

The Ovington Oracle

April, 2019



The vernal equinox occurred on 20 March so we now officially have more daylight than night-time. With the clocks changing and a good dose of warm, sunny weather life in the village is good!

Just before the spring growth really gets going it's a grand time to have a village clean-up; please meet us at the village sign (Crown Crescent) to help with the annual litter pick on Saturday 6 April.

Diary Dates

At Village Hall unless indicated

Mondays, 10:30am	Coffee morning, until 11:30am
Mondays, 1:30pm	Bowls
6 April, 10:30am	Litter Pick – meet at village sign
6 April, 2:00pm	Annual Parochial Church Meeting (Church)
7 April, 9:30am	Holy Communion (Church)
16 April, 7:00pm	Ladies Group Meal – The Windmill, Necton
17 April, 7:00pm	Holy Communion (Church)
19 April, 10:30am	Good Friday Meditation
21 April, 9:30am	Holy Communion (Church)

To book the village hall contact Christine Reilly 885848

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

Contents

Diary Dates.....	1
Welcome.....	3
Ladies Group.....	3
Rainfall.....	3
Village Hall.....	4
Planned Power Cut.....	5
Local Elections.....	5
Village Litter Pick.....	5
Parish Council (PC).....	6
Trod.....	7
St John's Church.....	8
Messages.....	9
Coffee Morning for Air Ambulance.....	9
What's on nearby:.....	10
What's on elsewhere:.....	11
And finally	12

Welcome

Village

A warm welcome to Sam and Mike Howes who have moved into Church Road. We hope you will enjoy living in Ovington and we look forward to meeting you at village events, you will be made most welcome.

Ladies Group

Angela Wynne



Our meeting on March 19 was well attended and we spent a very pleasant time imagining we were travelling in Chile, South America. Geoff Angell came along and showed us a fantastic video of their holiday in Chile. They went there in November last year. Chile, I think, is one of the most diverse countries I have seen photos etc of. It varies from beautiful scenes of snow covered volcanoes to extremely hot and windy deserts. It is a very long and narrow country that borders the Pacific Ocean. It was a very absorbing video. Thank you again Geoff.

The competition, something beginning with C, was won by Angela this month. A small cat peeping out of a hole in the bottom of a bucket with a small mouse on top.

Next month we will be at The Windmill in Necton for our annual dinner on **TUESDAY, 16 APRIL at 7:00pm**. If you are a paid up member and haven't put an order in and you would like to join us please ring Angela (01953884594) before TUESDAY 9 April. There will be no competition.

Rainfall

Rod Rumsby



Total for February 29.4mm or 1.2" not a lot, 18 days without rain at the end of the month.

March, up until 16, 51.5mm or 2.02, still need a drop more to get the old spuds moving!

Event Reports

It's been a quiet month as far as events go. I will let you know how the 23 March soup lunch went in next month's publication.

The hall floor has been refurbished and looks fantastic.

Future Events

Saturday 4 May 7:30pm – Quiz

A fun evening to stretch the brain cells! Entry £6 per person, includes a ploughman's supper. Bring your own drink and some money for the raffle. Please ring Christine on 01953 885848 to book your team of four in or let her know at Monday morning coffee at the village hall.

Dates for your diary:

Saturday 22 June Mid-Summer Fest BBQ

Saturday 27 July Norfolk Day table top sale 11:00am – 3:00pm and
BBQ from 12 noon (Like a lazy bones boot sale as
you don't need to get up early)

Recycling Challenge

Following the success of previous creative challenges (gnomes and tote bags), the VH Committee are setting a new one to be judged at this year's Wacky Races. There will be 3 categories, each with prizes on offer, entry fee £3. Entrants should create items out of recycled, second-hand materials (entries should not contain anything new). The categories are:

- 1) Wearable
- 2) Useful
- 3) Decorative.

So, what are you waiting for? Start creating!

