

The Ovington Oracle

April, 2024



April, did you know ...?

- It is now the fourth month of the year, but that's only by the Gregorian calendar that we use now. It was previously the fifth month in the earlier Julian calendar.
- April originally only had 29 days, but an additional day was added when Julius Caesar established the Julian calendar.
- April is named after the Latin verb "aperire" meaning 'to open', as we see with the opening of buds and flowers.
- If the clouds disperse April is a good month for meteor showers. The Lyrids meteor shower appears between 16-25 April. The Eta Aquariids meteor shower that can be seen onwards from 21 April, although it is most active in early May.

The clocks change on Sunday 31 March, being spring the clocks 'spring' forward an hour thus giving us lighter evenings.



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Village events this month:

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

VH:Village Hall, C:Church, Y:Yoga, X:VH closed

There is no Youth Club in April

Parish Council: ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home

Oracle back copies (and more): ovington.org.uk

Village Hall: ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk

Village Information: ovington-village.org.uk

APCM

Ann Johnson

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

will be held

11:00 am, Sunday 21 April

(after the Sunday Service)

in

St John's Church, Ovington

Please come along and support
your parish church

– *or you may like to join the PCC* –
more members most welcome.

Rainfall

Rod Rumsby



Total rainfall for January was 118mm (4 ²/₃").

"A damp old month"

As of 23 March the month has seen 40.5mm (1 ³/₅").

Village Hall (VH)

Mike Howes (Village Hall Trustee)

Event Reports:

AGM

On 28 February we held our annual general meeting.

Unfortunately very few of you turned up, but as there were no new trustee proposals received, the committee were re-elected.

We would like to thank Tim Birt for his input during the meeting.

Curry Night

On Saturday 16 March we held our curry evening.

It was an amazing night. Five different types of curry, with rice, chipatis and relishes. This was followed by an extensive selection of sweets, with after dinner chocolates with coffee. It was truly delicious.

There was a table quiz, for everybody to test their knowledge on curries and Indian cuisine, thanks to Jill for composing this.

We also had a raffle, there were many prizes to be won. Our grateful thanks to Jane, again for all her hard work, she never ceases to amaze us how she finds the prizes!

I think everybody who came (it was sold out) enjoyed the delicious food.

Our main thanks go to all our ladies, and above all our resident maestro chef Stuart for all their work for making the evening such a success.

Due to all the hard work, a profit of £241 was made from the curry night together with a further £150 from the raffle which was donated to the Youth Club.

Forthcoming Events:

Quiz Night

On 20 April at 7:00pm we host our quiz night.

There will be approx 8 rounds of fairly easy(?) questions, together with a picture round and a ding-bats round.

Max 4 to a table.

Come and test your knowledge.

Tickets are £2 per person from Kaz on 07880935765

Afternoon tea.

This will be held on Sunday 19 May.

If you came to any of our previous afternoon teas you know how good they are.

Tickets again may be purchased from Kaz on 07880935765

Adults are £12.50, children £9.

Book soon, as they are selling out very quickly.

On April 22 the Village Hall will be closed for approx 1 week for repairs concerning the damp issue in the committee room.

We would be very grateful for any ideas from residents that they would like to see held at the village hall.

Remember we need your help and support.

Please check events on Facebook or the village hall web-site.

ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk

The VH Trustees



Parish Council (PC)

Heidi Frary (Clerk to the Council)

A report based on the unconfirmed minutes of the PC meeting on 20 March.

Present: Cllrs K Weir (KW), P Bate (PB), T Birt (TB) and J Woods (JW).

In attendance: The Clerk and two members of the public

Apologies: Cllr D Welsted (DW) and District Councillor H Crane (HC)

Matters Arising: TB has tried to contact our Highways Engineer without success. Clerk to contact County Councillor Bowes for information.

Correspondence:

Email from resident regarding flooding along Saham Road. Councillors agreed with the concerns raised and noted that drivers were unaware of the depth of the flood water. There was discussion around the impact of piping ditches and it was agreed that the Clerk should contact our Highways Engineer and suggest 'road liable to flooding' signs be installed.

Planning:

New Applications: None

Planning responses submitted under delegated powers: None

Notifications: (from Breckland Council) None

Financial Matters:

Councillors reviewed receipts and agreed payments to be made. Full details are available on the PC website along with other documentation at: ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home

Policy Review:

- GDPR Policy
- Records Management Policy
- Sickness Absence Policy
- Website Privacy Policy

These had been circulated outside the meeting. They were agreed with an amendment to the Website Privacy Policy relating to cookies.

Future Business:

- General Power of Competence
- Website hosting

Adjournment for Public Participation:

- PB is booking onto a tree inspection course and will report back once he has attended.
- KW reported back from the recent Wayland Partnership meeting including information about the major building works that are planned and the upcoming heritage project.
- There was a report from the Allotment Association and the accounts for the last year were shared. There was discussion around the need for an increase in plot rent and works that are required within the site. There are currently 31 plots of which 10.5 are let to Ovington residents.

Date of Meetings:

Next meeting:

15 May at 7:30pm in the Village Hall

Future meetings:

17 July, 18 September and 20 November 2024

Youth Club

Kaz Mason



The Friday 29 March Youth Club will be Easter themed, including an egg hunt. Please send some pennies along for the tuck shop as this is the only income.

Unfortunately there will be **no Youth Club in April** as the Village Hall is closed for maintenance work.

We are back on the last Friday of May (31).

Allotment news

Jill Burgess



Our band of allotmenters have been dealing with unprecedented amounts of rain this winter which sadly has left a lot of our plots too wet and the soil too heavy to get started on digging and planting as of yet. At one point I did think I might have more luck planting rice as my plot looked more like a paddy field!

