

# The Ovington Oracle

January, 2019

Happy New Year!



There are far,  
far better things  
ahead than any  
we leave behind.

C.S. Lewis

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## Diary Dates

*All at Village Hall unless indicated*

Mondays, 10:30am	Coffee morning, until 11:30am
Mondays, 1:30pm	Bowls
31 Dec, 7:30pm	Social Evening to see in the New Year
3 Jan, 7:30pm	Parish Council
6 Jan, 9:30am	Holy Communion (Church)
15 Jan, 7:45pm	Ladies Group
20 Jan, 10:30am	All Age Worship (Church)

To book the village hall contact Christine Reilly 885848

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

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## Rainfall

*Rod Rumsby*



November rainfall total was 54.5mm or 2.14"

To date (24th) the December drenching is now at 80.5mm or 3.2". Recommendation ... keep your brolly handy.

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, 18 December, 19 members attended the Christmas Social. They were served a lovely supper which was followed by entertainment from the 'West End Waiters'. The West End Waiters had a large repertoire of songs, some Christmassy and some humorous ones! There were also poems and readings.

All the ladies, thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment. The West End Waiters perform for the Motor Neurone Charity, which researches into the most disabling of diseases, in memory of John Garrett, a very special man who was a member of this talented group. His widow, June, plays the piano for these gentlemen and she also gave us a beautiful recital of 'O Come All Ye Faithful'.

Next month on Tuesday, 15 January, at 7:45pm Hazel Gilligham will give a talk on *Millicent Garrett Fawcett – The Quiet Suffragette*.

The competition will be something beginning with the letter '**A**'. Subscriptions for 2019 will be due this month. At only £7.50, this is great value as it includes a hot drink and biscuit each month, the chance to listen to interesting speakers as well as social evenings. If any lady in the village would like to join us, you would be most welcome.

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## Messages

Grace & Rod Rumsby

We wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

We also send our thanks to you all for the many Christmas cards we have received. In lieu of cards we always send a donation to a charity.

Also thank you for the lovely birthday cards Grace received.

Thanks, Grace and Rod

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# Village Hall

Sue Horton

You could have heard a pin drop in the village hall on 1 December, as Liam Carroll told us the dramatic story of Boudicca and her struggle against the Roman invaders. It was completely spellbinding, aided by some eerily atmospheric music from a Celtic harp and a bass clarinet. We all went home revived by the mulled wine and mince pies, having learned about a very troubled time in East Anglia's history.

## Future Events

Monday 31 December 7:30pm onwards – New Year's Eve Social

Come and spend the evening at the VH with your friends and neighbours anytime from 7:30pm. Night owls can see in the New Year, but don't feel a party pooper if you don't want to stay that late! The evening is free, but we ask you to bring a plate of food for sharing, and of course, your own drink. There will be fun and games for all, so don't miss it.

Saturday 23 February 7:30 – Oscar Wilde's Ernest

Brought to us by *The Two Gentlemen Theatre Company* and sponsored by *Creative Arts East*. Performed by only two actors, this is their version of Ernest, not just the original Oscar Wilde version. Tickets are on a 'first come, first served' basis to 'Pay what you decide' after you have seen the show. You will be given an envelope on arrival and it's up to you how much you put in at the end of the show, depending on how you rate the performance. Creative Arts East only offer their best shows for this type of ticket as they are fairly confident of success. The village hall pays the performers in full and Creative Arts East guarantee us against loss. As most acts cost in the region of £650, we would need to cram 65 people into the hall if they paid £10 a head just to cover basic cost. So you can see why we only do a limited number of shows each year, to take advantage of the subsidy.

Please book your tickets in January at the village hall Monday morning coffee morning or by ringing Christine on 885848 (if you find you're unable to use them nearer the time, please let Christine know, in case we have a waiting list).

## **Monday Coffee Mornings**

Coffee mornings will continue every Monday morning including New Year's Eve.

Last Monday we had a visit from Sophie (Pentabus Theatre Co in Shropshire) and Rob (a writer from London). They're working in collaboration with Creative Arts East and hope to have a new play ready by next autumn, suitable for putting on in a small hall like ours. They are planning further meetings in the spring, perhaps with taster sessions of the work as it progresses.