Planned Power Cut

Editor

Tree trimming near power lines at Nursery Farm will require the electricity to be switched off from 8:00am to 4:00pm on Monday 8 April. For more information call 0800 3163105, reference 69135-Z

Please note that the Village Hall coffee morning will go ahead as usual – apparently “they have the technology”!

Local Elections

Editor

Parish and District elections take place Thursday 2 May, if you would like to stand to become a Councillor please see the information on line from Electoral Services at Breckland Council.

www.breckland.gov.uk/councilandelections

The Parish Clerk, Heidi Frary, has nomination forms and can help with general information about the duties and responsibilities of being a Parish Councillor.

Village Litter Pick

Timothy Birt

Meet at **10:30am on Saturday 6 April** at the Village Sign, near Crown Crescent. As usual equipment will be provided.

It would be great if we found less than last year, however a quick look in the ditches seems to suggest that a mountain of litter awaits collection.



I'm hoping that coffee-and-cake awaits us afterwards in the village hall.

Parish Council (PC)

Heidi Frary (Parish Clerk) + Editor

A report from the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting on 7 March

Matters arising

The clerk informed Councillors that work on the northern trod will commence next week, but that the top surface will be completed later in the year.

Correspondence

- Following notification of the public consultation of modifications to Breckland's Local Plan, Councillors expressed serious reservations about the proposed changes. The use of the words 'reasonable' throughout the document and changes to HOU05 may have a significantly detrimental effect on the village. Councillors formally advised our District Councillor that the plan should be abandoned in favour of simply using the National Planning Policy Framework, which is far less ambiguous.
- The quotation for remedial tree work in Crown Crescent was accepted.

Planning

- 3PL/2019/0212/HOU : Councillors had no objections, but because it is relatively closer to the boundary asked that the planning authority take a view of the effect on the neighbour.
- 3PL/2018/1168/LU : Notification that the Erection of an out-building, under permitted development rights was refused.

Finance

Councillors reviewed accounts, the precept position and signed cheques. Individual details of receipts and expenses are reported in the official minutes (see documents link end).

Gravity Race

The web-site is active, but requires an update with an application form for the 2019 event. See www.ovington.org.uk/wsgr.

Public Participation

District Councillor Hewett reported:

- £8m has been awarded to NCC to help provide rural broadband. If a request/reporting function of inadequate broadband speed is available at NCC it will be published here.
- Breckland's component of the precept will go up by £4.95 (band D), a rise of 5.9%

Future Business

The PC will look to address the following:

- Councillors reported the recent closure of the B1108 had significant consequences for the village, in terms of safety and verge damage.
- NCC Social Services have suggested liaising to develop a local emergency plan.

Next meetings

9 May 2019 at 7:30pm at the Village Hall; first Annual Parish Meeting, followed by The Parish Council AGM.

Legal documents at: ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home

Trod

Timothy Birt

After a very long wait, work on the 'northern' trod started, however it soon became clear there was a serious flaw in the contractors' drawing. The trod stopped short by 20m right in front of a road sign.

I have spoken to the contractors a couple of times, they knew it was wrong and tried to contact Norfolk County Council and the Parish Council has also done the same, but so far there is no satisfactory conclusion. In fact, the village has been thwarted by silence from our NCC highways engineer.

The Parish Council has evidence of where the trod should go and is tackling this on multiple fronts, but unfortunately does not expect a speedy conclusion.

St John's Church

Ann Johnson



Tuesday, 2 April

1:00pm Church Cleaning

Saturday, 6 April * Annual Parochial

2:00pm Church Meeting

Sunday, 7 April

9:30am Holy Communion

Wednesday 17 April

7:00pm Holy Communion

Friday, 19 April

10:30pm Good Friday Meditation

Sunday 21 April

9:30am Holy Communion

Last Sunday we celebrated Leprosy Sunday and heard about the wonderful work being done at the Anandaban Hospital in Nepal. We watched a short DVD, using the new technology in the church following the HLF project. A large amount of money was donated to the Leprosy Mission under the "Heal Nepal Appeal". All the monies sent will be doubled by the Government under the UK Match Scheme.

