

The new look

# *What's On* OVINGTON



August 2004  
Volume 9/8

## **GARDENERS WILL BE OUT IN THE COLD Carbrooke club to close in December**

### **Ovington's Summer Fete a big success**

**MONEY RAISED ALMOST  
DOUBLED LAST YEAR'S.**

What's On received a letter from Rod Rumsby, Chairman of the Parish Council admonishing the paper for not including details of the fete held in late June.

Whilst wishing WOO's editorial team every success with its new format Mr Rumsby reminded the paper that it has a responsibility first and foremost to report village events and the fete is one of the most important in the calendar. He pointed out that the last two issues were delivered so late the name should be changed to What's Been On!

The new team will do its best to avoid any such shortcomings in the future and thanks Mr Rumsby for his very valid comments.

The final and official sum raised by the fete was £847.10.

**Ovington Gardening Club members are concerned that the imminent closure of the Carbrooke Gardening and Leisure Club will mean a marked increase in applications to join the thriving club in Ovington.**

A committee member said the club is already oversubscribed and is considering capping its membership at 50. His reasons are that Ovington's village hall is not large enough to comfortably accommodate more than 50 people at their popular monthly meetings.

His other concerns are that larger attendances affects the audience's ability to hear the speaker and see the slide show that often accompanies the lecture. The speakers sometimes have quiet voices and are turned away from the audience when operating their projector. The hall has an amplification system but it seems no one has thought to make use of it.

### **Save our garden plants**

According to Jan Poulger, who, on 7 July, gave an excellent presentation on behalf of The National Council for the Conservation of Plants and Gardens (NCCPG), some plants need to be carefully nurtured and monitored. To avoid losing some species altogether the NCCPG was formed in 1978 and has Prince Charles as its patron. In 1980 it introduced the National Collections Scheme, a conservation initiative entirely supported by volunteers for plants either in danger of extinction or vulnerable due to changing geographical and climatic conditions.

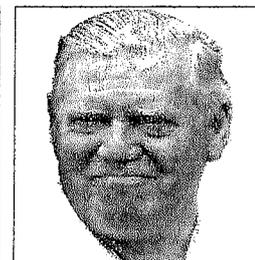
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### **OTHER PAGES**

Reminiscences—Laurence Howe

Parish Council Report—Ramblings—Crossword

Wild Flower of the Month—Ladies Group



>>>from front page

### Garden Club

There are now over 600 collections in the UK. These gardening enthusiasts were recruited by NCCPG to collect and preserve specific varieties. Plants that come under the Norfolk umbrella include Colchicum at Felbrigg Hall, Lavandula at Heacham, Vitis and Citrus at Hales Hall, Crocus at Hellesdon and Miscanthus at Bressingham.

### Join the Norfolk Group

Annual subscription to the NCCPG Norfolk Group is £14 or £25 for double membership. For more information contact Derek Lambert whose phone number is 01508 550975.

## Wayland Wheels

**THE CONVENIENCE OF A TAXI YET THE RELIABILITY AND AFFORDABILITY OF A BUS!**

A convenient and affordable means of travel is now available in the Wayland area - the Wayland Wheels Taxibus.

You can be picked up from your own home (or a chosen point) and dropped off at various locations in Watton like the High Street, the Surgery, Tesco's or the Sports Centre.

Each community has an allocated day for travel so you can plan your appointments and shopping needs around that. All you need to do is ring Salec Travel on 01953 881159 before 5.30pm on the day before you wish to travel to book your place.

The Taxibus will only travel if it has been booked - so there are no wasted journeys with empty buses. The fare will be a flat rate of £3.00 return.

The Taxibus is fully accessible to people with disabilities or pushchairs. At the moment the scheme is only funded for six months but if successful we hope to secure further funding. Timetables can be picked up from the Wayland Partnership Office and other outlets across Wayland.

**To find out more, please contact Suzanne Hollingworth on 01953 883915 or [suzanne@wayland.org.uk](mailto:suzanne@wayland.org.uk).**

## Wild flower of the month



**COMMON SEA-LAVENDER** is not related to lavender except in colour. The dried flowers are used for floral decoration. The flowers are in tight, flat topped clusters at the tip of its branches. The funnel shaped calyx is papery in texture and the anthers are yellow. Paradoxically it grows in southwest England, Wales and, surprisingly, north Norfolk.

### RAINFALL FIGURES FOR JUNE

<b>2004—</b>	<b>50 millimetres</b>
<b>2003—</b>	<b>71 millimetres</b>
<b>1994—</b>	<b>34 millimetres</b>

Figures indicate the climate is getting wetter and that ties in with the condition known as global warming. July has been one of the wettest and coldest since records began. June days with the highest rainfall were as follows:

<b>2004—</b>	<b>22nd/12mm—23rd/13mm</b>
<b>2003—</b>	<b>18th/13mm— 23rd/18mm</b>
<b>1994—</b>	<b>3rd/7mm—5th&amp;25th/6mm</b>

Thanks to Ted Bowman for rainfall statistics.

