

# The Ovington Oracle

May, 2018

A short Oracle this month, with an appeal for contributions. Have you:

- Been somewhere unusual?
- Grown something different?
- Made a discovery?
- Maybe you have recycled/re-purposed an object?

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

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## Diary Dates

*All at Village Hall unless indicated*

Mondays, 10:30am	Coffee morning, until 11:30am
Mondays, 1:30pm	Bowls
3 May, 7:30pm	Annual Parish Meeting / Parish Council AGM
6 May, 9:30am	Holy Communion – St John's
15 May, 7:45pm	Ladies Group
20 May, 10:30am	Family Service – St John's Church

To book the village hall contact Lyndia Lewis 882222

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Village web-site: [www.ovington-village.org.uk](http://www.ovington-village.org.uk)

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Back copies of the Oracle since 2012 are available at:

**[www.ovington.org.uk/oracle](http://www.ovington.org.uk/oracle)**

If you would like a copy automatically sent to your email, please let me know and I'll add you to the list. Your email will only be used for Ovington Oracle and not passed on to anyone else, you can have your email removed at any time.

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## Ladies Group

Ann Johnson



On Tuesday, 17 April, 19 ladies enjoyed a lovely evening at *The King's Arms* in Watton. The food was really delicious and beautifully presented. There was lots of laughter and chatting in the tastefully restored pub and we were well looked after by the friendly staff. It was good to reminisce 'Old Watton' with all the

pictures and news-cuttings on the walls from earlier decades in the town. Thank you Christine for arranging this evening for us all to enjoy.

Next month, on Tuesday 15 May at 7:45pm in the Village Hall, we will be treated to a talk about Round Church Towers by John Scales. The competition will be cloth.

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## Message Board

From: Sara Titcombe (9 The Street)

About this time last year I asked if anybody owned a large Grey and White cat.

Nobody came forward. I am still feeding him. Please if he belongs to anybody in the village I will not feed him any more.

If I don't get a note through my door by the start of May then I will adopt him.

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## St John's Church

*Ann Johnson*



Sunday 29 April Re-dedication Service  
10:30am Holy Communion with the  
Bishop of Lynn

Sunday, 6 May  
9:30am Holy Communion

Sunday, 20 May  
10:30am Family Service

At our recent APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting), Chris Springford and Kelly Scott kindly agreed to stand as churchwardens for one more year. Next year we shall be looking for two new churchwardens as Chris and Kelly wish to stand down. We welcome Gudrun and Jeremy Warren on to the PCC (Parochial Church Council). If anybody else wishes to join our PCC they may be co-opted on at any time during the year.

The church will be closed for May and June, while the builders restore the lower walls inside, and all services will be held in the Committee Room of the Village Hall.

We are looking for some more people to help mow the grass in our churchyard to assist the very willing but depleted group of men that keep our churchyard looking so nice. Unfortunately, due to the building work in and outside the church, followed by the extremely wet weather, the builders have been prevented from filling in the ruts and sowing more seed to restore it back to its former glory.

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## Rainfall

*Rod Rumsby*



Rain fall for March totalled 77mm or 3.03"

This months wetness has been spoilt by the inclement weather of the last week, so we are looking at 32mm or 1.25" up to 20th April.

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## Village Hall

*Christine Reilly*

### Competition

Hurry and purchase your tote bags from the village hall to enter our "Terrific Totes" competition. This will be judged by the public at the Wacky Races on 12 August, so you have plenty of time to decide how to decorate your bag. Cash prizes will be presented to the most popular entries. It doesn't matter how you choose to decorate your bag – just let the creative juices flow! At £2.50 each, they are available from Christine (Reilly) on 885848 or from the VH coffee mornings.

