

THE OVINGTON ORACLE

APRIL 2010 www.ovington-village.org.uk

4/10

We are getting concerned, here we are halfway through the month of March and there has been no significant rain for several days. Are we all doomed? Is this the onset of global warming? Could this be the start of a serious drought?

No, not at all, we think maybe, our concerns are not shared by the rest of our populace, as the sounds of lawn mowers, the clicking of spades in warming soil, all accompanied by sounds of distant, (and not so distant) jollifications, singing even, gives the impression that folk are probably grateful for the respite from the previous month's cold deluges.

All good news for our prospective allotment holders one feels as, thanks to the ministrations of a couple of good citizens, real progress has been made towards making the access to, and preparation of, the site in readiness for an anticipated agricultural invasion of the area in the not too distant future.

Right then, upwards and onwards.

APRIL DIARY

Apr 5 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Apr 7 th	Gardening Club	7.45pm
Apr 12 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Apr 17 th	Concert in Church	7.00pm
Apr 19 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Apr 20 th	Ladies Group	7.45pm
Apr 24 th	Annual Quiz	7.30pm
Apr 26 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm

MARCH LOTTERY

£10.00	No 36	Rosemary McQuoid.
£10.00	No 62	Jeremy Woods
£ 5.00	No 31	Christine Reilly

FEBRUARY RAINFALL

February 2010	98.75mm or 3.95ins
February 2009	75.00mm or 3.00ins
February 2000	53.50mm or 2.10ins

Thank you Ted

ANNUAL QUIZ

Are you one of the many people who shout answers at the TV screen during quiz shows?

Do you think you could compete with the Eggheads?

Then do something about it: form your own quiz team and come along to Ovington Village Hall for the Annual Quiz on Saturday 24th April at 7.30pm.

We can promise you an evening of teasing the grey matter, of rummaging in the lost recesses of your memory while raising money for the village hall.

All this entertainment, with a cold buffet supper thrown in, for only £6. per person-how do we do it? Call Christine on 885848 to find out and book in your team of 4 people. Hurry, as space is limited.

CONCERT OVINGTON CHURCH

On Saturday 17th April at 7pm. St John's Church, Ovington will be resounding to a concert of music with an international flavour performed by Breckland Harmony and instrumentalist friends.

Breckland Harmony under the direction of Julia Grover and accompanied by Mr John Richens, will be performing songs from around the world, including some old favourites.

Tickets cost only £5. each and include refreshments after the concert.

All proceeds go to the church, which like so many beautiful buildings, is in great need of much refurbishment work.

Ring Christine on 885848 for details and tickets.

THANKS

Rosemary wishes to thank her neighbours and friends for all their help in her time of need following her fall, resulting in a broken arm.

PANSY WESTWOOD.

Pansy finally lost her fight for life, passing peacefully away in the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital on 19th March 2010.

We all know how hard she fought against the debilitating injuries and pain of a broken hip and the various illnesses that beset her over the past months. Many times we prepared ourselves for sad news, even the Doctors telling us on two occasions to prepare for the worst, as there was nothing they could do. But Pansy had other ideas and was soon directing operations, both in her home and with affairs associated with the Church, Trefoil Guild, Ladies Group and Gardening Club, even attending the recent supper evening in the Village Hall.

Sadly, following another setback, even the care offered to Pansy by the kindly and dedicated ladies of Ovington, could not prevent her eventual admission to hospital, where despite her frailty she did briefly regain some semblance of her old spirit.

Rest in peace Pansy, we shall miss you.

Her funeral will take place in Ovington Church on Wednesday **31st March at 10.30am.**

Donations to be divided between Girl Guiding in S E London and St John's Church, Ovington and can be left in the plate at the back of the church. Cheques should be made payable to Littleproud & Son Donation Account.

CHURCH NEWS

Sunday Services

4th April 9am Easter Day Holy Communion

25th April 9.30am All Ages Family Service

Thursdays 8am Said Holy Communion

17th April at 7pm- Concert given by

Breckland Harmony (details on page 1)

We were pleased to welcome Rev and Mrs Handley to our mothering Sunday Service and thank him for leading us in worship.

We also thank Pansy for making the Simnel cake. Ann Akister for making the posies and Isabella for distributing them to each lady in the church with a kiss.

The church will be open from **10am on Saturday 3rd April** for decorating the church for Easter. Any offers of help would be much appreciated

We are all saddened to hear of Pansy's death after many years of dedicated service to St John's church. She will be sorely missed.

Pansy Westwood

It is with great sadness that St John's Church; Ovington announces that our Church Warden, friend and great supporter, Pansy Westwood, died on March 19th 2010.

When I first took over St John's Church, Pansy was PCC Secretary, Treasurer, Electoral Roll Officer, Flower Arranger, Coffee Provider, and, of course, Church Warden. Single-handedly she kept St John's Church open when there was no-one to help and she was prepared to fight to keep it open. Even as more people came forward to help, Pansy was there in the thick of it, getting her sleeves rolled up and putting in a huge effort, doing more work than many half her age would consider doing.

St John's Church owes her a great debt and it is with gratitude for all that she has done that we now remember her and give thanks for her life.

May she rest in peace and rise again in glory.

Revd Jane Atkins.

ST JOHN'S PCC AGM

The PCC AGM was held at Rockfields, courtesy of Mr & Mrs H. Hicks and was well attended. The new Church Wardens elected were Barbara Hicks and Jo Borrett. It was agreed that the Church was entering a new phase and all present were dedicated to ensuring this transition was accomplished.

