

The Ovington Oracle

April, 2025

Recipe of the month: **PISTACHIO SABLES**

This is a recipe given to Delia Smith by the Head Pastry Chef at the Blakeney Hotel.

Ingredients

15g Shelled Unsalted
Pistachio Nuts

40g Strong White
Flour, sifted

40g Unsalted Butter,
diced

40g Freshly Grated
Parmesan

A pinch of Cayenne
Pepper

Seasoning

Method

- Chop the pistachio nuts quite small.
- Mix with all the remaining ingredients in a medium sized bowl.
- Rub all the ingredients together to form large clumps.
- Press the mixture against the sides of the bowl to bring together.
- Transfer to a board and knead lightly.
- Roll into a sausage shape about 18cm long.
- Wrap in cling film and put in the freezer for 30 minutes.
- Heat oven to 180°C/gas mark 4.
- Grease baking tray.
- Slice the log into discs about 5mm wide and spread out on tray.
- Pop in centre of oven and bake for roughly 13-15 minutes, until they start to go golden around the edges.
- Transfer to wire rack to cool.
- Store in an airtight tin.

Recipe (and samples!) provided by Ann Johnson so I can categorically agree these are **delicious!**



Did you remember?

The clocks changed on Sunday 30 March

Contents

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Reflection about Easter..... | 3 |
| Village Hall (VH)..... | 4 |
| Rainfall..... | 5 |
| Memories..... | 6 |
| Parish Council (PC)..... | 8 |
| Annual Parochial Church Meeting..... | 10 |
| Church News..... | 11 |
| Village Bus Service..... | 12 |
| And Finally..... | 12 |

Village events this month:

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

VH=Village Hall, C=Church,
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

Reflection about Easter

Revd Patrick Morrow

I write in early Lent. You may be reading this on Easter Day. Time flies! I am enjoying settling in as your priest-in-charge, and hugely looking forward to my first Holy Week and Easter at Saham Toney, and the other parishes in my care – Ashill, Merton, and Ovington.

So much could be said about Easter. You might expect that I'd be glum, and complain how the religious meaning of the festival – just like Christmas – has been lost. Well, I am realistic. I remember how, for me as a child, growing up way back in the 1970s, Easter was really about chocolate. My sister, brother, and I went to church – because you got a cream egg!

Or you might think that I am somewhat anxious about Easter. I mean anxious that (as happens most years) the media will uncover the hidden fact that Easter is named after a goddess, "Eostre", and she was a hare who laid eggs! So Christians imposed their own teachings onto this pagan origin, perhaps in a bullying way. I will be a plain-speaking Yorkshireman. I am not anxious. For that account, which the media so love, is garbled nonsense. It's a Victorian romantic compound invention. The roots of Easter are Christian.

I will say: even in the times of my life when I have not called myself a Christian, I have known that in the story of Jesus – the whole of his life, but especially his last days and the mystery of what happened after his death – there is something intriguing, and a clue about what counts in life. What counts in life is love. Love radiating from the Cross. Love meeting us in signs of life where all seems death. We'd love to see you at our services!

Revd Patrick Morrow,

Email: patrickmorrow@live.co.uk

Tel: 01760 330258

Village Hall (VH)

Mike Howes (Village Hall Trustee)

AGM

On Wednesday 5 March we held our AGM

All the Trustees were re-elected with the exception of Lyndia Lewis who had sadly passed away.

The Trustees are as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Chairman | Dave Welsted. |
| Vice Chairman (& Hall bookings) | Mike Howes. |
| Treasurer | Richard Moss |
| Secretary | Rosemary Jones. |
| Social | Kaz Mason. |
| Maintenance | Stuart Burgess. |
| Allotment representative | Jill Burgess. |
| Parochial Council Representative | Jean Rocket. |

The Village Hall has had a very successful 2024.

Finances are good, please ask if you would like a copy of the accounts, contact the Secretary (rosemaryjones152@gmail.com)

The number of events held have increased, we try to have at least one a month.