Traditionally Easter is the time to start planting potatoes so fingers crossed for some spring sunshine in the next few days and then hopefully the allotments will be a hive of activity.

A date for your diaries is the 11 August when we will be holding our Produce Show and BBQ where everyone is welcome to come along to have a look around the allotments. Try your hand at some judging of the plots yourselves along with our produce on show and enjoy our lovely BBQ.

If anyone is interested in taking on an allotment please feel free to contact me (Jill) on 07840 873928 and I will be happy to add you to our waiting list. As an Ovington resident you have priority and will go straight to the top of the list so give me a call.

Funeral Celebrant

Karen Weir

Happy April, one and all!

Let's move on to life celebrations; and what does that actually mean?

Firstly, a bit of background information ...

A funeral can cost quite a lot of money. A burial perhaps slightly more than a cremation. So direct funerals are becoming popular. More purse friendly.

A direct funeral is where the deceased is collected, taken to a crematorium then the ashes returned to the family. It's unattended, but your family member is always retreated respectfully and with dignity. This choice is sometimes made as the funeral can take place at a more suitable time, or perhaps quickly.

But with this type of funeral there is no service. Here is where a celebrant comes in. We can lead a service called a life celebration.

Having a celebrant take the service leaves you free to enjoy the moment. And it's all done with your wishes and input just like a traditional crematorium service. The main difference being it can be held wherever you want. A beach, pub, village hall, your house or up in a hot air balloon! You can have as many people there as you like. We can do music, videos, photo slide-shows, memory walls. Again, whatever you feel is an appropriate celebration to reflect the life of your loved one. And it's not time sensitive. This can take place when you're ready. Maybe you have family that live far away but visit once a year. They would want to come so organise it for when they are around. A month after the loved one has passed, 6 months, a year. It's up to you.

Many lives were lost during the pandemic and nobody could have a wake. Some people, our family being one, had very small funerals. Perhaps this kind of celebration of life would be perfect for you or someone you know. Until you know about them, how can you book one?

If you want to know more just ask, my number is 07778374781.

Not sure what I can write about next month but I'll be further into my course so I'm sure that something will present itself for me to share with you!

Take care.

Karen x

Church News

Jean Rockett-Woods (Lay Minister)

Services:

31 Mar – 10:30am	** Ashill Church – <u>Easter Sunday</u> : Benefice Service	(Revd. Stephen Thorp)
7 Apr – 10:30am	Holy Communion	(Revd. Adrian Bell)
14 Apr – 10:30am	Family Service	(JR-W)
21 Apr – 10:30am	Morning Worship	(JR-W)
28 Apr – 10:30am	Book of Common Prayer	(JR-W)
5 May – 10:30am	Holy Communion	(Revd. Adrian Bell)



We had some warmer weather in March and our lovely Grass Mowers have done the first cut of grass in the churchyard and village hall grounds. My gardening exploits were delayed due to the very wet weather that we had during February and early March. I did manage to plant Potatoes in my greenhouse

as well as Sweet Peppers.

I hope that you enjoyed celebrating Easter and searching the front garden of the Old Crown for an Easter egg. There should have been enough for each child in the village.

This year Rogation Sunday falls on 5 May but we will be celebrating this event on Sunday 12 May. I hope that you will be able to join us for this special event. I will let you know more about this in our Oracle May edition.

Each week, after our church service, we serve coffee, tea and cakes at no cost. There will also be some books made available for you to buy for a donation to our church funds and you will find these on a bookcase at the back of the church.

I am licenced to take Communion to anyone who would like communion at home and cannot get to church. If you would just like me to visit you for a chat then please ring me.

With love in Christ,

Jean (07749 870485)

Out-of-village activities

Sue Rothwell



Dereham Walkers are Welcome is a not for profit organisation.

Please come and join us for an enjoyable walk in and around Dereham.

There is a programme of longer walks planned for 2024. Our 'short walk' of around four miles is on the first Friday

of the month and for those looking for a shorter, slower walking experience our 'Easy Tuesday Walks' of just two miles are on the second Tuesday of each month.

On Saturday 20 April we will meet outside Church House for a short walk before our AGM. There is no charge, although donations gratefully accepted. More at:

DerehaWaW.org.uk

Fiona Rout



NORFOLK WILDLIFE TRUST

(Breckland Local Group)

Last month we were entertained by local photographer Martin Hosier's record of his last year's trip to South Africa. After a shaky start, technology is wonderful when it works, we were grateful that our audience kept patience and remained in their seats! Thank you for your understanding.

March will have seen the last of our talks until the Autumn, so we start walks on 28 April with a guided tour at the Lynford Arboretum. Starting at 4:30pm meet at the car park, IP26 5HW.

All walks need to be booked with Lesley. Ring her on 01953 7181119 to book or for further details.

And Finally ...

Tim

I'm assured Sid is still keeping an eye on the village.

>> If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring?

... pilgrims!



>> What's in the middle of March and April but nowhere else in those months?

... the letter 'r'.

>> Why should you avoid using ladders on April Fool's Day?

... because they're always up to something.

>> I've been accused of being a plagiarist – their words, not mine.

>> I was going to include a joke about an Easter egg, but it's not all it's cracked up to be.

Submission deadline for next issue: 23 April

Edit and Production: Timothy Birt (01953-889208)
(Recycled paper and an Ecosys printer) Stone House Farm, The Street. IP25 6RT

Proof reader: Christine Reilly (885848)

Please send contributions to either above or email: oracle@ovington.org.uk