

# *The Ovington Oracle*

March, 2025

## Village Litter Pick



The litter pick equipment has been booked!

This is an opportunity for young and old to contribute to this regular village event, so please come and help give the village a spring clean as one big collective effort.

Equipment will be provided, but if you have your own please bring them as we have run out before!

Please wear suitable 'old' clothes with stout shoes or boots. Children welcome but must be under the care of an accompanying adult.

**Saturday, 29 March,  
10:30am**

Meet at the village sign in The Street

If this works out as in previous years, refreshments may be available afterwards at the Village Hall. Who could possibly turn down an offer like that?

Details and pictures from previous events at:

[www.ovington.org.uk/litter](http://www.ovington.org.uk/litter)



The clocks change on Sunday 30 March, being spring the clocks 'spring' forward an hour thus giving us lighter evenings.

## Contents

Village Hall (VH).....	3
Rainfall.....	4
Youth Club.....	4
Parish Council (PC).....	4
Church News.....	5
Introduction.....	6
Village Bus Service.....	7
World Day of Prayer 2025.....	7
Out of Village Events.....	7
And Finally.....	8

### Village events this month:

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

VH=Village Hall, C=Church, LP=Litter Pick  
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 (VH)

*Mike Howes (Village Hall Trustee)*

## **Events Review:**

### **Curry Evening – 15 February**

Despite the weather we had a near full turn out for our annual curry evening.

A delicious selection of five different curries together with rice and naan bread. A mouth watering selection of sweets were available afterwards. We also had a raffle.

Many thanks go to our resident Master-chef Stuart and all the ladies for their hard work.

We had great feedback and hopefully we will have it as a regular annual event.

## **Forthcoming Events:**

### **Litter Pick – 29 March**

Meet at village sign at 10:30am and the village hall afterwards.

### **Quiz Night – 29 March**

We will be having another quiz night on Saturday 29 March, 7:00pm for a 7:30 start. £3 per person. Max of 6 persons per table. Bring your own snacks and drinks.

Will be a fun night.

## **Regular Events:**

- Coffee mornings continue to be held every Monday morning at 10:30am. All are welcome, it is only £1 for as many cups of tea/coffee and a selection of cakes and sausage rolls.
- Youth Club on the last Friday of the month.
- Yoga classes every Tuesday.
- Indoor carpet bowls on alternate Wednesdays at 7:00-7:30pm.

## **AGM:**

The AGM was postponed until 5 March at 7:00pm, all are welcome.

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

The VH Trustees

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## Rainfall

Tim



Total rainfall for January was 52.6mm ( $2\frac{1}{16}$ ").

As of 24 February the monthly running total stood at a dryish 27.2mm

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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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## Parish Council (PC)

Laurie Shepherd – Parish Clerk

### Next Meeting:

19 March in the Village Hall at 7:30pm

Future meetings on: 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

David Welsted

### Services:

2 Mar – 10:30am	Holy Communion	(Revd. Patrick Morrow)
5 Mar – 4:00pm	Ash Wednesday Service	(Revd. Patrick Morrow)
9 Mar – 10:30am	Morning Worship	(Jean Rockett-Woods)
16 Mar – 10:30am	Family Service	(Jean Rockett-Woods)
23 Mar – 10:30am	Book of Common Prayer	(Jean Rockett-Woods)
30 Mar – 9:30am	Mothering Sunday	
	Benefice Service, <b>Ashill</b>	(Revd. Patrick Morrow)
6 April – 10:30am	Holy Communion	(Revd. Patrick Morrow)



On Tuesday evening, 18 February, the Reverend Patrick Morrow was licensed and installed as the new Priest-in-Charge of Ashill Benefice (consisting of Ashill, Ovington, Merton and Saham Toney parishes) in a lovely service led by Bishop Jane, the Bishop of Lynne.

Many people attended from all four parishes, each parish took turns to say a personal prayer of welcome and encouragement to Patrick – our representative was Ann Johnson who delivered a very nice, heartfelt prayer. There were also messages of “Welcome” given by the “Wider Community”; Ovington Parish Councillor (and District Councillor) Pete Bate welcomed Patrick on behalf of the Parish Council and the wider community.

At the end of the service the congregation were invited to stay for refreshments and had the opportunity to speak with Patrick on a more personal level.

