

# The Ovington Oracle

June, 2018



The fight between sun and moon will soon reach a peak as the summer solstice approaches: June 21 at 11:07 marks time when day-length moves from getting longer to getting shorter – the nights will start pulling in!

Don't worry as nobody will notice for a while as the change is only a few seconds per day.

## Diary Dates

*All at Village Hall unless indicated*

Mondays, 10:30am	Coffee morning, until 11:30am
Mondays, 1:30pm	Bowls
3 June, 9:30am	Holy Communion (St John's Church)
17 June, 10:30am	Family Service (St John's Church)
19 June, 6:00pm	Ladies Group walk+meal (Chequers, Thompson)
24 June, 6:00pm	Hymns for a Summer Evening

To book the village hall contact Lyndia Lewis 882222

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)**

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## Ladies Group

*Ann Johnson*



On Tuesday 15 May, fifteen members and one visitor enjoyed an illustrated talk by John Scales from the Round Tower Churches Society. Mr Scales shared with us a wealth of information, without ever referring to a note, about these special churches and their individual charms.

The competition was won by Grace Rumsby with her lovely little dress.

Next month, on Tuesday 19 June, we shall be going on our annual walk. We will meet at Thompson Chequers at 6:00pm for the walk but, if anyone wishes not to walk but to join us for the meal, they would be most welcome to come to the Chequers for 7:30pm. For further information re choice of meal etc. please give Angela a call on 884594. Husbands, partners and dogs welcome to join us for the evening.

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## Message Board

*Name provided*

I would like to draw your attention to a problem in the Street where there is a continuing problem with cars being parked on the pavement.

This is not only illegal (see Highway Code Item 244) but extremely inconvenient and even dangerous for pedestrians, mothers with buggies, and people with limited mobility or wheelchair users. The problem becomes even worse after dark when visibility is impaired. This I have found to my cost when returning from the Village Hall in the evening. Another point in the Highway Code states that cars should not be parked facing the oncoming traffic (Item 248). Some cars which are parked on the pavement the wrong way create a double jeopardy.

Please would the perpetrators show a little consideration for other pavement users.

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## St John's Church

*Ann Johnson*



Sunday, 3 June  
9:30am Holy Communion

Sunday, 17 June  
10:30am Family Service

Sunday, 24 June Hymns for a Summer  
6:00pm Evening

What a wonderful celebration we had when the Bishop of Lynn, the Rt Revd Jonathan Meyrick re-dedicated all the improvements that have been made to St John's Church and we marked the culmination of the Schools Project. He blessed special areas in the church with a sprig of rosemary dipped in water. He then buried the time capsule which will remain unopened for 50 years. This was followed with a reception, a lunch and an exhibition of the children's work, before The Harmonettes and Emma Nuule entertained us back in the church. This was possibly one of the greatest events held in the village since 'The Coronation' and certainly in the church. Sincere thanks to everyone who helped in any way to make this a very memorable occasion.

We're not sure, at this stage, when the church will be closed for refurbishment of the lower walls but will keep you all advised accordingly.

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## Rainfall

*Rod Rumsby*



The rainfall amounts for April are indicative of a soggy month at 61mm or 2.4".

In contrast May has, so far (20 May), been bordering on a drought situation. With just 10mm or 0.4", and this fell on just one day.

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# Annual Parish Meeting

*Heidi Frary (Clerk)*

Reports from the various village organisations were presented either in person or a written report was read by the Chair.

The Parish Clerk holds written reports, which are available on request, from:

- Parish Council
- Village Hall
- Ladies Group
- Fuel Trust
- Ovington Church
- Breckland Harmony
- Allotment Association
- Bowls Club
- Heritage Lottery Update
- District Council Report
- County Council Report

Verbal only reports were received from:

## **Oracle**

7,920 pages have been printed over the year. Thanks to both Tim Birt for editing, and those who distribute copies. Contributions are always welcome to make it a truly village magazine.

## **Ovington Navy**

The Broads section has done well in recent races and the boats have been varnished ready for the new season.

The Seagoing section boat is for sale, however until sold is still available for hire.

## **Allotment Association April Supper Evening**

The village hall was full to the brim. A massive thank you to our chefs, who cooked up a range of tasty dishes and scrummy desserts. I think everyone who attended would agree the old fashioned party games were a massive success. There were screams of laughter and happy tears as grown adults relived their childhood party antics. Certainly a night to remember.

A date for your diary Sunday, 19 August – The Allotment BBQ and annual produce show.

## **Competition**

If you've been thinking of entering the "Terrific Totes" competition, don't delay. Entries need to be in by 11 August to be judged at the Wacky Scrappy Gravity Races. Get sticking, sewing or painting to be in with a chance of winning a cash prize. Mums and dads, something to keep the children busy during the school holidays? Totes cost £2.50 and are available from Christine (Reilly) on 885848 or from the VH coffee mornings.

## **Re-cycling**

Thank you to everyone who supports the recycling banks outside the village hall. This year we received £316.75 from Breckland. We have received more than double this in previous years, so let's see if we can do it again! Summer is approaching, so maybe it's time to update your wardrobe or simply make some space by casting out items you haven't worn for over a year. The textile bank takes shoes as well as fabric items, the heavier the better! So don't forget to include old towels, sheets, blankets, curtains and those steel capped boots! But no duvets please.

'Keep calm and carry on' ... drinking and eating anything that comes in a bottle or a jar. We're missing a cash opportunity for the village, if we put glass in our wheelie bins. Pop it in the recycling bank instead, when you're out for a stroll or passing in the car. Many thanks again.

