

The Ovington Oracle

July, 2023



Any excuse for a celebratory glass of cider ... at 9:06pm on the 6 July is the point at which the earth is furthest from the sun in its slightly elliptical orbit; an event called aphelion.

The centre of sun and the centre of earth will be 94,506,364 miles apart, a really non-useful fact ... unless it happens to come up at quiz night on 8 July!

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Village events this month:

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

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

Parish Council: ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home

Oracle back copies: ovington.org.uk/oracle

Village Information: ovington-village.org.uk

Church News

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

St. John the Evangelist, Ovington

Services:

- 2 July – 10:30am Holy Communion (Adrian Bell)
- 9 July – 10:30pm Family Service (JR-W)
- 16 July – 10:30am Family Service (JR-W)
- 23 July – 6:00pm Hymns for a Summer Evening (JR-W)
- 30 July – 10:30am Family Service (JR-W)



The first half of this year has passed so quickly. I remember as a child being told that the years would fly past once I turned 21 years of age. I know that the hours, weeks and months are the same in length but the years do seem to pass a lot quicker. Before I know it I will be 105 years young and ready to sit back and enjoy each day as it comes.

We held our first Hymns for a Summer Evening in church last month as it was too hot to sit outside. We had non-alcoholic refreshments during the service as our singing voices needed lubrication. Do come and join with us on 23 July at 6:00pm for our next evening service where you will be able to choose your favourite hymns. I hope that you will be able to join us as we will also be singing Hymns suitable for children.

There will be no morning service on that Sunday unless requested.

The weather has been too hot for me but I have managed to clear part of my vegetable plot and planted Sweet Potatoes, Butternut squash and carrots therein. The greenhouses are bursting with Potatoes, Tomatoes, Courgettes and Cucumbers and I have also grown Potatoes in tubs as the ground wasn't ready for them earlier in the year.

With love in Christ,

Jean – 07749 870485

We are planning to hold another Book and knick-knacks sale at the church from 11:00am on Saturday, 1 July. There will also be cakes and refreshments if you so desire. In the Village Hall there will be a Craft Fair.

Parish Council (PC)

Heidi Frary (Clerk)

Next Meeting: 19 July, 7:30pm in the village hall.

Future meetings: 20 September and 15 November

PC Documents at: ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home

Recipe(s) of the Month

[**Editor:** *We have a bonus for July, TWO recipes*]

Gill's Melting Moments

Makes 16-20

- 40g soft butter/margarine
- 65g lard
- 85g caster sugar
- 1 egg yolk beaten
- Few drops vanilla extract
- 150g self raising flour
- Rolled oats for rolling and cherries for decorating

Preheat oven to 180°C/Gas 4. Beat together butter, lard and sugar, then gradually beat in egg yolk and vanilla. Sift flour and stir to make a soft dough. Roll into little balls and toss them with oats. Place on baking trays well spaced out and flatten slightly and put a piece of cherry on top. Cook for 15–20 minutes until lightly brown. Cool on trays then transfer to rack to completely cool. Enjoy!

Gill Welsted

Jill's Lemon Drizzle Cake

- 225 grams Butter or Vitalite
- 225 grams Sugar
- 3 large Eggs
- 225 grams Self raising flour
- 1 teaspoon Baking powder
- Grated zest of 1 lemon
- Drizzle topping
- 85 grams Sugar
- Juice of 1 lemon

Line and grease a 2lb loaf tin

Cream the fat and sugar together for a couple of minutes then add eggs one at a time until well mixed in.

Fold in the flour, baking powder and lemon zest.

Spoon into tin, level and bake for about 45–50 minutes at 160°C fan or 180°C convection oven until a skewer comes out clean.

Mix the lemon juice and sugar to make the Drizzle. Prick the top of the cake all over and then pour over the Drizzle while the cake is still warm. Leave to cool in the tin and then enjoy.

Jill Burgess

Rainfall

Rod Rumsby



The grand total for April was 62mm or 2.5"

The readings for June so far (25 June) are somewhat less at just 9.5mm or 0.37".

[**Editor:** *time to replace the rain symbol with sunshine*]

Village Hall (VH)

Bruce Smith

This month I start with a thank you to Sam Howes for writing a report on the Opera Dudes event we held on 27 May, I was unable to attend, so Sam kindly agreed to report it for us, so over to Sam.

