

# *The Ovington Oracle*

January, 2025

Time is speeding past at 60 seconds per minute and here we are, a quarter of the way through the century! If anyone understands what time is, please would they let me know because it is genuinely one of the great mysteries.

## *Happy New Year*



Yew has been associated with rebirth and regeneration throughout history, along with the Christian association with death. These two facets make it a perfect symbol as one year ends and a new one begins.

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### Solar News:

Perihelion, the earth's closest approach to the sun, occurs at 1:28pm on 4 January 2025. With my tongue in cheek ... enjoy the extra light and warmth this brings! OR just be grateful we are not at aphelion where the sun is furthest away.

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### Village events this month:

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		<b>1</b> <b>B</b>	2	3	4	<b>5</b> <b>C</b>
<b>6</b> <b>VH</b>	<b>7</b> <b>Y</b>	8	9	10	11	<b>12</b> <b>C</b>
<b>13</b> <b>VH</b>	<b>14</b> <b>Y</b>	<b>15</b> <b>B</b>	16	<b>17</b> <b>VH</b>	18	<b>19</b> <b>C</b>
<b>20</b> <b>VH</b>	<b>21</b> <b>Y</b>	<b>22</b> <b>PC</b>	23	24	25	<b>26</b> <b>C</b>
<b>27</b> <b>VH</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Y</b>	<b>29</b> <b>B</b>	30	<b>31</b> <b>YC</b>		

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

Parish Council: [ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home](http://ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home)

Oracle back copies (and more): [ovington.org.uk](http://ovington.org.uk)

Village Hall: [ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk](http://ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk)

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## Village Hall AGM (Election)

David Welsted

The Village Hall Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Wednesday 19 February 2025. This year we will again be following a new, more open, voting procedure to select a Village Hall committee; only residents of Ovington will be able to nominate candidates for the new committee. This needs to happen BEFORE the AGM, the procedure is as follows:

### Nominations to serve on the VH Committee

Any person seeking election to the committee must be proposed by a qualifying resident (i.e. a person who resides in the Parish of Ovington and is at least 18 years old) and seconded by another qualifying resident. The name of the candidate, their proposer and seconder should be emailed to our secretary **by the 1 February 2025**:

[rosemaryjones152@gmail.com](mailto:rosemaryjones152@gmail.com)

Note: Any qualifying resident may nominate up to a maximum of five candidates either as their proposer or seconder.

### Actual Election of VH Committee

An election of correctly nominated candidates will take place at the AGM, only qualifying residents are eligible to vote and must be present at the AGM to do so.

Please get your nomination in early.

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## Rainfall

Tim



Total rainfall for November was 51.3mm (2").

As of 26 December the monthly running total stood at 87.1mm

It has been a dull and miserable month, but 'stuff' is happening on the other side of the Atlantic and it is heading our way – look out for a shake up!

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## Village Hall (VH)

*Mike Howes (Village Hall Trustee)*

Christmas is nearly here and I hope you have bought all your presents, and all the decorations are up.

Thanks to Richard we now have a second defibrillator in the village. This is positioned on the side of the village hall

### **Events Review**

#### **Resuscitation Course (8 December).**

This course was presented by St Johns Ambulance.

It was well attended and during the 2 hours we learnt how to resuscitate and use of the defibrillator. Such an important course as it can save lives.

#### **Festive Afternoon Tea (15 December)**

We celebrated our very popular overbooked Festive Afternoon Tea.

The lucky people who managed to get a ticket were subjected to a sumptuous afternoon tea consisting of a selection of sandwiches, cheese stars, sausage rolls, cheese scone, chocolate eclair, baileys & chocolate torte, lemon mousse, Christmas cake, and fruit scone with jam scones while constantly supplied with copious amounts of tea and coffee.

As usual this was a great success with many favourable comments. I would like to thank all involved especially our lady committee members and helpers who worked so hard to make this such a success.

### **Forthcoming Events**

#### **New Year's Party – 31 December.**

This is usually a great night with games, karaoke and dancing. You will need to provide your own refreshments and food.

