

The Orvington Oracle

September, 2024



Heritage Open Days are back, with access to some places you can't normally go and free access to sites that normally charge.

6 – 15 September

www.heritageopendays.org.uk

England's largest festival of history and culture!

Every September thousands of volunteers across England organise events to celebrate our fantastic history and culture. It's your chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences – all of which are FREE to explore.

There are 304 listed events over the week in Norfolk alone!



The **Autumn Equinox** is creeping up on us again, officially marking the start of autumn on 22 September at 1:43pm, unless you prefer the meteorological definition in which case you start autumn 3 weeks earlier at the beginning of September.

The ridiculously precise time quoted is because the equinox is not defined by measuring day and night periods but rather as the time when the sun crosses the celestial equator which is an imaginary line in the sky above Earth's equator.



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Village events this month:

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

VH=Village Hall, C=Church, PC=Parish Council
Y=Yoga, YC=Youth Club, B=Bowls

Parish Council: ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home

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

Village Hall: ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk

Village Messages

Churchyard

A special *Thank You* to all who give up their time to keep our church clean and our churchyard neat and tidy.

Jean Rockett-Woods

20's Plenty Bin Stickers

Laurie Shepherd (PC Clerk)



To request an A4 sized bin sticker please email *The Clerk*, with your name and address, a Parish Councillor will drop them off for you:

ovingtonpc@gmail.com

Village Hall (VH)

Mike Howes (Village Hall Trustee)

Another quiet month at the village hall.

Events Review

On Sunday 11 August the Ovington Allotment Barbecue was held at the hall. Approx 50 attended to a delicious barbecue cooked by our resident chef Stuart assisted by Richard. Various salads were also prepared by our lovely ladies and we had ice-cream for dessert.

The produce show was very successful, considering the very wet summer, and all plots besieged by slugs together with a resident rabbit!

Congratulations go to all winners.

Forthcoming events

Trustees Meeting on Wednesday 4 September at 7:00pm in the hall.

On Friday 13 September we have our 80's Night with live music from Karen Bell.

Please come in fancy dress and bring your own bottle.

Doors are open from 8:00pm.

Tickets must be purchased in advanced. Please phone 07880935765

On Friday 1 November we are so lucky to have The Shanty Singers coming to Ovington.

These are a very popular group of singers and very hard to get booked. I am sure it will be a great night. More information nearer to the date, but pencil it into your diary.

Regular Events

- Our usual Monday morning coffee mornings at 10:30am are open to all. Please come and meet members of Ovington and surrounding villages.
- Bowls Club is every 2 weeks on a Wednesday at 7:00pm (11 and 25 September).
- Every last Friday in the month we have our Youth Club.

Help

Is there anybody out there who could help to keep the churchyard tidy?
1 hour every 2 weeks in the summer to cut the grass etc

We only have three regular volunteers. We can provide mowers and petrol etc. We need your help, for your village church.

Parking

Please, when parking at the village hall, use the designated areas.

There are plenty of places to park without parking on the grass, unless using it as an overflow area at special occasions.

This also applies to both the allotment members and those using the church.

ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk

The VH Trustees

Extraordinary Parish Council (PC)

Timothy Birt

This report is taken from notes taken at the meeting on 14 August. In due course the minutes will be available at:

ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home

Present: Chair – Karen Weir, (KW), David Welsted (DW), Pete Bate (PB), Tim Birt (TB), and Jeremy Woods (JW)

In Attendance: The Clerk and members of the public from North Ovington

Planning:

To consider a response to planning application 3PN/2024/0025/UC; OVINGTON – Redundant Barn Rose Farm: Prior approval application for a proposed: Change of Use to an Agricultural building to 6no.residential dwelling (Use Class C3), ... Class Q

Councillors were concerned to see yet another planning application for this site, although they were generally supportive of additional housing. It was noted this is a “Class Q”, permitted development right prior approval request, rather than a normal application (which would fall well outside the local development plan and would be very unlikely to get approval).

The chair suspended the meeting to allow public participation. On resumption Councillors agreed to add additional comments to the concerns they had already raised.

The partial text of the PC submission is available at the Breckland council planning portal. Point 7 – a procedural concern – has been redacted!

planning.breckland.gov.uk/0cellaWeb/planningSearch

Date of Meetings:

Next meeting: 18 September in the Village Hall at 7:30pm

Future meetings:

20 November 2024

Youth Club

Kaz Mason



Ovington Youth Club has been running a whole year now! We are so pleased to see the children having so much fun each month, the most we have had attend in one session is 25 but most sessions we have around 15 children attend. They enjoy various arts, crafts, board games, activities, sports and more.

We would like to thank Ovington Village Hall Trustees for allowing us to use the hall free of charge, this really helps us financially as the only money we have coming in is from our tuck shop, which also needs to cover our insurance each month. We also wish to thank Ovington Parish Council and Ovington Fuel Trust for their kind financial contribution when we purchased our equipment and to Ovington residents who have very kindly donated items for us to use. A massive thanks also goes to our five lovely volunteers who give up their last Friday of the month to come along and help us. Going forward we shall continue to meet the last Friday of the month and hope to change our age range soon to 6–15yrs to enable more local children to benefit from our free service. Please look out for updates on our Facebook page: Ovington Youth Club, Norfolk.

Kaz & Jo (Ovington Youth Club Leaders)
07880935765

Rainfall

Tim



According to weather station "Icarus":

Total rainfall for July was 99.5mm (3 ¹⁵/₁₆").

As of 24 August the monthly running total stood at just 26.4mm, half of which fell 'today'.