“Oh What a beautiful evening”

On Saturday 27 May our village Hall was privileged to have the Opera Dudes perform for us and what an amazing evening of entertainment we had.

It was with slight trepidation that we booked our tickets, the word “Opera” maybe not our thing but how wrong we were ! This fabulous duo with their unique mix of song & comedy sketches had the audience singing & laughing, think Ball & Bow and Morecambe & Wise with a bit of Michael Crawford !

This had to be one of the most polished performances I’ve ever seen, such incredible talent with songs from musicals , movies , Andrew Lloyd Webber , Mario Lanza & many more , we just didn’t want the evening to end . Don’t miss them next time ! We certainly won’t for £12 per ticket including a free drink on arrival we had one of the best night’s entertainment in ages

Sam & Mike Howes

Jan, also tells me she received a couple of text messages after the event, thanking us for a lovely evening too.

This month, on the maintenance front, we have mostly been looking at the damp issues in some parts of our lovely village hall. Firstly, we removed the rather smelly carpet from the storeroom, along with taking advice from an expert builder, which we will hopefully be able follow up in time.

Also, this month we have been kindly donated a lovely roller blind for the kitchen, by Sue Horton, thank you Sue. By the time you read this it will have been fitted.

Those that attended ‘The Big Lunch’, which of course was most of the village, will remember the children of the village painting Coronation themed cotton squares that were to form a wall hanging. This is to be displayed in the Village Hall at least for the rest of this year, if not longer for all to see. This project was over seen by Marie Warwick, for which we

thank her. Thanks also go to Mel, Kaz, and Jean for overseeing the rest of the children's activities on the day.

The wall hanging has now been assembled, and the lovely ladies of our Tuesday Sewing Group, offered to 'back' the wall hanging with a suitable material so that it will hang nicely for display. This has now been done and looks amazing. We be hanging it on display very shortly. We are so grateful for all the support we receive from all our supporters, thank you, one and all.

A very sad note this month, is that sadly, due to ongoing health issues Marie Ana Cave has made the very difficult decision to resign from her role as Secretary, a role she has held for many, many years. The entire current committee are very disappointed that we have not been able to work with Marie Ana for much longer than we have. She has been a wealth of information and guidance to us. Of course, your health must always come first, and we wish her well with that. We hope that Marie Ana will be able to join us at some of our upcoming events, and look forward to seeing her.

Games Night:

So, the evening of Friday 24 June saw our first games evening. A huge range of games were available to try. An evening filled with fun and laughter for all those that attended the evening.

There was time for socialising with friends old and new, with chances to play games that you had never tried before. We have had requests to do it again, and maybe we will arrange something for the dark winter months

Coming Up:

We are looking forward to our upcoming events of the Craft Fair on Saturday, 1 July, this is going to be a BIG event with 20 stalls booked in, and will take in all the hall, and the main car park (we have arranged overflow parking, please follow the signs, disabled parking will be in the rear car park as normal). Or of course a lovely stroll through the village to the event is never a bad thing.

On Saturday the 8 July our FUN quiz night will be starting at 7:30pm. This is for everybody, not just serious quizzers, the emphasis is on FUN, and ENJOYMENT. Teams of max 4 people, entry is just £3 per person. Bring your own bottle and snacks, teas and coffees will be available. A raffle, with some great prizes will also take place during the evening.

Later on Saturday 22 July, between 10:00am and 2:00pm we have the coffee morning being arranged by Jane, to raise funds for the East Anglian Air Ambulance, such a worthy cause. They recently attended a vehicle crash at our crossroads with Dereham Road, so just showing how important this cause is. Please support this if you can, apart from the Cuppa and Cakes, there will be various stalls to keep you amused.

Don't forget to book the date for the Village BBQ on the 12 August, more details next month, but for now, there will, of course be the BBQ, games of various sorts for all ages, and a first, we have managed to arrange a Pop-Up Bar, which will offer Beers, Spirits and wines, all at well below pub prices. Starts at 12, goes on until late.

Messages

Villagers

Happy Anniversary:

To my lovely husband Jeremy Woods as we celebrate two wonderful years together on 31 July

Jean Rockett-Woods



Football report:

Our footballing star has, due to the season being concluded, not been scoring many goals of late. Although he was recognised as being the top scorer last season.

He continues the training twice a week and his fitness program now includes cycle rides round the village motorways, brave boy. We look forward to seeing more startling performances next season.

Well done Brody.