Looking to 2025, you will need to book these events early as they sold out very quickly this year.

#### **Dan Starr** returning for the third time – 17 January

Those of you who attended his last performance (especially you ladies) know what a great evening you all had.

## Curry Evening – 15 February

This was incredibly popular this year and we have been asked many times when will this return. A great choice of curries will be provided by our ladies, under the watchful eye of our chief chef Stewart.

Places are going very quickly so book soon.

Tickets to any of these events can be purchased from Kaz on 07880935765 or pop in to any of our Monday coffee mornings.

All the trustees and committee members would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

[ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk](http://ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk)

The VH Trustees

### **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**

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## Parish Council (PC)

*Laurie Shepherd – Parish Clerk*

A report from the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting on 4 December

**Present:** Cllrs Karen Weir (KW)(chair), David Welsted (DW), Pete Bate (PB), and Jeremy Woods (JW)

**In Attendance:** The Clerk and two Members of the public

**Apologies:** DC Helen Crane, DC Claire Bowes, Cllr Timothy Birt (TB)

### **Matters Arising:**

TB informed the council (email) the PC received a detailed reply from Cllr. Paul Hewitt on car park charging, but he didn't actually answer the questions raised in the original letter. He also informed the Council that he has submitted an FOI to Breckland asking for financial information when it comes to car park budgets.

### **Correspondence:**

SLCC Wage update and back-pay for previous Clerk (£34.84)  
Councillors agreed to pay back-pay to Heidi Frary.

### **Planning (Notifications):**

3PN/2024/0025/UC: Redundant Barn Rose Farm; Prior approval application for a proposed: Change of Use of an Agricultural building to 6no. residential dwelling (Use Class C3), and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) – Schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q **REFUSED**

3PL/2024/0604/HOU: The Old Mill House Carbrooke Road; Change of use from first floor storage area of detached garage to annexed living accommodation ancillary to the main dwelling. **APPROVED**

3PL/2024/0696/HOU: The Street; Demolition of existing single storey rear projection and proposed two storey rear extension & alterations to existing dwelling and reconstruction of existing garage. **APPROVED**

3PL/2024/0654/SU: Land on the South West Side of King Row. UK Power Networks. Proposed to replace the existing 50KVA single phase

pole mounted transformer to 100kVA 3 phase transformer and upgrade this existing high voltage overhead line from 2 to 3 wire. **APPROVED**

### **Accounts and Precept update:**

Councillors reviewed the financial position and agreed payments:

<u>Payments Received</u>		<u>Payments to be made</u>	
Second Precept	£2,845.00	Norwich Diocesan	£625.00
Allotment Rent	£650.00	HMRC Taxes	£27.90
		Clerk expenses	£25.90

### **Future Business:**

- Charity
- Budget

### **Adjournment for Public Participation:**

- Member of the public shared that Carbrooke has a swap table permanently outside the village hall. They said that it would be a good addition to Ovington to have a similar Community table. KW says that they will get together with Ovington hall to discuss the viability of this.
- Member of the public asked about old records for the PC and an old church key. KW says she has many records in her home and will inquire about the key. The member of the public also asked about a computer that was bought for a previous parish clerk 12 odd years ago. They would like to know what the outcome of the computer is. KW to see if she can find out.
- Member of the public spoke on Council Tax charges and dismay at the rates of inflation. They expressed concerns over the state of the country at the moment.
- Member of the public expressed that the bus service is brilliant and should be used by more parishioners. KW to ask TB to put a notice in the Ovington Oracle. The potholes are an issue, KW to action. They spoke on putting in a 20mph limit in but was informed that it isn't allowed.
- JW informed the council that they are intending to sell their house

which would then mean he wouldn't be able to be on the Council any more.

**Next Meeting:**

22 January in the Village Hall at 7:30pm

Councillors agreed future meetings on: 19 March, 28 May (AGM & APM), 16 July, 17 September, 19 November.