## **Use of the hall for clubs**

Sadly, Breckland Harmony will no longer be rehearsing in the village hall on Monday evenings. They feel more people might turn out, if their venue was in Watton and they need new members. If anyone wants to start up a new club, please let us know.

Wishing you all a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. Many thanks to all who support us regularly. Watch this space for news of 2019 events and bring all your friends!

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## **Parish Council (PC)**

*Timothy Birt*

## **North Ovington Trod**

Councillors and residents are increasingly frustrated by the lack of progress, despite being paid for in full. This was the latest comment from NCC Highways:

"The local designer has visited the site, checked boundaries and ditches, and priced up the scheme for the Highways work crew. Unfortunately their programme is full until April, but I have requested that it is one of the first schemes that they do after that."

The PC continues to evaluate options and keep up the pressure on NCC.

## **Next meeting**

3 January 2019 at 7:30pm at the Village Hall committee room.

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

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## St John's Church

*Ann Johnson*



Sunday, 6 Jan  
9:30am Holy Communion

Sunday, 20 Jan  
10:30am All Age Worship

What a lovely Carol Service we had in the church on the Sunday before Christmas. It was wonderful to see the church full and to welcome some of Ovington's newer residents. A very big thank you to all who helped in any way in making this service so special. To those who decorated the church so beautifully, to Jean who planned and, together with Revd Jane, led the service, to Gudrun for playing the organ, to those who read, to the 'Harmonettes' and the 'Junior J's', who enhanced the service with their delightful singing, and to those who prepared and served festive food and drink a BIG thank you.

To all the Oracle Readers a Happy and Healthy New Year from all at St John's Church. We hope to see you at some of our services throughout the year.

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## Village Lottery

*Adrian Malton*

December was the final lottery draw with a total of £115 in prizes:

First prize (£30)	Linda Birt;
Second prize (£25)	Rose Angell;
Third prize (£20)	Penny McKay;
Fourth prize (£10)	Darren Weir;
Fifth prize (£10)	Sam Scott;
Sixth prize (£10)	Jane Atkins;
Seventh prize (£10)	Steve Jones



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## What's on nearby:

*Fiona Roat*



We are welcoming Andrew Clarke from the North Norfolk Local Group, to give a talk on "Birds and Wildlife of Antarctica". Andrew worked in Antarctica for 40 years and will speak on the wildlife living there and current efforts to preserve it.

Wednesday 9 January 7:30pm

Watton Christian Community Centre, High Street, Watton. IP25 6AB  
£2 members, £3 non-members, cost includes refreshments.

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## What's on elsewhere

A selection of events across Breckland:

*FoDMH*

Tue 22 January at 7:30pm **Film Night – Puzzle** (limited to 46)

Suburban housewife Agnes (Kelly Macdonald) has a unique jigsaw skill set, she travels into Manhattan to get more puzzles, stumbling into the world of Robert (the charming Irrfan Khan), a wealthy puzzle king looking for a doubles partner. Then things get complicated.

Tickets £6 from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/fodmh](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/fodmh) or on the door.



Fri 25 January at 7:00pm

**Live Wrestling Action!**

Back by popular demand, the larger-than-life grapplers of Falling Starr Wrestling return for more action!

Tickets available now – [skiddle.com/e/13425528](https://www.skiddle.com/e/13425528)

## And finally ...

Rod



- A man wanted to divorce his wife. The Judge asked him what the problem was between them. The man replied "She keeps goats in the bedroom and the smell is terrible"  
The Judge said "Why don't you just open the windows?"  
The man gasped and replied "What! and let all my pigeons out?"
- Did you hear the one about a drunken farmer? He was walking home across his cow field when wind blew his flat cap off. He had to try on at least twenty before he found the right one!

That if things don't change soon, they will stay as they are. (*Confused*, an ancient Chinese philosopher)

[Editor: Rod, have you been on the whiskey?]

Did you  
know ?

### **Deadline for next issue: 23 January**

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