* Annual Parochial Church Meeting. There are now 17 people on the Electoral Roll who all have the opportunity to vote at this meeting.

There will be no flowers in church during Lent but perhaps we could have a joint effort on Easter Saturday, at any time, to make the church colourful again for Easter Sunday.

Messages

Richard Stillwell

For Sale

Two single electric recliner armchairs.....£50 each

Lightweight folding wheelchair, suitable for travelling.....£15

Telephone: Lyn 01953 886724

Timothy Birt

Oops, sorry

Mid afternoon, Sunday 25 we had an unexpected bonfire. 2-days after raking over the ash from a previous fire, a new pile 'self ignited' with the wind the wrong direction. Sincere apologies if anyone was disturbed by smoke.

Note to self: check properly before building a new heap!

Coffee Morning for Air Ambulance

Jane Lambert

Advanced notice of a Coffee Morning in aid of East Anglian Air Ambulance at the Village Hall on Saturday 25 May, 10:00am – 2:00pm

tombola | craft | cake stalls | filled rolls

Any Ladies willing to make cakes or help on the day will be much appreciated

So, come along and support this charity in memory of Peter, a very special friend to so many of us.

Many thanks, Jane Lambert

What's on nearby:

Fiona Roat



As I write, we have yet to enjoy our last talk of the season, with Martin Hosier, on the wildlife of Hingham.

We now stop our talks to start the Spring and Summer walks. We kick off on Sunday 14 April, 10:00am to noon, with a guided walk around Thompson Common and Pingo Trail in hope to discover the pool frogs. This will be led by a member of the NWT Brecks team.

Due to the nature of this walk please leave your dogs at home.

Venue: Meet at Gt Eastern Pingo Trail, Thompson Common car park on B1111, NR17 1DP.

Cost: £2 members, £3 non-members.

Booking essential, ring Lesley on 01953 717227.

Grace Rumsby

Watton Methodist Church invite you to their

Spring Thing

Saturday 6 April 9:30am – 12noon

to be held in the Christian Community Centre, stalls to include:

Cakes, Toiletries, Garden items, Bottles, Cards and Books

Refreshments and an Easter Trail and Egg Hunt around the church

Proceeds for church and charities.

Hope to see you there.

What's on elsewhere:

Bar Pritchard

Swaffham Jazz

Lee Vasey and Friends

£8 on the door – Tuesday 9 April 7:30pm

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



Sue Horton



Throughout Breckland in the second week of April
The Opera Dudes will perform **Licensed to Trill!**

Il Divo meets Morecambe and Wise! 'Two modern
day Mario Lanzas, performing some of the world's
most romantic music, in their own unique vocal
arrangements. The Opera Dudes comprise a posh
former Cambridge scholar and an ex-builder turned

international operatic tenor!'

The Opera Dudes will be performing their show 'Licensed to Trill'
throughout the Breckland district in April. 'Be prepared as the Dudes
take you on a journey through their crazy careers with wonderful music.
The unique cocktail of funny stories, sing-along's and heart-rending
music will leave you both shaken and stirred.'

Join us at one of the following venues, all **2:00pm – 3:30pm**:

Mon 8 April, at Ashill Community Centre

Tues 9 April, at Harling Old School Village Hall

Wed 10 April, at Attleborough Town Hall

Thur 11 April, at Shipdham All Saints Church

Fri 12 April, at Necton Community Centre

Tickets: £5 including refreshments. Reserving tickets is recommended
using the form at www.thesilversocial.com

or by calling: 01362 656870.

And finally ...

Rod

My Grandad said, "If women know so much, how come they ask so many questions?"

Grandma also said "Tact is making your company feel at home, even though you wish they were."



Did you know ?

That following WW1, meetings were held in the Village to decide on some form of memorial for those soldiers from Ovington who went to war. These ranged from a porch over the door at the Church, to a Granite memorial stone to be erected roughly where our PC chair lives at No 12A The Street. Sadly these grandiose plans did not come to fruition due to a lessening of interest and consequent lack of funds.

Deadline for next issue: 22 April

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