

The Ovington Oracle

February, 2018

William Morris

I am Winter, that do keep
Longing safe amidst of sleep:
Who shall say if I were dead
What should be remembered?

Diary Dates

All at Village Hall unless indicated

Mondays, 10:30am	Coffee morning, until 11:30am
Mondays, 1:30pm	Bowls
1 Feb, 7:30pm	Parish Council
3 Feb, 2:00pm & 4:30pm	HLF School Community Concert (Wayland Academy)
3 Feb, 7:30pm	Village Hall Quiz Night
4 Feb, 9:30am	Holy Communion – St John's Church
18 Feb, 10:30am	All age worship – St John's Church
20 Feb, 7:45pm	Ladies Group
23 Feb, 7:00pm	Ladies Annual Buffet Supper (30 The Street)
1 Mar, 7:30pm	Village Hall AGM

To book the village hall contact Lyndia Lewis 882222

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Ladies Group

Ann Johnson



On Tuesday, 16 January, sixteen members and a guest were captivated by the story of Joan Khurody. She is a local writer, publisher and bookseller. She met and fell in love with a young Indian man while they were both studying at Reading University. In 1959, much to the scepticism and horror of both their families, she sailed

on the S.S. Cilicia from Liverpool to Bombay to marry Firdaus. For the first seven years of their married life they lived in India but they then moved to Iran, Lebanon, Indonesia and Yemen. They came back to England in the mid 80's and finally Norfolk in 1999. For Joan, who originally came from a smallish village in Suffolk, an extraordinary and interesting life followed. Joan was a wonderful speaker and made the events in her life fascinating. Several of the members bought one of the three books Joan has written and she duly signed them. Joan is currently writing her fourth book.

Rosemary won the 'wooden' competition with her Austrian Man.

Next month we will meet in the Village Hall on Tuesday 20 February at 7:45pm for an Introduction to Complimentary Therapies by Dawn Dean of Watton Wellness Centre. The competition will be something made of **paper**.

May I remind any member not at the January meeting that the £7.50 subscription is now due.

On Friday evening, 23 February, we will be holding our Annual Buffet Supper, to which husbands and partners are invited. We will meet at 7:00 for 7:30 at the home of Angela, 30 The Street. This evening will be great fun and is our main annual fundraiser. The price will be £7.50 and will include your first glass of wine. A raffle will be held during the evening.

St John's Church

Ann Johnson



Sunday, 4 Feb

9:30am Holy Communion

Sunday, 18 Feb

10:30am All Age Worship

We are looking forward to the Community Concert at Wayland Academy on Saturday 3 February – the culmination of over a year's work with the Schools Project.

The final work to be done on the lower walls in the church will hopefully commence at some stage in February. As this will entail moving all the pews into the aisle, we may need to hold one or two services back in the village hall.

The church should be open again each day soon but, if anyone wishes to visit or gain access to the church, then the key is with Jean Rockett, 24-26 The Street.

Village Hall

Christine Reilly

Quiz Night

Saturday 3 February starting at 7:00pm.

Teams of 4 are invited to Ovington Village Hall for a fun evening of brain-teasing questions in order to raise funds for St John's Church, Ovington.

Tickets cost £6 per person, which includes a *ploughman's supper*, and can be obtained from the village hall any Monday morning between 10:00 and noon or from Christine on 01953 885848. Any donations of prizes for the raffle will be gratefully received. Please bring your own drinks (glasses can be provided!). Hurry and book in your team as soon as possible as space is limited.

The Village Hall AGM

Thursday 1 March at 7:30pm in the village hall.

If you would like to join the committee to help keep this vital village amenity going, you will be very welcome. Come along and lend your support, even if you don't want to be on the committee. Everyone is welcome.

Supporting your Village Hall

Thanks to everyone who buys their heating oil from the Rix village consortium. The village hall has just benefited from an annual payment in excess of £100. If you don't usually buy your oil from Rix, please consider joining the scheme as it benefits the village hall.

