

The Ovington Oracle

April, 2023

Village Litter Pick 2023



An opportunity for young and old to contribute to this regular village event, so please come and help give the village a spring clean as one big collective effort.

Equipment will be provided, please wear suitable 'old' clothes with stout shoes or boots. Children welcome but must be under the care of an accompanying adult.

**Saturday, 1 April,
10:30am**

Meet at the village sign in The Street

The Village Hall are providing refreshments afterwards.

More details at:

www.ovington.org.uk/litter



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Village events this month:

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1 p1	2 C
3 VH	4	5	6 C	7 C	8	9 C
10 VH	11	12	13	14	15	16 C
17 VH	18	19	20	21	22	23 VH, C
24 VH	25	26	27	28	29	30

VH:Village Hall, PC:Parish Council, C:Church, (p):see page p

COVID-19 : www.gov.uk/coronavirus

Village Information: ovington-village.org.uk

Parish Council: ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home

Oracle back copies: ovington.org.uk/oracle

Local elections (4 May) – Photo ID

Editor

Unless the election is 'uncontested' you have the opportunity to choose your Parish and District Councillors on 4 May. Please exercise your right to vote and support democracy.

Nominations close on Tuesday 4 April. I will list the candidates in next month's Oracle. As usual our polling station is at Ovington Village Hall.

Photo Identification

To vote at a polling station, new rules apply and you will need photo ID. There are many forms of acceptable ID, especially for older people, but fewer options for younger people. For a full list see:

[www.electoralcommission.org.uk/
i-am-a/voter/voter-id/accepted-forms-photo-id](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/voter-id/accepted-forms-photo-id)



An expired passport or driving licence is acceptable, however the photo must still "look like you", there is no guidance as to how good a likeness!

If there is any doubt then apply on-line for a Voter Authentication Certificate (VAC), you just need a few details about yourself, ideally your National Insurance Number although other documents can be used and a head-and-shoulders 'neutral' image to upload.

I've got one; it is an easy process and the VAC lasts 10 years.

Apply at:

www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate

(click 'no' to passport and driving licence to get past the initial pages because they have no idea if the likeness on them is good enough!)

Use your votes!

I hope there will be candidates you support, but if not there is a splendid tradition of making your view known by spoiling your ballot (cross it through or write 'none') and it is counted and reported in the vote totals.

Church News

Jean Rockett-Woods (JR-W), Lay Minister

St. John the Evangelist, Ovington



Services:

2 Apr – 10:30am	Palm Sunday Holy Communion (Adrian Bell)
6 Apr – 7:30pm	Maunday Thursday Holy Communion (Adrian Bell)
7 Apr – 10:30am	Good Friday Meditation (JR-W)
9 Apr – 10:30am	Holy Communion (Adrian Bell)
16 Apr – 10:30pm	Family Service (JR-W)
23 Apr – 10:30am	Family Service (JR-W)

What a wonderful array of daffodils in our village churchyard and all around the village. I was told that the village daffodils were the handywork of Rod Rumsby and these seem to increase every year (as bulbs usually do). We have had some better weather during March although we had quite a lot of rainy days which account for our large pond, which was bone dry last summer, filling with about 2 feet of water. Plants and bulbs seem to be springing up everywhere and I do so hope that it will not be as hot a summer as last year, nicely warm will do both me and wildlife.

We are now entering the period of Easter so look out for the Easter Bunny who likes to leave Easter Eggs for the Village Children. Lent is coming to an end. Jeremy and I decided to give up chocolate, but failed dismally, so have put the money which we would have saved into the Church collection plate. (We honestly don't eat that much chocolate, but every little helps!!!)

I look forward to meeting you at some of our many April services. On Easter Sunday there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for children in our church. I remember singing a song at Sunday School which went "Sunshine Corner, and it's jolly fine, It's for children UNDER 99'!!! So adults may be in with a chance. God Bless You All.

With love in Christ,

Jean – 07749 870485

In addition to St John the Evangelist, Ovington, the benefice includes Ashill, Saham Toney and Carbrooke Churches:

3 Apr – 7:30pm	Carbrooke Church Celtic Compline (JR-W)
4 Apr – 10:00am	TBA
5 Apr – 7:30pm	TBA
7 Apr – 10:00am	Saham Toney Church Walk of Witness (Barbara Harrold/Wendy Maine)
7 Apr – 2:00pm	Ashill Church Meditation (Adrian Bell)
7 Apr – 2:00pm	Carbrooke Church Meditation (Mark Ward)
8 Apr – 10:30am	Saham Toney Church Service of Light (Neil Crawford-Jones)

Events feedback

Christine Reilly

Quiz & Supper Night

There was a real buzz in the village hall on Saturday as teams racked their brains in a fun general knowledge quiz. The top prize went to a team from Saham and the sardines (brain food!) went to a team from Thompson who called themselves the 'Krusties'. Everyone enjoyed a hearty ploughman's supper and our lovely village hall was much admired by some new visitors. Thanks to our many sponsors from businesses in Watton, there was a mega raffle. Despite only having 6 teams competing, we managed to raise a very creditable £203 for the Royal British Legion.

