

# *The Ovington Oracle*

August 2020

## COVID-19 (Coronavirus Illness)

Full lock-down is over but the core official requirements have not changed:



- stay at home as much as possible.
- work from home if you can.
- limit contact with other people.
- keep your distance from people not in your household (2 metres apart where possible).
- wash your hands regularly.

The detail of what you must do and may not do is changing regularly (for example face masks must now be worn in shops) and there could be special rules if there is a local outbreak. You can check the current requirements at:

[www.gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

Do not leave home if you or someone you live with has any of the following:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

If you have symptoms get tested, which can be requested at:

[www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test](https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test)

or by calling 119

If your situation is medical or urgent do not delay, phone 111 or 999

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See [ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home](https://ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home) for local information

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## Robert Bane

*Village*

We send our sympathy to the family of one of our long term residents Mr Bane, of Wood Farm who died recently.

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## Parish Council (PC)

*Heidi Frary (Clerk)*

### Next meetings:

16 September and 18 November – subject to change, check the Council notice board next to the village sign.

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

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## Ladies Cycling

*Jill Burgess*

Following on from last months Oracle I can report that the members have been busy on their bikes with further expeditions!! We now have a few routes to choose from including King Row via Carbrooke and Saham Hills, Great Cressingham and the Arms, where we actually got lost and had to ask directions from a friendly postman. This is becoming a habit as we actually got lost in Watton once and although one of us has lived here for 33 years we still managed it.

Our longest ride so far has been via Stow Bedon where we clocked up 16.5 miles which surprised us all, we all thought it was a lot less but there again we were far too busy looking at lovely cottages and gardens to notice the distance. We are ever hopeful that some local hosteleries will be open soon for the occasional pit stop and Sam is always prepared with the credit card just in case! (she must have been in the girl guides).

Oh and before I forget I hope the bruise has gone down now Christine! 😊

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## Rainfall

*Rod Rumsby*



The rainfall for June was 77.5mm or 3.05"  
So far this month, July 21st, is 48mm or 1.9"

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## Village Hall

*Christine Reilly*

It is with great regret that the Village Hall Committee has decided that the village hall will remain closed for the remainder of 2020. Until such time as social distancing is removed and/or a vaccine is produced, we feel that it would not be safe to open for events or hiring. Unfortunately this means that the show "The Canterbury Tales", rescheduled for September from May, has been cancelled.

We hope that by the end of this year we will be able to see a way forward for 2021 to welcome everyone back to the village hall again. Please keep supporting your hall by using the recycling banks – every little counts!

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## Community Gardening

*Chris Lewis*

Unlike some nearby villages, you may have noticed that the churchyard and village hall grounds have been kept fairly neat and tidy during lockdown. This is down to the efforts of a small team of willing volunteers who have taken time out from cultivating their allotments to keep up the appearance of these key features of the village. Special thanks are due to Mike and Sam and Stuart for the hours they have spent pushing mowers or cutting hedges and to Steve and Dave for driving the heavy machinery. Stuart deserves an extra mention for providing a never ending supply of refreshments and having a full time job in his "spare" time.

We are in the process of restoring a collapsed tomb and would appreciate the donation of some surplus cement if anyone has any; also any old mowers, as we manage to wreck these on pieces of old tombstone when we fail to keep a sharp lookout.

We hope that, even if you don't attend church, you will enjoy sitting in the summer sunshine on one of the benches or do a bit of local history research reading the inscriptions on the resting places of previous inhabitants of your village.

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## Good News !

*Jean Rockett, Lay Minister*



Our church here in Ovington will be opening for weekly services starting on **Sunday, 2 August from 10:30am until 11:00am**, then every following Sunday at the same time. Unfortunately there will be no hymn singing, but moments of quiet peaceful music have been arranged. Social distancing will still need to be observed and therefore only some of the pews will be available. Regular thorough cleaning after church services has been and will continue to be carried out.

I have been making a note of names and phone numbers of anyone visiting the church for private prayer, so that if an outbreak of the Covid-19 virus should rear its ugly head with one of our visitors, then it would be easy to contact you. This may still need to be observed, and I will be confirming this with Revd Jane. The usual hand sanitising facilities will be made available to you on entering and leaving the church.

Unfortunately, at present we will not be able to offer any refreshment facilities after the services have finished.

Please be assured that I am praying for you each day. If you would like special prayers to be said, either for yourself, friends or family, or would just like to have a chat, then please give me a call. My mobile number is **07749 870485**. I apologise for the incorrect phone number printed in the July issue of the Oracle. I think that I got my fingers in a twist!

With love in Christ

Jean

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## Allotment Association – Moving to Ovington

*Mike and Sam Howes*

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Sam and I are like nomads of the desert, always moving to pastures new, although always keeping a 20-mile radius of Bury St Edmunds.

In 2018 having renovated our home in Diss we decided to look elsewhere, this would definitely be our last move. Our search again was 20 mile radius of Bury St Edmunds. Sam looked on 'Rightmove' and noticed a house in Ovington, a village we had never heard of before, but Sam had a 'feeling about it' and unbeknownst to me Sam and her friend decided to visit Ovington to view the house from outside. While there they saw a notice outside the village hall advertising a coffee morning and 'anyone was welcome'. In they went and were surprised at the friendly welcome and how nice the villagers were. She returned home and told me we had to go for a full viewing of the house. A week later we had a viewing and immediately knew it was the house for us.

When we had moved before we had decided not to get too involved with village committees as a member of one usually became a member of many, but this time it was a last move and we would therefore make an effort to get involved in the village.

In February 2019 we moved in and the rest is history. We can not describe how happy we are living here and how friendly everybody is. I can understand how families rarely move away.

Within three weeks we were asked if we would like to take over an allotment, one had become available and this did not happen very often, we jumped at the chance.

It was full of weeds and had not been touched for a long time but we decided to go for it. We are both now on the Committee and I am chairman.

In this worrying time it is so nice to be able to work on the allotment. We have made many friends and I have learnt a lot about fruit and vegetables ... always learning. To be able to get away from all the worries of our time and potter about for hours, to watch them grow, it's a great feeling. With social distancing having an allotment is a joy.

I hope the village will return to normal in the near future when this deadly virus is beaten. Long Live Ovington and keep safe!

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## Feral Cat and Kittens

*Lyinda Lewis*

Many people in the village have noticed a female cat bringing up two kittens in a ditch. She has been seen bringing home a large rat and so is well able to fend for herself, however she is not too proud to accept regular gifts of cat food from nearby houses and concerned villagers.

Cute as they may be we do not wish to be over run by cats so we have contacted the Feline Care charity ( [felinecare.org.uk](http://felinecare.org.uk) ) who have lent us some traps so that the kittens can be re-homed and mum neutered and returned to the village. But easier said than done, so watch this space!

## And finally ...

Tim / Rod

Logic Puzzle:

Andy and Serena play tennis against each other, they bet £1 on each game. Andy wins three bets and Serena wins £5. How many games did they play?

Answer next month.

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Daft bits from Rod:

>> Stanley got up to answer a knock at the door, a stranger stood there:

"Does Bertie Parker live here?"

*"No, he dunt"*

"Well do you happen to know if he lives in this street?"

*"Yis he dew live in this street."*

"Would you happen to know at what number?"

*"No, but thet'll be on the door".*



>> A Norfolk labourer was invited to take a well earned rest after 75 years service on the same farm. The old man retorted:

"Blarst me, if I'd ha known that wornt gornta be parmment, I won't niver ha' taken the blessed job"!

### Deadline for next issue: 22 August

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(Printed with my Ecosys printer on Stone House Farm, The Street, Ovington,  
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