### Church News

None available at time of going to press.

### Victor Westwood (1920—2004)

**V**ictor who died in July aged 84, was born in 1920 and served in the British Army during World War II. He has had a home in Ovington for over 40 years and, after his retirement, he and Pansy built their bungalow here and immersed themselves totally in village life. Over the years Victor has served the village as a Parish Councillor, on the Village Hall Committee, the Ovington Fuel Trust, St Johns Church and the Garden Club.

Outside the village he has been an active member of Probus and the Carbrooke Gardening Club. His determined fight against pain in recent years has been an example to us all and he remained a very active member of our community right up to the end. Victor leaves a widow, Pansy, and a daughter Yvonne.



## 132nd WAYLAND SHOW

SUNDAY, 8TH AUGUST, 2004

BRANDON ROAD, WATTON

Gates open 9.00a.m.

THIS YEAR, IN THE MAIN RING: Household Cavalry Display,

Mid Norfolk Gundog Display Team, Hawk Display, Carriage Driving,

West Norfolk Foxhounds, Heavy Horses/Miniature Shetlands, Classic Cars

PLUS MUCH MORE ON THE SHOWGROUND - THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE:

LIVESTOCK CLASSES FOR CATTLE, SHEEP AND PIGS - DOG AGILITY - STATIC DISPLAYS

CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING - TRADE STANDS - ARTS, CRAFTS & COUNTRYSIDE MARQUEE

WATTON SILVER BAND - HOME SECTION - WATERFOWL & PIGEON SHOWS - REPTILES

EGG COMPETITION - GUNDOG SCURRY - CHILDRENS RIDES & ENTERTAINMENT Inc.

Buttons The Clown - DOG SHOW - DOG AGILITY - HORTICULTURE SECTION - MILITARY

VEHICLES - VINTAGE TRACTORS - GO KARTS - HELICOPTER RIDES, ETC.,

Admission: Adults £6.00,

Children £2.00 (under 5s Free)

O.A.P.s £3.00

**£1 OFF**

Full price Adult admission with this voucher  
ONE VOUCHER PER PERSON

(NO PHOTOCOPIES ACCEPTED)

The management reserves the right to refuse admission

## next month in *What's On*

**Letters column**—have your say on any topic you think deserves comment. **Shop Window** where you can offer items for sale—50p will buy you a month's exposure and you can have a picture if there is space and the print quality is OK. A commercial rate sheet for panel advertisements like the one above is available on request.

Regular contributors to WOO should note that copy must be received no later than 15 August for inclusion in September's edition. Please e-mail to [chris.lewis@downtoearthcomputing.co.uk](mailto:chris.lewis@downtoearthcomputing.co.uk) or deliver to Thornborough.

## Laurence Howe - reminiscences

**S**ome of us go back to what we used to call the good old days. These were during the decade prior to the second world war and my childhood memories are of poverty, misery and drudgery. Such was life for the working classes in Norfolk during the thirties. Babies were delivered by a local midwife in the village and when elderly people fell ill they were offered a place at an old people's home. These were generally known as The Work House, a dreaded description amongst the working class community. Children went to school like today aged 5 and, at 11, graduated to a senior school where they remained until they were 14. Often the school would be a few miles from their homes so many received a bike allowance of 11 shillings a term. You were expected to arrive on time or you might find yourself joining a queue to be caned by the headmaster.

Finding clothing was a problem so mothers had to buy them second hand from jumble sales or charity shops. Ill fitting shoes often led to feet becoming deformed. We were routinely inspected for nits, lice and fleas and treated by visiting nurses. When teeth started to decay they were generally removed since parents were un-

able to afford remedial work.

Friday night was usually bath night with hot water at a premium. This was drawn from the village well in buckets and heated over a fire. Lavatories were often outside which made for an unpleasant trip on a cold night.

The Empire was everything in those days and children were reminded how important it was by being made to dress up and take part in Empire Day parades. After all it was the older children who would find themselves serving their country in the forthcoming war. We were encouraged to join the scouts, girl guides and for the very young, the brownies. In the charge of good leaders these organisations taught us how to bond with each other.

The scouts had what they called Bob-a-Job week when us kids would go around the neighbourhood doing odd jobs like a spot of gardening and for the more skilled, painting. We would be paid a shilling (5p in today's money) and that represented quite a lot of sweets. Other kids would run errands to earn a few pennies like fetching milk from the local dairy farm or collecting beer bottles for a penny a time.

*Next month – On the dole.*

## Mike Pemberton - ramblings

**I** cannot claim to go quite as far back as Laurie but I do remember (just) the "War". Sometimes it seems as though those of us who lived through it are under the illusion that since VE day in 1945 everything has been peace and quiet. I wish! In actual fact there has been a procession of wars ever since including those in Korea, Vietnam, Bosnia, Chechnya, the Falklands, Israel and Palestine and in 1990 the so called first Gulf War. My most vivid memory was of the cold war that threatened to wipe out half the planet but, thank God, never happened. At the time I was living in a small shared flat in Kilburn between Maida Vale and Cricklewood in north London. When news of a possible stand off between Russia and the USA in Cuba came through my flat mate and I shipped in extra blankets and sheets of hard board to block up our windows in case London came under attack.

