was a wonderful effort and many visitors to the coffee morning enjoyed looking at some of the work the schools have produced on their visits to us.

Don't forget out Hymns for a Summer Evening on the fourth Sunday of each month in the summer. Refreshments are served after the service. If you have a favourite hymn then request it with Jean and she will do her best to include it in the service.

## Wacky Scrappy Gravity Race

Timothy Birt

#### Saturday 5 August 2017



You have six weeks to build your scrap masterpiece and enter the Wacky Scrappy Gravity Race!

There have been a few tweaks this year to make the course more demanding and an emphasis on light weight vehicles.

Previously the judges liked the rattiest, scrappiest machines and gave them extra points, so if you have never done anything like this before you are a perfect competitor! Have a look at the web-site:

Then get your application in (£5 to cover costs), the more people who enter the greater the fun.

Remember, rule number one:

Anyone who takes it too seriously will be immediately disqualified!

## 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)

There was a good turnout and excellent weather for the Great Get Together event, with a number of people calling to make it a regular event.

Special thanks to Ian & Rachel for the live music, the BBQ chef and the bakers who supplied cakes; but also remembering the multitude of villagers who 'muck-in' whenever we do something like this.

#### **Creative Arts East**

Joe Burnham

'Our Day Out' brings music and dance to older people in Breckland and North Norfolk who can look forward to a very musical summer, through a series of fantastic free music and dance activities taking place in North Walsham, Wells-Next-The-Sea, Attleborough, Dereham, Thetford and Watton, provided by the arts and community development charity Creative Arts East.

The twice-monthly sessions are part of the 'Our Day Out' programme, an inclusive group for all older people, engaging participants in fun and stimulating activities, delivered by professionally trained arts practitioners. Throughout July and August, Creative Arts East are working with Glasshouse Dance Company to deliver some fun and sociable dance workshops, digital and acoustic music making sessions, and revitalising singing workshops.

The 2-hour, free of charge 'Our Day Out' activities welcome all older people, and is supportive to those living with early to mid-stage dementia and their carers, as well as older people living with long-term health conditions, and those who may feel isolated from their community.

**Coming up:** in September, the groups will be enjoying special love themed tea dances which will include costumes, cake, games and more. In addition, new work and outings are being planned with internationally renowned companies including the prestigious Matthew Bourne Company and Rambert, who will be delivering sessions based around their current show 'Ghost Dances'.

The 'Our Day Out' sessions are all about having fun and feeling good afterwards, and Creative Arts East are keen to hear from more older people who would like to join these friendly and inclusive creative activities. There are also opportunities for people who would like to become involved as volunteers, and help someone smile this summer. For more information on the 'Our Day Out' sessions, please contact Lea Schiller at Creative Arts East on 01953 713390 or email lea@creativeartseast.co.uk

## **Annual Parish Meetings**

Heidi Frary

Written reports were presented from Local Organisations (copies of are available from the Clerk):

Parish Council, Village Hall, Ladies Group, Fuel Trust, Ovington Church, Breckland Harmony, Allotment Association, Bowls Club, District Councillor, County Council.

Verbal reports were presented by:

<u>Oracle</u> 1,440 copies are produced every year with a growing email distribution list. Thanks to Christine for proofreading and the distribution team in the Parish.

Heritage Lottery Update There are weekly educational sessions each catering for 30 primary school children which are very popular.

'Ovington Navy' The Broads section has a high tech carbon fibre boat and are looking forward to the sailing season. The Seagoing section are working on their boat and being supported by Saham Navy.

Other business discussed:

- Traffic speeding through the village is an ongoing issue. It was suggested that village gates or chicanes may be options to encourage drivers to slow down.
- District Councillor Hewett offered to deliver a dementia awareness session to any groups in the parish.

## Parish Council (PC)

Heidi Frary

**Chairman** (Karen Weir) and Vice Chairman (Timothy Birt) were elected and signed an acceptance of office.

#### **Matters Arising**

Norfolk Highways (Paul Sellick) to be invited for a village walk around to discuss highways issues.