OVINGTON GARDENING CLUB

The garden visit to a spring garden has been postponed due to the adverse weather, which has delayed the onset of spring.

The April meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 7 April at 7.45pm when Jan Hunt shall inform us about 'Setting up a Wormery'. Visitors are welcome (at the cost of £1) and if you require any further information, contact Ed on 01953 885848 or Carole on 01760 440719.

OVINGTON LADIES GROUP

March Meeting

The ladies were treated to a very informal evening of a game and a couple of quizzes. From all the chatter during the evening everyone was obviously enjoying themselves. The competition table was covered with lots of things coloured purple.....so that format for the competition seems to be working.

April Meeting

This meeting is on **20th April**. Christine Hardy will be doing a 'crafty demonstration' and will help the ladies to make something pretty and decorative to take home with them. As usual the meeting will begin at **7.45pm** in the village hall. The competition is something coloured **BROWN**.

Annual Dinner.

This will be on Friday **16th April** at The Windmill at Necton. The time is **7pm for 7.30pm**. Angela will contact members regarding lifts to the Mill. A taxi will take everyone home paid for by The Ladies Group. Money for the meal will be collected on the night. We look forward to seeing you all there.

FAREWELL.

To Mr & Mrs Chris Sparrow, who have departed for pastures new and;

WELCOME

To Andy and Rachel who have recently moved into The Street.

What an initiation into the social whirl of Ovington, to be presented with a pair of rubber gloves, a plastic sack and asked to clean up the village.

Really made you glad you came didn't it?

TRY THIS ONE.

What is black when you buy it, red when you use it and grey when you throw it away?

VILLAGE LITTER PICK

Members of the Parish Council, who are being held responsible for the invasion of Ovington's quiet and tranquil lanes by an army of highly visible and quite often voluble litter pickers, have asked us to convey their thanks to those who willingly gave up their time on Saturday 20th.

Rod sez.

From my observations there were 31 residents hell bent on depriving our roadside verges (and ditches) of vast volumes of discarded rubbish. I have heard that upon seeing the numbers of people awaiting instructions and collecting the picking kit, those responsible for the post pick catering had to hurriedly re-assess the quantity of available comestibles. But as always, in true Ovington tradition, the repast was well up to standard and nobody went home dissatisfied.

John Hardy organised the equipment and had overall responsibility for seeing that the numerous bags of rubbish were collected and deposited, appropriately, in his drive. Food supplies were a combined effort; humour was the remit of Stuart, with the record for deepest ditch crawl going to Lyndia. The kitchen staff were in fine fettle and kept the all important tea and coffee coming, as well as inviting several ex-pickers behind the scenes to let them demonstrate that they had not left their washing up skills in the rubbish bags. Thank you.

Seriously though folks it was good to see so many of you (literally) mucking in, leaving, for a while at least, our village looking pristine and litter free.

Thank you all so very much.

Rod Ov PC.

Editorial comment: A swift calculation indicates that 12% of our population turned out. Bet there are not many Towns & Villages in Breckland can beat that. Well done Ovington.

In spite of our efforts last Saturday, we have picked up more litter this week, especially at the top of Church Road. Ed.

PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting held on 24th March discussed at great length the acquisition of allotments and the means by which said allotments would be run and by whom.

It was firstly agreed that the council sign the tenancy agreement with the Diocesan Board.

It was suggested that the Parish Council form a sub-committee to administer, regulate, and control the finances of the allotment holders. This was also agreed.

The next step is to get costings for, and advice on, the fencing necessary to deter wildlife, the sub committee to action.

It is anticipated that the Easter weekend will see a start on ground preparation and planting. The full minutes of the meeting with details of other matters discussed will be available on the Village web site.

(Web address; see heading on page one)

LAST MONTH'S BRAIN TEASER.

Only one person replied with an answer to our little teaser last month.

Congratulations to Lyn, who cottoned on to the fact that if you removed the first letter from each word and put it at the end then the word spelt the same when read backwards.

Simple!

DAFFODILS

Couldn't help noticing the Daf's are coming into bloom along our roadside verges, the PC have said that many more were planted last year and it is hoped to present another good show in 2010.

You may recall that last year several bunches were stolen from the roadside, you are asked to keep an eye out for people picking the daf's.

The recommendation is not to approach the stealers, unless you significantly outnumber them, but make a note of car numbers and / or descriptions of the perpetrators of this heinous crime.

MISSING

Oak Seat from Parish Council land,
Kettle & base from Village Hall kitchen.
Any suggestions as to where these items have gone, or who took them, please contact the editorial staff in the first instance. All calls treated in confidence.

EXAM PAPER HOWLERS.

Give examples of the following: -

Q. Something that floats in the bath?

A. Water

Q. A famous Royal?

A. Mail

Q. A famous bridge?

A. Over troubled water.

Q. Something you do in the bathroom?

A. Decorate.

VILLAGE HALL

Don't forget, if you wish to hire the village hall. Christine Hardy is the person to contact on 889920

DEADLINE DATE for the APRIL ORACLE is 12noon on the 22nd March 2010

EDITORS CONTACT DETAILS.

As we are moving ever more into the IT age, it was suggested at the last Village Hall meeting that the editorial team's contact details should include their e-mail addresses. The editors considered this a good move as notices, letters, and reports etc. from various organisations can be cut straight into the draft copy of the Oracle. Saving hours of typing. (See below for details).

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