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# Introduction

*Revd Patrick Morrow*

I'm Patrick Morrow, and by the time you read this I will (God willing) have been licensed as Church of England Priest-in-Charge for the parishes of Saham Toney, Ashill, Ovington, and Merton. I've been looking forward to it intensely, and have already received such a warm welcome from the villages.

I am a country boy myself, growing up in rural Yorkshire (first in the East Riding, then in the North, around York, where, interestingly, it is mostly flat). So, yes, I am a proud Yorkshireman (as if there were another kind)! I did various things before ordination, studying Theology (in Durham, Dublin, and Cambridge), and working in retreat houses, and as a health care assistant in a forensic psychiatric hospital.

After training in Cambridge, and a curacy in Lincoln, I moved to London. Here I had a variety of roles at different times, including parish work in Camberwell, in the South, and Manor Park, in the East, and chaplaincy in two universities, and, again, a psychiatric hospital. I also worked for the Council of Christians and Jews. Jewish-Christian Relations, and interfaith relations more broadly, have long been special interests. I'd love to take a group to a synagogue and a mosque in the wider area at some point. I know we'd get a great welcome.

Another personal interest is languages, including Biblical Hebrew and Greek. I lived in Hamburg for a year after A Levels, and was delighted to find last year, at a conference in Salzburg, that I can still communicate in German. I love both music and poetry. At least historically(!), I have been a competent singer, and I read a poem a day, and try to write at least one a month.

I've had a connection with this part of Norfolk over the last four years, in that my last role was as Anglican Chaplain to HMP Wayland. Now, my earnest wish is to throw myself into the life of the villages – all of which are vibrant in distinctive ways. It is important that I am up front in saying that my parish role is half time, and I will have a second string to my bow, as mental-health chaplain. So please do not read anything into my being absent from some important events. It is how it has to be. My prayers for you – as people and as communities – are already constant.

Revd Patrick Morrow,

Email: [patrickmorrow@live.co.uk](mailto:patrickmorrow@live.co.uk)

Tel: 01760 330258.

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## Village Bus Service

*Timothy Birt*

I reported in last month's Oracle that the Konect number 15 was a free service though the village and to and from Watton. However, since then charges have been introduced and it now costs £2.00 per journey unless you have a bus pass.

[www.konectbus.co.uk](http://www.konectbus.co.uk)

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## World Day of Prayer 2025

*Ann Johnson*



Friday 7 March at 2:00pm  
at Watton Methodist Church, High Street  
followed by refreshments  
All are welcome

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## Out of Village Events

**Norfolk Wildlife Trust** (Breckland Local Group)

**Fiona Roat**



We were very heartened by the turn-out last month, thank you all. Eliot Lyne being CEO of NWT was obviously popular and his talk was extremely interesting and informative about the plans for the future of their conservation work and community engagement in the future. He says there are plans to encourage the local communities to visit and engage with Wayland Wood, in order to understand how special it is and help to take care of it. A subject very dear to my heart.

On Wednesday March 12 at 7:30pm we have James Symonds, NWT warden at Weeting, informing us on Lichens. These are fascinating organisms and as James is always very enthusiastic and knowledgeable, it should be a good evening,

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

## And Finally

Tim

The vernal equinox occurs on Thursday, 20 March 2025, at 9:04am to be unreasonably precise. The word *equinox* comes from the Latin for equal “*equi*” and night “*nox*”, so taken literally means equal night.

The name is somewhat misleading because by 20 March the sun will already be above the horizon more than it is below. There are different ways of defining sunrise and sunset, but commonly sunrise is when the first part of the sun is visible and sunset is when the last sliver disappears. Furthermore sunlight is bent by the atmosphere and by a size coincidence when you observe the sun first touching the horizon the whole disc has actually just gone below it.

The equilux (again from Latin for equal “*equi*” and “*lux*” meaning light) is a better measure of what we often expect the equinox to be. Unfortunately the equilux is not fixed and depends on where you are on the globe, but will be about three days or so before the equinox.

Why was the Equinox so calm?

It had everything under control – day and night!

Why did the moon love the Equinox?

It felt like they had equal time to shine!

How does the Vernal Equinox greet you?

‘Long time no sunshine!’

### Submission deadline for next issue: 23 March

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