Parish Council (PC)

Heidi Frary (Clerk)

A report from the unconfirmed minutes of the PC meeting on 15 March.

Matters Arising:

TB is meeting with Matt Lines, Highways Engineer in April for a village walk-around. Other Councillors are invited to attend.

The next SNAP meeting is being held in April and TB will be attending to discuss speeding in the village.

Planning Applications:

3PL/2023/0244/HOU (and 3PL/2023/0245/LB): King Row Hall, King Row – removal of double glazed sealed units and insulation of insulated roof construction with zinc standing seam finish. No comments.

Planning responses submitted under delegated powers:

3PL/2023/0097/F: Town Farm, The Street – proposed conversion and extension to agricultural barn to residential use and erection of carport. Support.

Time limited planning issues:

3PL/2023/0013/EU: Field on southern border with Water End Farm – Building used as an office and store the yard and shipping container use for the storage of garage doors.

Ovington Parish Council would like to object to this certificate of lawfulness on the following grounds:

On or around 3 April, 2020 complaints to Environmental Health at Breckland were made about significant thick black smoke from unlawful burning of plastic on this site.

On 5 May 2021 the whole site was sold at auction, with no mention of any alternative usage or rights in the sale particulars or legal documents which accompanied the sale.

Councillors believe that this appears to be a cynical attempt to use previous unlawful activity, which had ceased some years ago, to create a planning gain for the new owners of the site.

Planning Notifications:

3PL/2022/1436/F: Jen Dee Farm, Red Hill Lane – proposed retention of existing log cabin style dwelling. APPROVED by BDC

Payment of Accounts:

Councillors reviewed and agreed payments to be made (list on website).

To agree the following policies:

Disciplinary Procedures, Equalities Policy, Grant Awarding Policy, Grievance Policy, Training Policy, Travel & Expenses Policy.

Highways or Village Issues:

JW reported that the village website is still a work in progress. It was noted that the Parish Council website is legally compliant and managed by the Clerk.

A traffic survey will be completed during April. JW to organise

Adjournment for Public Participation:

District Councillors Birt and Crane shared their reports which are available on the website.

Next Meeting: 17 May (AGM), 7:30pm in the village hall.

Future meetings: 19 July, 20 September and 15 November

PC Documents at: ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home

Rainfall

Rod Rumsby



The total rain for February was just 6.5mm or 0.25"

As of 21 March it is 48mm or 1.9"

Village Hall (VH)

Bruce Smith

Well, it's been all go with the Village Hall in the last few weeks following the AGM, which saw a new committee taking over the running of the village hall, new faces, and exciting ideas ahead.

At the AGM a round of applause was given by all there to Ed and Christine for their previous work.

Facebook

Within less than 24 hours we had up and running a Village Hall Facebook page for those that use that social media. This has proved to be a huge success, with over 1400 views in less than the first week!

It has also helped completely sell out the Afternoon Tea on Sunday 23 April, in less than 2 weeks.

Please check it out, and keep up to date with what is going on. Put "Ovington Village Hall, Norfolk" into the Facebook search.

Also please keep up to date via the Village Hall noticeboard, just outside the hall. And, of course the Oracle. Events are fast moving now, so please spare a moment to stay informed.

Maintenance

On Sat 11 March saw a work party meet at the hall, to do some much needed maintenance work. All the gutters were cleaned out, car park raked and swept, a faulty water butt was dealt with, indoor and outdoor storage cupboards cleaned out and sorted, borders attended too. The foyer was totally cleared out (it was just being used for storage), a large bookcase installed, to be used as a book exchange, including CDs and DVDs. In the following week, an armchair matching the bookcase was added, along with a lovely Welcome greeting on the wall, thanks to the never ending skills of Kaz, our publicity lady. Please come and check it out whenever the hall is open.

The village hall sign itself was looking sad and dull, and has undergone a makeover to freshen it up, and is now back in place, looking fresh, bright, and colourful.

We are always looking for suggestions that YOU would like to see put on at the hall. We have many ideas already, which are being investigated currently, this is YOUR village hall.

The Big Lunch

Finally, please save the date for The Big Lunch to celebrate the King's Coronation at the Village Hall on Sunday the 7 May. Some exciting things are being planned. Details to follow next month.

The Village Hall applied for a King's Coronation grant from Breckland Council, we asked for the maximum amount that we were allowed to apply for, which was £500. At the time of writing this, we have been notified that the grant has been awarded but the final figure has not been confirmed ...

[*Editor: Breckland Council have confirmed a grant for the full bid of £500 will be paid by the end of March.]*

New Committee

So who are your new committee then?

Elected Members

Jan Cockburn.....Chair
Bruce Smith.....Vice Chair
Richard Moss.....Treasurer
Marie Cave.....Secretary
Dave Welsted.....Church rep/Events Asst

Co-opted Members

Lyndia Lewis.....Bookings officer
Kaz Mason.....Publicity whizz kid
Don Clark.....Maintenance

We also have a number of 'support' members to the committee, this in turn brings a wealth of knowledge and skills that were previously not available.