We were within a gnat's whisker of atomic wipe out Hiroshima style and there was nothing we could do. Suddenly, as if instructed by God himself Kruschev (then Russian president) turned

We were within a gnat's whisker of atomic wipe-out.

his heavily armed ships around and in doing so turned Kennedy (then US president) into a living legend. By the way I deliberately left out the recent conflict in Iraq since, in common with several commentators, I refuse to acknowledge it as a "war". More

accurately, I believe, it should go down in history as an invasion. No matter what your views are on the 'should we or not' issue the undeniable fact is that another tyrannical dictator is behind bars. I wonder though if all that destruction and loss of life could have been avoided had the intelligence agencies worked a little harder. Who are we to say?

- U - T - A - S -

**PARISH COUNCIL highlights**

**Highways**

Following Council's complaint a reply has been received from the N.C.C stating that they consider the state of the verges to be acceptable. Consideration will, however, be given to the proposal to make the northern section of Church Road one way to reduce the amount of traffic along this single track road.

**Grants**

A grant cheque of £1000 was authorised on behalf of the Wayland Partnership to pay the major part of the cost of refurbishing the Village Hall floor.

**Planning**

3PL/2004/0578/F. Permission has been granted for the erection of a storage building at Crossroads Farm, Saham Road. Work has now commenced.

**BOWLS CLUB dates**

Monday	2.8.04	1.45 pm.
Monday	9.8.04	1.45 pm.
Monday	16.8.04	1.45 pm.
Monday	23.8.04	1.45 pm.
Monday	30.8.04	1.45 pm.

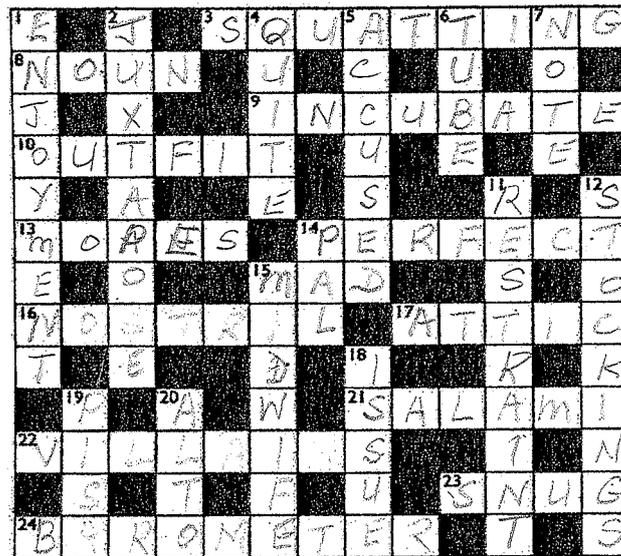
**GARDEN CLUB date**

There is **no** meeting of the Garden Club in August. The next meeting will be in the Village Hall on the September 1st at 7.45 pm. Mr A Sankey will be giving a talk on "Making a Garden from Scratch".

**LADIES GROUP**

Twenty eight members and their partners sat down to the group's annual dinner on Tuesday at the White Horse, Great Cressingham. The meal was well earned as they had already burned off the calories with a three mile walk around the potato fields from South Pickenham. Wild life in the form of deer and hares was in abundance and the weather was in one of its more benevolent moods. *Photo: Chris Lewis*

**EASY PRIZE CROSSWORD**



**Crossword clues**

**ACROSS**

- 3 Illegally living in a property (9)
- 8 Naming word (4)
- 9 Hatch (8)
- 10 Matching items of clothes (6)
- 13 Frets (5)
- 14 Flawless (7)
- 15 Wild, crazy (3)
- 16 Nasal passage (7)
- 17 Top room in a house (5)
- 21 Continental sausage (6)
- 22 Rogues (8)
- 23 Cosy (4)
- 24 Weather forecasting device (9)

**DOWN**

- 1 Pleasure (9)
- 2 Place side by side (9)
- 4 Absolutely, wholly (5)
- 5 Blamed (7)
- 6 Cylindrical shape (4)
- 7 Musical sign (4)
- 11 Self-control (9)
- 12 Tights (9)
- 14 Friend (3)
- 15 Childbirth nurse (7)
- 18 Edition (5)
- 19 Italian leaning tower city (4)
- 20 Female singing voice (4)

*Please post your completed puzzles to Chris at Thornborough or Mike at Brovey Lair. The first correct solution drawn on August 15 wins a bottle of deliciously fruity Castillo de Moral Valdepenas Reserva 1999.*



Ovington's historic Village Hall is for hire. Call 885019 for details.

**What's On** is on the look out for writers. The EDP's deputy editor says Norfolk is overrun with wannabe journalists so there must be two or three in Ovington. Time for you to come out of the closet and say what you think.