The village share in the SAM2 sign has been sold to Barnham Broom. Ovington will refurbish an older SAM sign for future use.

#### **Correspondence**

The Allotment Association requested some additional signs to help show where dogs can and can not go.

A request for a path (trod) between Church Rd and Fernside will be investigated with NCC.

#### **Reviews**

Various policy documents were reviewed and agreed, including: Financial Summary 2016/17 and Internal Auditors Report; Risk Management; Inventory of Land and Assets including completion of the Asset Register; Financial Regulations and Statement of Internal Controls; Accounting Statement and Annual Statement of Governance 2016/17

Payments were reviewed and cheques signed

#### **Next meeting**

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

Legal documents at: <a href="https://www.ovingtonpc.wixsite.com/home">www.ovingtonpc.wixsite.com/home</a>

## Village Hall

Christine Reilly

### **The Gnomes of Ovington**

There is still just time to buy a gnome (only 5 left, so be quick!) and join in the fun of our 'Go-Go-Gnomes' competition at the Wacky Scrappy Races in August. They cost £5 and can be decorated in whatever way takes your fancy. There will be cash prizes, voted on by the general public on the day. Call Ed on 885848 or come to the village hall any Monday morning to acquire one.

## Recycling

Thank you to everyone who supports the village hall by recycling your unwanted textiles and glass. Last year Breckland Council paid us £342.99 for our community recycling. I can also now get payment for aluminium cans as I have opened an account with a metal recycling company. If you would like to save your drinks cans, I will be happy to collect them, just give me a ring on 885848. It looks like being a long hot summer which is good news from a recycling viewpoint!

## Village Lottery

Adrian Malton



Lottery winners for May:

1st prize (£10) Linda Murray,

2nd prize (£5) James Hardy.

# What's happening nearby

Susan Hollingworth

(Local Art Groups, Mixed Media)

Saturday July 1 – Saturday July 15

Works from:

Ashill Painting For Pleasure Group Caston Art Club Saham Toney Art Group



- 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, <a href="mailto:susan@wayland.org.uk">susan@wayland.org.uk</a>

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

Joe Burnham

## **Watton Dance Workshops**

See page 7 for more details.

Thursday 6 July 2:00pm-4:00pm and Thursday 20 July 2:00pm-4:00pm at

The Christian Community Centre, 57 High Street, Watton, IP25 6AB



## What's on Elsewhere

Tim Cara



The 2017 **Dereham Blues Festival** opening event is Thursday 6 July at the Dereham Memorial Hall featuring **Andy Fairweather Low** and his band **The Low Riders**. Tickets from £22 at: www.ticketsource.co.uk/fodmh

For further events see: www.derehammemorialhall.co.uk

Bar Pritchard

#### **Swaffham Jazz**

Tuesday 11 July at 7:30pm, £6 on the door.

Colin Mason Quartet with Ed Reed on guitar and Laura on vocals.

Swaffham Conservative Social Club, 23 London Rd PE37 7DD

More information: <a href="mailto:bargeoff@yahoo.com">bargeoff@yahoo.com</a> or Norman 01760 722384

Dereham Carnival HQ



Dereham Carnival, Sunday 16th July 2017 Music, Parade, Activities, Arena Displays, Food ...

Too much to list, so see: www.derehamcarnival.co.uk

## And finally ...

Editor



Following the County Elections the Editor was told:

One of the election candidates noticed that old Horry had attended all the meetings in the village. On the eve of the poll he went to have a word and thank him for his support.

"Well bor, I hev been ter every meetin fer orl four canderdates, an' I hev read orl yar leaflets an' pearpers."

"Jolly good!" enthused the candidate.

"And orl I kin say ole partner is, thank heavens yew carnt orl git elected"

Rod

#### Did you know ...

During WWII there was a large military presence on the field to the right of the road just before the A1075 cross roads.(It was a B road in those days) A large gun emplacement was visible in the top right hand corner of the field until the 1980's. This was demolished when the previous three smaller fields were combined to make a larger one.



The main activity was as a searchlight site controlled by RAF Coltishall, but manned by Army personnel.

## **Deadline for next issue: 22 July**

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