We are all friendly and approachable so please come and chat to any of us, with any ideas, concerns, requests. We are here to listen.

Coffee,
Cake &
A Warm
Welcome!



You Are Warmly Invited To
Our Weekly Coffee Mornings,
At Ovington Village Hall
Mondays at 10.30am
Everyone Welcome, Just Pop
Along & Pay Just £1
Registered Charity Number 1038889

Another date you may like to save is 1 July for Ovington's Craft Fair, which really promises to be a great event. This time there is an increase to 14 tables, nearly double those for the Christmas event. If you would like a table, please get in touch VERY soon as they are nearly all sold. A great range of items, and new crafters will be there.

Carbrooke: 'Ya gotta be Jokin'

Bruce Smith

Eleventh of March saw a posse of 12 from Ovington off to Carbrooke Village Hall again for another of their events. This time a band called Jokin' Apart. Described on the band's own website as 'a party band', to be fair we weren't sure what we were going to see.

Our normal warm friendly welcome was waiting for us on arrival. I do think they are getting used to us now! A table had been set aside for use, with notices saying, reserved for Ovington Posse. A very nice touch.

Drinks, the first of many, were brought from the bar, Snacks, etc opened, settled in, laughing and joking, and banter begun. Sadly the lead singer had been held up on her drive to the hall, so they missed their published start time by a little bit, however this was no issue to anyone.

Then the band did the first of 2 sets, broken up by the raffle, in which Ovington managed to take some prizes.

The band was loud, very loud! However once we had all become a little deaf, they started to grow on us, with plenty of singing along. After the break, a lot of people were up and dancing (may have been the use of the bar that helped that!)

Anyway, a good evening was had by all there. I awoke the next morning with a sore throat and slight headache, was that the singing and the band, or the bar's faults. Who knows.

Carbrooke's next event is: "How To Get Away With Murder", on the 29 April. An evening with a former Scotland Yard expert crime scene examiner, which includes audience participation, should be interesting! Cost is £10 a ticket, check out Carbrooke's Facebook page.

The Ovington Crower

'Anon'

Har yew orl gittin on tergitha, thas gittin a bit warmer jist leartly so thas a gud sign hent it. Well if yew kin remember I finished larst month tellin yew how I got tha cownsil chairmawtha back hoom arta sheed bin tryin owt sum o horry's hoom brew. She got herself into tha back door an sez tew me she wos orlrite, so I cut orf back down tha rud an give tha gud news tew gal Alice. Whilst I wos in tha area I reckoned thet wood be a gud idea tew hev a look in on Horry, I hent needed tew worry cos I cud hear him snoring when I got tew his front path. Yis, thar he wos in his shed flat owt on a pile of sacks with a comb wheat sack over his belly, spark owt. He dint luk like he wos sufferin much so I let him be, shoont like tew be his hed next mornin tho.

Larta on I wos hevin a chat wi Boy Billy, an I told him abowt poor ole Horry, "Cor Blarst" he say "thet hint nuthin new he yewsed tew goo rownd tha back o tha pub wen he ware oonly a nipper an he got intew the bar wen tha ole landlord, thet ware ole Garge them days, an he wos allus three sheets under by harf way thru the evenin an he never nootised Horry pick up a bottle or tew an git owt tha back door agin. Us ole boys yewsed tew larn abowt Horry's capa an hung abowt rownd tha wall an git sum o tha bottles orf of him, cos we wos a bit olda then him so we did orlrite owt of his trips. Mind yew he found a bottle of scotch one busy Saterdag an thas when he started tew git plarsted, he allus left a bit in tha bottle fer his old chap so he dint git intew tew much botha. Thet fammly yewsed tew like thar drink so yew kin see ware Horry gits it from. He woont git away wi it wi tha landlord now cos heeze a bit sharpa".

Torkin tew Billy meard me think o tha yunguns in tha willage these days an I cant see enny o them gittin up tew gearms like thet, moost onnem are tew stuck tew thar compewtas, except fer boy Brodie whose still knockin the goals in, mind yew his team hent bin dewin tew gud leartly, cos thar opponints hev cort onto how gud thar top scorer is and thar feeldin better teams to git tha better of the hoom team. Mind yew our yung star hent letting tha side down an moostly gits a few in tha back of tha net, gud onya boy.

I hent tew sartin how much room tha editor hev left so I betta finish tha teale orf lest I gi him a hart attack.

O fare yew well tergitha and start gittin yore arly teatas in afore we git anutha drowt, dunt fergit, Dew yew kip a troshin.

Orl tha best from boy Sid.

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS



TO HIRE THE HALL PLEASE CONTACT LYNDIA - 01953 882222

**£12 PER HR TO THE WIDER COMMUNITY,
£6 PER HR IF YOU ARE AN OVINGTON RESIDENT**

Submission deadline for next issue: 22 April

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