I am still collecting drinks cans (preferably aluminium, but steel is acceptable – just less profitable) which are sold for scrap to provide additional funds for the village hall. Either bring them to me at the village hall any Monday morning, or give me a ring and I will collect (885848). Don't forget when you are spring cleaning to bring all unwanted clothing, shoes, and textiles (NOT duvets!) to the clothing bank and glass bottles and jars to the bottle bank, both of which provide income for the village hall.

Mission Improbable

Friday 16 March at 7:00pm

We have a very different show for your entertainment: The Opera Dudes will be performing 'Mission Improbable'. Super slick performers yet determinedly silly! Find out how a classically trained ex-brickie and an ex-Cambridge scholar can entertain you with singing of the highest quality: grand opera, showstoppers, heart-rending ballads, plus classical piano, ridiculous impressions and slapstick humour to boot! The Guardian gave this show a five-star rating, calling them "conspicuously skilful performers – everyone is exhilarated on stage and off!". Tickets, costing £10, will be on sale from the village hall on Monday mornings between 10:00am and noon or ring 885848 to book seats.

Litter Pick

Timothy Birt

Spring is around the corner so it's time to arrange our annual village 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 efforts in the village hall for a traditional mardle and hopefully some cake!



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.

Get the date in your diary, we will meet by the village sign at **10:30am on Saturday, 17 March**

Village Lottery

Adrian Malton



The January draw produced the following prizes:

First prize (£10)	Steve Horton;
Second prize (£5)	Dave Welsted

It is not too late to join if you missed the first draw. It costs £1 per month, so £11 for the rest of this year. Contact a member of the committee.

Parish Council (PC)

Heidi Frary (Clerk) / Timothy Birt

A pre-meeting presentation was made by Planning Consultant, Erica Whettingsteel who proposed building 3 new bungalows at the west end of The Street.

A full planning application has now been submitted, see www.breckland.gov.uk/planningsearch and search for application 3PL/2018/0055/F

The following report is produced from the unconfirmed minutes:

Matters Arising

Recent heavy rain highlighted ongoing flooding issues. The PC will ask agencies and landowners to help.

Further fence posts require replacement around the allotments

Correspondence

East Anglian Air Ambulance and Citizens Advice Mid Norfolk sent thanks for the help of the parish. The Glebe surveyor indicated that work is scheduled following the ash dieback problem along Church Road.

Financial

The budget position and payments were reviewed and cheques signed.

After detailed assessment of risk and long term liability the precept for 2018/19 was set at £4528 for the whole parish (a 4% increase for a band D property). Note, the parish component is the tiniest part of our Council Tax bill.

Other business

Litter pick, gravity race and future meeting dates were set.

Next meeting

Additional meeting 1 February, 2018 at 7:30pm at the Village Hall committee room, then 1 March.

Legal documents at: ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home

Our Community – Our Church

John Hardy

During the next three months it is hoped to replace the plaster on the side walls of the church to the top of the pews, and re lime wash. As weather improves and the site dries out it is hoped to reinstate the areas damaged by contractors while on site during the bad winter weather.

Advanced notice:

Sunday 29 April 2018

Rededication of the Church (Bishop of Lynn)

followed by: Village "Community" and helpers **lunch**

&

Burial of **Time Capsule**

&

Thank You **Concert** in church

Further information will be forth coming, but please mark your diaries. The Bishop of Lynn will be rededicating the church at 10:30am. A broad invitation will be put out to the villagers of Ovington, and the many helpers from other local communities and further afield that have helped to make this project so successful. This is to say thank you, and put on an exhibition of the whole project, and will be free.



Supported by

The National Lottery[®]
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



Our Community – Our Church

John Hardy

Ovington HLF School Community Concert

@

Wayland Academy, Merton Road, Watton, IP25 6BA

Saturday 3 February 2018

Performances @ 2:00pm and 4:30pm
admission 15 minutes before performance

£2.00 each

The students selected have been very busy rehearsing and making props for the final concerts on 3 Feb. It would be great to see you there. They will be enacting various aspects of their visits which include a drama about what they learnt when inside the church.