The village hall does not have much planned before the summer as we hope to be renovating and decorating during May and June, but we are in the process of finalising a programme of events and entertainments for the rest of the year. So far we have:

22 July	BBQ;
8 September	QUIZ + SUPPER;
30 September	AFTERNOON TEA;
17 November	CRAFT FAIR.

For those of you who enjoy coming to the live shows brought to us by Creative Arts East, we have a definite theatrical booking for 23 February 2019 (!) "Earnest by Oscar Wilde" performed by Two Gent Productions. We are currently trying to book two more shows for this autumn, so watch this space for details. We are hoping to bring you "Scien-triffic" around the 13th October and "John Peel's Shed" either in September or November.

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## Village Lottery

*Adrian Malton*



The April draw produced the following prize winners:

First prize (£10)	Rose Angell;
Second prize (£5)	Chris Lewis.

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## Parish Council (PC)

*Heidi Frary (Clerk)*

### **Next meetings**

#### **Annual Parish Meeting**

3 May at 7:30pm. Representatives from the village are invited to report their activities and parishioners may ask questions.

Tea & biscuits provided. Followed by

#### **PC AGM**

An administrative PC meeting where the chairman is elected and documents signed.

Legal documents at: [ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home](http://ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home)

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## Local Plan

*Timothy Birt*

Breckland Council are currently undergoing formal Local Plan (LP) review by HM Planning Inspectorate, this is a strict official process of checking for legal compliance and that the plan is 'sound'.

A huge amount of documentation goes into the Local Plan, which makes it almost impenetrable for us ordinary folk, however, I've had a go:

#### **A personal 'micro summary'**

The LP has a fine mission statement but the policies fail to deliver it. There are some isolated policy gems, but generally it is far more concerned about mass building of houses rather than generating policies which take into account the whole of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Housing allocation seems politically motivated rather than evidence based, it should be considering: local need, deliverability and the impact on existing residents. Overall, the LP is a disappointment; it could and should have been so much more.

I have attended a few sessions and made representation. Breckland Council have employed a barrister to interject on their 'side', so it could be seen as quite intimidating.

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## What's on nearby

### **Exhibition: Norfolk Open Studios 2018**

Friday, 18 May to Sunday, 20 May

For 16 days each year, Norfolk & Norwich Open Studios celebrates the county's artists and their achievements. It gives visitors the opportunity to see new art, meet artists, and to buy original artworks directly from their creators.

Before the official opening of this year's showcase, the artists will be coming to the Dragonfly Gallery.



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***- 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

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## What's on elsewhere

### **Swaffham Jazz**

£7 – Tuesday 8 May 7:30pm

#### **Swing That Thing**

\*\*\* and an extra event \*\*\*

Tuesday 15 May 7:30pm

US Singer **Helen Welch**

with backing group led by Lee Vasey, guitar.

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

*Bar Pritchard*



## And finally ...

Rod



Ninety eight percent of the adults in this country are decent, hard-working, honest people. It's the other two percent that get all the publicity.  
But then, we elected them!! (Lily Tomlin)

Suppose you were an idiot, and suppose you were a member of parliament.  
But I repeat myself.

### DID YOU KNOW:

As you head along the A1075 in a Northerly direction out of Ovington, when you come to the highest point in the road, across the fields to your left are the remains, in the form of ditches, of an Iron Age fortification, known as "High Banks". These remains are astride the parish boundaries of Ovington and Saham Toney. Sadly the ditches on the Ovington side have been almost obliterated by cultivation activities. However, on the Saham side the ditches remain intact, showing quite clearly the extent of the fortification and the intense effort it must have taken to excavate these ditches. No JCB's in those days. Please note that these remains are on private land and exploration of same will require permission from the Landowners.



### **Deadline for next issue: 21 May**

Edit and Production: Timothy Birt (01953-889208)  
(Printed by us with an Ecosys printer) Stone House Farm, The Street,  
Ovington, Thetford, Norfolk. IP25 6RT

Proof reader: Christine Reilly (885848)

Please send contributions to either above or email:

[oracle@ovington.org.uk](mailto:oracle@ovington.org.uk)