Rod Rumsby

Allotment Association BBQ

Jill Burgess

Ovington Allotment Association are holding their annual BBQ and Produce Show on Sunday 27 August at the Village Hall. We are charging £6 per adult and £4 per child and everyone is welcome to join us. Produce will be on show from 12 noon and food served from 1:00pm onwards.. Please feel free to bring your own bottle of choice.

Please contact Jill on 07840 873928 or any other committee members for tickets.

Air Ambulance Coffee Morning

Jane Lambert

A reminder that I will be holding a coffee morning on Saturday 22 July, 10:00am until 2:00pm in aid of East Anglian Air Ambulance. Tea / coffee and cakes will be served, with a tombola and craft stall. Please come along and support this amazing charity.

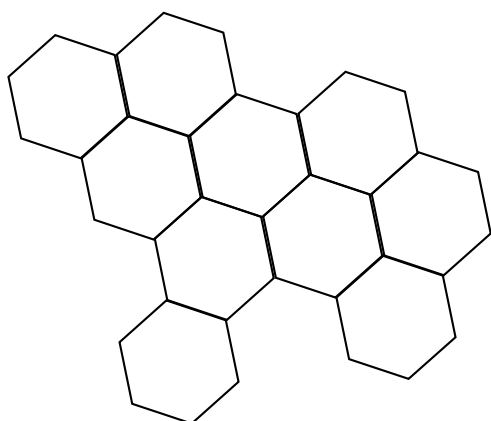
Anyone with any unwanted gifts would be much appreciated and can be left at 25 The Street, many thanks.

See you all there ...

Jane

News from Ovington Bees

Richard Moss



Firstly, I must begin with an apology to all my neighbours who may have been visited by a swarm or two in the past few weeks. Fortunately, Barry has a keen eye quickly letting me know that the ladies had left their hive!

May is a classic time of year for swarms and this year has been exceptional with many swarm collectors running out of equipment

as they attempted to keep up with demand. Swarming is a natural process for bees who produce virgin queens. Following their birth, they generally flee the hive with 50% of the worker bees. If left to their own devices virgin queens can leave a beekeeper with a lot of empty hives and no honey!

So, beekeepers regularly check hives every 7 days looking out for 'queen cells' which the workers produce in large numbers.

As a method to prevent swarming, beekeepers will produce 'splits' where existing queens are moved to a new home (small hive or nuc). Generally, a queen will remain on her throne for 2 to 3 years. Once worker bees have realised that their old queen has gone, they feed a selected number of larvae royal jelly to produce a new one. Many of these queen cells are removed and destroyed by the beekeeper leaving two good quality cells. Essentially there can only be one ruler and after several days a new queen is born who will leave the hive to mate and hopefully return.

We're now into the 'June Gap' where food (nectar) is in short supply until summer flowers start to appear. During this time, we feed bees a sugar syrup to help them get through this period of meagre resources.

The spring honey crop has been taken off, uncapped frames have been spun and jarred. Spring usually produces a 'set honey' due to the abundance of rape seed crops in the area.

Our honey will be on sale at the Ovington Village Hall, Craft Fayre on 1st July or if you need it sooner just text Christine on 07530199910.

Events elsewhere

Editor's pick



Dereham Walkers are Welcome ...

... are a not for profit organisation, please come and join us for a walk in the Dereham area.

We have regular monthly walks: our short walk, of around four miles, is on the first Friday of the month. For those just beginning their walking experience on the second Tuesday of the month we offer a walk of no more than two miles and on good and even surfaces.

There is a programme of longer walks planned for later in the year.

For up-to-date information and contact details, please check our website

www.DerehamWaW.org.uk

Sue Rothwell



Breckland Local Group

On Sunday 2 July 2:00-2:30pm, we have a Wildflower Walk in Thetford.

Led by the extremely enthusiastic and knowledgeable Jo Jones from Breckland Flora Group, we will explore around Nuns Bridges and Barnham Cross Common to see some of the rare plants of the area.

Meets at Nuns Bridges car park, IP24 2PZ. Cost is £2 members and £3 non-members. Due to the nature of this walk please leave dogs at home. Booking essential 01953 718119.

Fiona Roat

The Ovington Crower

'Boy Sid'

I hent bin tew clever of leart so I shell hafta gi my letter tew yew a miss this munth, sorry abowt that ole partna's. We shall hafta see how we goo nex munth. Dew yew keep a troshin an stay well.

Orl tha best from boy Sid.

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

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