The concert also includes many more fun drama activities, musical interpretations and the launch of their book "Clay the Clumsy and his search for friends", plus an exhibition of their work. The book is compiled from work done by many of the students, and is stunning.

Tickets available from:

Linda Murray 01953-880073 or
John Hardy 01953-889920.

Tickets are subject to availability and may become limited.



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Rainfall

Rod Rumsby



Rainfall for December 2017 were 118 mm or 4.64".

The total for the year was 777.5 mm or 30.6" which is a little above average.

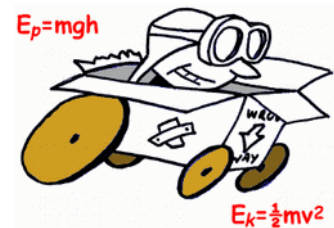
The amount up to 19 January, is 40mm or 1.57"

Wacky Scrappy Gravity Race 2018

Timothy Birt

A date has been set – Sunday 12 August – and planning has started.

The website at www.ovington.org.uk will be updated soon with technical information and an application form.



If you or someone you know might be interested in participating please look at the web-link. We will publish a spectator timetable much closer to the event, but expect similar to last year with some extras!

What's on nearby

Fiona Roat



NWT Breckland Local Group

Our talk in January by Jo Jones from Breckland Flora Group was well attended, particularly in view of the horrible damp evening. But at least it wasn't snowing!

Jo told us about the formation of the group which helps to conserve our Breckland plants, some of which are internationally important, growing here and nowhere else in the world.

This month we have the NWT's own Jonathan Preston, the Brecklands Reserves manager. He will be talking about the "Back from the Brink" project and other future projects.

Venue: Watton Christian Community Centre, High Street, IP25 6AB

Time: Wednesday 14 February, 7:30pm

Cost: £3 each (£2 members), including seasonal refreshments

What's on elsewhere

Bar Pritchard

Swaffham Jazz

Tuesday 13 February at 7:30pm,
new on the door price £7.

Ed Reed (guitar) Trio

Swaffham Conservative Social Club, 23 London Rd PE37 7DD
Details from Norman 01760 722384 / Geoff: 01366 328730



Tim Cara

Friends of
Dereham
Memorial
Hall



Film Night (meeting room -max 46 people):

'The Party'

Tuesday 27 February, doors open 7.00pm

Janet hosts an intimate gathering to
celebrate her political ascension ... ending in
arguments, shouting and a pointed gun!

Tickets £6 each (free parking, bar, ices and popcorn).

The Sagas of Noggin the Nog

Friday afternoon 16 February 3:00pm

Calling all (not just) grandparents! Oliver Postgate and Peter Firmin
created any number of iconic children's TV from the 1950s onward.

Thanks to Creative Arts East and Arts Council England, we have a
terrific adaptation of the Sagas, come and enjoy an hour of gentle
nostalgia.

Tickets £4 for children, £6 for adults from *Bright and Beautiful
Flowers*, 3 Wellington Road (01362 288124) or
www.ticketsource.co.uk/fodmh

Details of all events at: www.derehammemorialhall.co.uk

Mark Webster

Gressenhall – Friday 23 February, 11:15am ('til 2:15pm)

If you go down to the woods today ... you can make
habitat piles and bug hotels in the Centenary Wood!

Main car park at Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse, Gressenhall,
Dereham, NR20 4DR. (TF975170). More at: www.tcv.org.uk



And finally ...

Rod

Sign outside a restaurant:

"No senior citizens' discounts, you have had twice as long to get the money".



Near an ice cream van:

"Teach your kids about taxes, eat 30% of their ice cream".

Overheard outside a health food shop:

"I want to grow my own food, but I can't find bacon seeds".

Did you know ...



Did you know that although the Watton to Swaffham railway line passed through a small part of the Parish of Ovington, the railway company decided against providing a railway station. Mind you, Ashill and Saham Toney didn't get one either.

Deadline for next issue: 19 February

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