Harvest Festival

David Welsted

The traditional Harvest Festival is a celebration to mark “food from the land” being gathered in at the end of the summer, hopefully a bumper crop. The local church would provide the venue for this celebration, i.e. a church service with well known harvest hymns and donated local produce displayed in the church. After the service this produce would be distributed to the poor and needy.

This year St John’s Church Ovington will be holding its Harvest Festival service on Sunday 6 October. As usual all sorts of donated produce will be on display in the church. After the service all the produce will be taken to the Watton Food Bank. (The Food Bank accepts fresh produce as well as packets and tins, etc). Everyone is welcome to attend the service with traditional harvest hymns (tea/coffee & cake served after the service)... but if you cannot come along please consider donating some food or fresh produce by just leaving it in the church the day before. It will be gratefully received and taken to the food bank on the Monday.

P.S. The church door is unlocked between 9:00am and 4:00pm so don’t leave it too late.

Church Annual Cycle Ride

Ann Johnson

Saturday 14 September is The Norfolk Churches Trust Annual Cycle Ride. It is from 9:00am – 5:00pm.

If anybody in the village would like to cycle around to other churches in the neighbourhood, at the same time, raising money jointly to be split between your own local church and the Norfolk Churches Trust (whom your local church has benefited from in the past) please have a word with Ann, Jean or David, who will give you further details, including a sponsorship form.

Ann:	47, The Street,	01953 308814
Jean:	The Old Crown, The Street	07749 870485
David:	3, Church Road,	07443 538969

Church News

Jean Rockett-Woods (JR-W)

Services:

1 Sept – 10:30am	Holy Communion	(Revd. Adrian Bell)
8 Sept – 10:30am	Morning Worship	(JR-W)
15 Sept – 10:30am	Family Service	(JR-W)
22 Sept – 10:30am	Book of Common Prayer	(JR-W)
29 Sept – 10:30am	Benefice Service	(??)
6 Oct – 10:30am	Harvest Festival	(Revd. Adrian Bell)



I am looking forward to meeting you all at our Harvest Festival service next month. Harvest Festival is a British tradition that goes back all the way to pagan times. It is celebrated on or close to the Sunday of the Harvest Moon – which is the full moon closest to the Autumn Equinox.

This means that usually, this holiday falls around the end of September, but it may also occur at the beginning of October in some years. The purpose of this holiday is to celebrate the food that the land has provided and to give thanks.

The Harvest Festival is a holiday that can be traced all the way back to the ancient Celts when it was celebrated as the seasonal midpoint. It was during this time that people would harvest their grains, store food away for later use, and begin preparations for winter.

It was during this time that it became customary to ‘bless the bread’, which would later become the tradition of giving thanks for a meal.

While some participants are trying to return this holiday to its pagan roots, most participants just see this holiday as a way to spend time with their families and to give thanks for the good fortune they have received all year long.

My daily prayers are for you all.

With love in Christ,

Jean (07749 870485)

Funeral Celebrant News

Karen Weir

July and August were busy months for me.

I completed my course! I can now write a service script, deliver it, liaise with other professionals, but most importantly and the reason I've wanted to do this, help families as they go through the most awful times.

On my Facebook page I've been asking people to think about what music they would like to be played at their service.

I've been talking about 'living memorials' where you decide what you want said, pick the tunes to be played and everything else that goes with it. But mostly, it's about talking to your friends and family. Making sure everyone knows what's to be done.

Becoming a celebrant has opened my eyes as to the things you can do these days. But also that sometimes death isn't spoken about at all.

It is something we all experience, but it doesn't have to be a sad moment.

I want people to remember me with a smile, think about jokes we shared and funny things we did. About how I made them feel, and how they can remember me in a happy way.

So do me a favour. Make plans, talk to loved ones. But don't forget to live either!

Here's a lovely poem I found. I hope you love it as much as I do.

A special person, a special face
A special someone we cannot replace
To hear your voice, to see your smile
To sit and talk with you a while
To be together in the same old way
Would be our greatest wish today
In our hearts you will always stay
Loved and remembered every day.

Stay safe and lots of love to you all.

Karen (07778 374781)

Out of Village Events

Sue Rothwell



We continue our regular 'short walk' of around four miles 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.

As part of **Heritage Open Days**, we are arranging two walks in September, starting in the town at 10:00 on Saturdays 7 and 14. It's the same walk on both days, so you only need to come on one. In accordance with the HODs theme of Routes-Networks-Connections these town walks will look at former road and rail routes in Dereham, with historical information supplied by a member of Dereham Heritage Trust. As with all HODs events, joining the walk is free, but booking is needed to control numbers while we walk round the town – we will have a maximum of 12 on each walk.

More at: DerehaWaW.org.uk

Fiona Rout



NORFOLK WILDLIFE TRUST

(Breckland Local Group)

Summer seems to have arrived at last and we were lucky to have a fine and not too warm morning for our walk in Foxley Wood. This was led by Will Russell NWT's Lead officer for Heaths and Woods. He told us the NWT history and management of this lovely wood and identified several butterflies which luckily were on the wing, including several Silver Fritillaries. Will will be doing a talk on adders for us in the Autumn.

Before that we have our last walk of the season on Sunday 29 September 10:30-12:30 at East Wretham Heath IP24 1RU. This is a Fungus Foray with the extremely knowledgeable Tony Leach. Booking is essential 01953 718119, cost £2 members, £3 non-members.

And Finally ...

The Puzzler

These word puzzles were popular in Victorian times:

My first is in eyesight but not in the eyes.

My next is in victory, not in the prize.

My third lies in rooftops but not in the eaves.

My fourth is in robbers, not among thieves.

My last is in shabby, never in faded.

My whole is a colour, not to be traded.



Answer next month.

Submission deadline for next issue: 21 September

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