**PC documents at:**

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



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## Church News

*Jean Rockett-Woods (JR-W)*

### Services:

5 Jan – 10:30am	Holy Communion	(Revd. Adrian Bell)
12 Jan – 10:30am	Morning Praise	(JR-W)
19 Jan – 10:30am	Family Service	(JR-W)
26 Jan – 10:30pm	Book of Common Prayer	(JR-W)



Happy New Year. I hope that you all had a lovely Christmas.

Our Carol service was very well attended, and we had a lovely time singing together, and listening to Christmas songs from the Harmonettes and Quality Corner. After the service we enjoyed refreshments of Mulled Wine

and Mince Pies which were served up by our lovely hard-working ladies who are always busy throughout the year keeping our church clean and decorated with fresh flowers and other forms of decoration

Finally, we are looking forward to greeting our new Priest-in-Charge who will be joining us in February. I will let you know more in my February message.

If you would like me to visit you or bring you Home Communion, please ring me to arrange a suitable day and time.

My daily prayers are for you all.

May God bless you all and keep you all well and safe.

With love in Christ,

Jean (07749 870485)

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

Please decorate graves only with silk or fresh flowers. Please remove anything made from glass, china or plastic decorations.

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## Youth Club

*Kaz Mason*



Meets last Friday of the month  
at the Village Hall

For ages 8–14 years  
6:00 – 8:00pm

FREE entry, squash & biscuits

Tuck-shop selling: Milkshakes, Fizzy  
Drinks, Crisps, Chocolate Bars, Sweets  
and Home-made Goodies.

Check our Facebook page for updates:  
Ovington Youth Club, Norfolk

To ensure enough adult helpers please  
TXT or call if you wish your child to attend.

Kaz & Jo (Ovington Youth Club Leaders) – 07880935765

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## Out of Village Events

### Norfolk Wildlife Trust (Breckland Local Group)

Fiona Roat



2025 kicks off with NWT CEO Eliot Lyne talking about the Trust's vision for the future.

The Methodist Centre, High Street, Watton IP25 6AB  
starting at 7:30pm. Cost £3 non members, £2 members.

### Dereham Walkers are Welcome

Sue Rothwell



Our traditional New Year's Day walk (6¾ miles) will start at 10:00 at Church House, Church Street, Dereham on the morning of 1 January 2025 and end with seasonal refreshments – make it the first event in your 2025 diary!

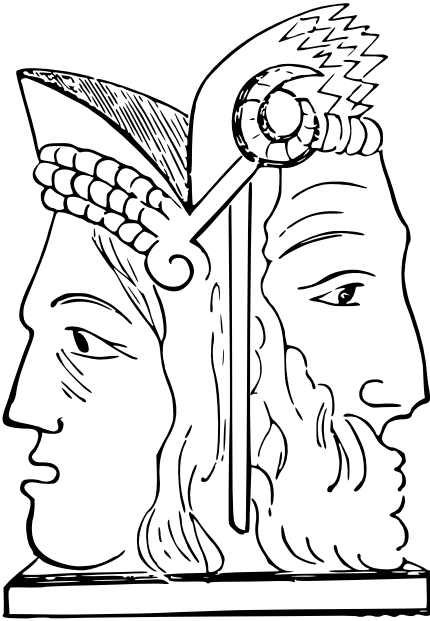
If possible please let us know if you are coming but we have plenty of refreshments so don't let uncertainty or last minute decisions put you off!

More details at

[DerehaWaW.org.uk](http://DerehaWaW.org.uk)

## And Finally

Tim



January (Latin: Ianuarius) is named after Janus, the Roman mythological god of beginnings, transitions, time and duality. Janus is portrayed as a dual head looking both forwards and backwards.

A few wise words to start the new year:

- “The beginning is the most important part of the work.” – Plato
- “Success is not final, failure is not fatal:  
it’s the courage to continue that counts.” – Winston Churchill
- “The secret of change is to focus all of your energy,  
not on fighting the old, but on building the new.” – Socrates
- “Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow.  
The important thing is not to stop questioning.” – Albert Einstein
- “New year, new mindset, new results.” – Anon

### Submission deadline for next issue: 24 January

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