

The Ovington Oracle

December, 2024

Season's



Greetings!

Solar News:

The solstice is on 21 December. It seems to me an ideal excuse to raise a glass and look forward to increasing daylight and maybe put up some celebratory decorations.

The December solstice is defined by the sun reaching its most southerly excursion relative to the celestial equator on the celestial sphere which is why it can be pinned down to precisely 9:20am on 21 December.

The word solstice is derived from the Latin sol ("sun") and sistere ("to stand still").

Contents

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Christmas Carol Service..... | 3 |
| Youth Club..... | 3 |
| Village Hall (VH)..... | 4 |
| Parish Council (PC)..... | 5 |
| Rainfall..... | 5 |
| Church News..... | 6 |
| Village Messages..... | 7 |
| Norfolk Wildlife Trust..... | 8 |
| And Finally ... cracker jokes..... | 8 |

Village events this month:

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

Christmas Carol Service

Gill Welsted & Jane Lambert



A reminder that this year's Carol Service will be held on Sunday 22 December at 6:00pm – all are welcome, especially children.

Come along and enjoy not only the carols but also Christmas songs by the Harmonettes and Quality Corner! After the service we will be serving mulled wine, coffee, tea, fruit juice and mince pies, etc (free). There will also be a Christmas raffle!!

Hope to see you all there.

Gill & Jane

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

Village Hall (VH)

Mike Howes (Village Hall Trustee)

The committee room has finally been finished and the carpet looks great. We are very busy in December with the run up to Christmas.

Events Review

On Friday 1 November we welcomed The Shanty Singers. We were practically fully booked for this and we were not disappointed. We were entertained with many songs of the sea in a very light hearted way which we all really enjoyed.

They will be invited back next year, we will let you know the dates in the future.

Forthcoming Events

Festive Fair – 30 November

Soup and cake will be provided. £10 per table if you wish to sell anything for Christmas.

Festive afternoon Tea (very popular!) – 15 December.

This is completely sold out !!

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 as 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.

Training

First aid resuscitation course – Sunday 8 December 2:30-4:30pm

The previous course held was excellent and is a **must** for everyone to learn.

This course will be a follow on from the previous course concentrating on defibrillator training and crowd control.

We need at least 10 people to attend the 2.5 hour (approx) course.

A note to end

Remember all your bottles after Christmas can be disposed of with our bottle bank, with funds going to the village hall. Also any old clothing you do not want can be recycled via the clothes bank.

Hiring the Village Hall

The village hall is available to rent. £50 deposit and £6 per hour for Ovington residents and £12 per hour for everybody else, it is there for you, use it.

ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk

The VH Trustees

Parish Council (PC)

Laurie Shepherd – Parish Clerk

Next Meeting:

4 December in the Village Hall at 7:30pm

PC documents at:

ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home

Rainfall

Tim



Total rainfall for October was 96mm (3 ³/₄").

As of 23 November the monthly running total stood at 25.7mm.

Church News

Jean Rockett-Woods (JR-W)

Services:

| | | |
|------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1 Dec – 10:30am | Holy Communion | (Revd. Adrian Bell) |
| 8 Dec – 10:30am | Morning Worship | (JR-W) |
| 15 Dec – 10:30am | Family Service | (JR-W) |
| 22 Dec – 6:00pm | Carol Service | (JR-W) |
| 25 Dec – 10:30am | Christmas Day Service | (JR-W) |
| 29 Dec – 10:30am | Benefice Service (venue to be advised) | |
| 5 Jan – 10:30am | Holy Communion | (Revd. Adrian Bell) |



The cold weather is with us again to remind us that it is indeed Winter.

At this time of year, we are preparing to celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ, who came to this world in the form of a baby, to cleanse us from our sins and enable us to have eternal life.

We are not told much of how he spent

his years before finally being baptised by his cousin John, following which he spent 40 days in the desert to prepare himself for his work and his crucifixion, but as the son of a Carpenter Joseph, I am sure that he was skilled in working with his hands fashioning wood. He has certainly done a good job fashioning my life.

I do hope that you will be able to join us for our special evening Carol Service on Sunday 22 December. We will be entertained by our lovely lady Harmonettes and hopefully our gentlemen's group of Quality Corner will be with us again this year. After the service the raffle, which was organised by Jane Lambert and assisted by Ann Johnson, will go ahead with the wonderful prize of a fantastic Christmas Hamper. If you have not already purchased raffle tickets there will be a chance to buy some before the start of the service. Refreshments of Mulled Wine and Mince Pies will be available for you to enjoy.

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)



Village Messages

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

For Jeremy Woods on 17 December Jean Rockett-Woods

Remembrance Day Coffee Morning:

Many thanks to all those who visited our splendid (although we say so ourselves) display of wartime memorabilia and enjoyed a coffee/tea, cake and a chat. Unfortunately the turnout was not as good as previous years but those who did come along remarked how nice the church looked decorated with poppies and flowers in readiness for the Sunday Remembrance Service.

Donations at the Coffee Morning raise a total of £59.75 which will be divided equally between The British legion Poppy Appeal and the St John's Church restoration fund.

Jane Lambert & Gill Welsted

Thank you:

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

Jean Rockett-Woods

Seasons Greetings:

Linda and Tim wish all our neighbours and friends a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. In lieu of cards this year we have given a donation to **Crisis**.

"Help someone start a life beyond homelessness."

Linda & Tim – Stone House Farm

Norfolk Wildlife Trust

Fiona Roat



On 12 December we have NWT's Will Russell telling us all about Adders. Will gave us a guided walk in Foxley Wood earlier in the year. He was very interesting, knowledgeable and friendly so this should be a good event to end the year on, coupled with Christmas refreshments!

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

And Finally ... cracker jokes

Tim

>> What would you call an elf who just has won the lottery?

... Welfy!

>> What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?

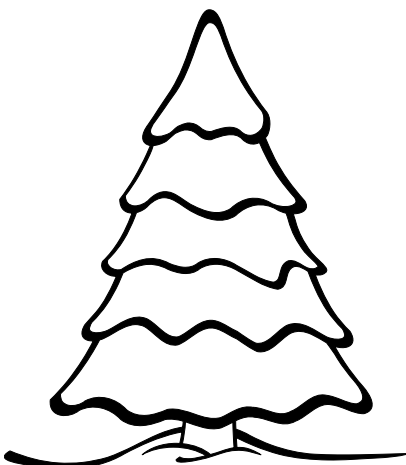
... Frostbite!

>> Why is it getting harder to buy Advent calendars?

... Their days are numbered!

>> What did Adam say the day before Christmas?

"It's Christmas, Eve"!



>> What do you call an old snowman?

... Water!

>> What is white and minty?

... A polo bear!

Submission deadline for next issue: 21 December

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