## **Nomination for an award**

Back in January the VH hosted 'Rubber Ring' sponsored by Creative Arts East Live. A one-man comedy based on James McDermott's own experiences as a Morrissey obsessed teenager, exploring his own sexuality. James McDermott has been nominated for an award. And the village too, for hosting something very different, in a small rural community.

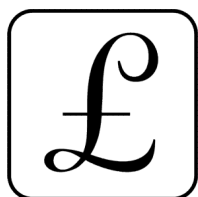
## **Monday Morning Coffee**

Welcome to any newcomers to the village that haven't been specifically mentioned in previous editions. There's no better way to meet your neighbours, have a chat and find out what's going on than coming to the VH on a Monday morning for tea/coffee and home-made cake. EVERY Monday morning between 10:30 and 11:30am (or a bit later), even on bank holidays. It only costs £1!

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## **Village Lottery**

*Adrian Malton*



The May draw produced the following prize winners:

First prize (£10)	Marie Ana Cave;
Second prize (£5)	Jill Malton.

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# Parish Council (PC)

*Heidi Frary (Clerk)*

This meeting marked the start of a new year and required election of a Chair (Cllr Weir) and Vice-Chair (Cllr Birt) and their signing declarations of acceptance of office.

A number of policy, financial and regulation documents were circulated prior to the meeting and these were accepted and adopted.

## **Correspondence**

A Flood Investigation Report for Watton was received from Norfolk Council Council (NCC).

A request was received for a bench at the cross roads. Councillors considered that it may be possible to move the grit bin to Church Road where it would be more useful and place a bench in the space. A meeting with Ben Raynor (Highways Engineer) will be arranged to discuss this along with other village issues. Consideration of the bench will be brought back to a later PC meeting after Highways input.

## **Planning**

Notification of a Tree Preservation Order on land adjacent to Stione House Farm was received. Notification that a residential conversion of the barn adjacent to Alston Farm had been refused.

## **Financial**

A request to fund a replacement battery for the village defibrillator was approved (£241.79)

Councillors reviewed our current budget position and payments to be made and signed cheques.

## **Future Business**

Allotment inspection should be undertaken in June as there appeared to be 8 unmaintained plots.

Clerk to investigate if the PC can apply for funds from the Tesco carrier bag token scheme

## **Next meeting**

5 July at 7:30pm.

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



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## What's on nearby:

via Wayland Events

### **Art 21**

June 2 – 16

A group of north Norfolk artists new to the Dragonfly Gallery.



### **The Hare & Barrel Festival Exhibition**

June 23 – July 28

The Festival will lead celebrations across Wayland. This exhibition will celebrate Watton's people, its history, present and future.

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

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Wayland House, High St, Watton, Norfolk, IP25 6AR  
Monday - Friday 10:00–4:00pm, Saturday 10:00–1:00pm

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via Wayland Events

### **Griston: Babes in the Wood Festival**

Saturday 23 June, 12:00 noon – late!

Tractor run, Dog Show, Ruddy Muddy Art, Stalls & Games, Live Music BBQ and refreshments.

More details at:

[www.griston.org.uk/griston-babes-in-the-wood-festival.html](http://www.griston.org.uk/griston-babes-in-the-wood-festival.html)

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## What's on elsewhere:

Bar Pritchard

### Swaffham Jazz

£7 – Tuesday 12 June 7:30pm

*Colin Mason Quartet with  
Eleanora on Vocals and Keyboard*



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

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Fiona Roat

### Norfolk Wildlife Trust, Breckland Local Group.



We have had two very good walks already this Spring. The first at Wayland Wood in late April to see the bluebells. They weren't quite at their peak but it was a lovely day and everyone enjoyed the walk and talk from Steve Collin, Senior Reserves officer at NWT.

The second at the beginning of May at Foulden Common to hear nightingales, was extremely popular. A bit disappointingly we didn't hear nightingales, but we did hear and see male Woodcock performing their display flight or roding. Also heard a cuckoo and a Turtle Dove, so a good result really.

Our next walk which we still have spaces for, is on Sunday 10 June, 10:00am to noon at NWT Weeting reserve. It's a reserve and forestry walk with Andy Palles-Clark, Brecks Heathland Project officer. We hope to see and hear Stone Curlew and Woodlarks among other wildlife.

Meet in the reserve car park IP26 4NQ. Cost is £2 members £3 non members, booking essential 01953 717227.

Dereham Walkers are Welcome, annual public meeting which describe the year's activities starts with:

**Etling Green Walk**

16 June, 1:30pm at  
Church House, Church Street NR19 1DN.

The guided walk is about 5 miles, taking about 2 hours and concludes at Church House for the annual public meeting with 'free' tea, biscuits and cakes. There is no charge but any donations gratefully accepted.

More details at: [www.DerehamWaW.org.uk](http://www.DerehamWaW.org.uk)



## And finally ...

Rod



When you go into court, you are putting yourself in the hands of twelve people, who weren't smart enough to get out of jury duty.

The things that come to those who wait, may be the things left by those who got there first.

### **DID YOU KNOW:**

That the Watton Brook, which in part, forms the boundary 'twixt Ovington and Watton, was in the 14th and 15th centuries navigable to small vessels up as far as a point North of Watton Parish Church. During river widening early last century remains of staithes were discovered along the Watton side of the Brook.



It is understood the 'Ovington Navy' is contemplating re-establishing a ferry service from Watton to Kings Lynn, via the Watton Brook and the river Wissey.

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

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