Village Hall bookings are also up.

The Village Hall is available to hire, only £6 per hour for village residents. Please ring Mike on 07733236689 (mike@snicket.uk) if you would like to make a booking.

The Committee Room has had a complete overhaul with both new decoration and carpet. A lot of the electrics have been overhauled and upgraded.

We look forward to this new year and hope we will be well supported.

Forthcoming Events:

Litter Pick – 29 March

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

Quiz Night – 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.

Family Games night – Friday 11 April at 7:00pm.

£2 per person. No need to book. Bring a bottle if you wish.

Bingo – Saturday 10 May

More details to follow

Regular Events:

- Coffee mornings held every Monday morning at 10:30am.
- Youth Club on the last Friday of the month.
- Yoga classes every Tuesday.
- Indoor carpet bowls on alternate Wednesdays at 7:00-7:30pm.

Spring is here and everything is starting to grow !

The Church Cemetery needs regular maintenance ie grass cutting. It would be great if we can have a few more volunteers to help. Please ring 07733236689 if you could help.

Please remember the Village Hall is for the residents of Ovington and surroundings. It can only be a success if we have YOUR support.

ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk

The VH Trustees

Rainfall

Tim



Total rainfall for February was 43.7mm (1 ³/₄").

It has been an agreeably sunny month. As of 25 March the monthly running total stood at a just 6.8mm; fortunately there is still plenty of water in the soil.

Memories

Julie Gwilliam

Thank you to everyone who took the time to send condolences, tributes and donations, both online and in person and who came to say goodbye and remember Dad and Mum in February.

Thank you to everyone who helped out afterwards, making tea and clearing up. It's the quiet background support and help that makes it all so much easier and it was very much appreciated.

From Julie and Helen and our families.

Karen Weir

February was a sad time in the village.

The church saw funerals for two of our much loved residents, both who over many years gave time, love and help to all.

Lyndia Lewis

Lyndia volunteered on many different committees. I've shared time with her on the village hall committee and the church committee. Always helpful, knowledgeable, ready to launch herself into whatever needed doing.

However, her antics on litter picks will always be the stuff of legends. A demon ditch cleaner. Getting deep down and dirty in the depths of our ditches, she made sure they were left as clean as a whistle!

'Don't go too mad Lyndia' we all said as we left Crown Crescent. We all knew she wouldn't be listening and would jump in and then out again no matter what we suggested. Usually she arrived last back at the village hall for tea and buns and of course sausage rolls. But the ditches were spick-and-span after they'd received the 'Lyndia treatment'!

I wonder who will be taking her place from now on.....

Them ditches don't clean themselves you know!

Rod Rumsby

As was spoken about at his service, he was into everything! But I'm going to write about my relationship with him on the Parish Council.

I have been on the council for I think 11 years, ish! Rod was the chairman. My first few months saw us place a bid to get the wonderful trod installed. I took on the legwork to canvass our residents, finding out if it would be used, making sure the money spent was going to be worth it.

Obviously we were successful and my 'reward' for the hard work I'd personally done was for him to 'bully' me into taking his place as chairman!! He wanted to step down and let younger blood take over. (He didn't actually bully me!)

I was scared! But he convinced me to say yes, promised he would help me, and to be fair, we are a team, a wonderful team and that was that.

His knowledge about the village was second to none.

His kindness for all was amazing.

The fun we had, the laughs and copious amounts of coffee and cake consumed made the council meetings more relaxed and we did 'get things done'!

Him being best mates with Boy Sid and serving on the Parish Council with me, gave the Ovington Crower a great deal of material. The one occasion which stays in my mind is the time I was seen running through the village waving around my unmentionables! I don't remember doing it, but the chair mawtha (what Boy Sid and Horry called me!) was seen so I must have!

There is a huge hole in our small village that has been left by the sad loss of two amazing people, the likes of which may never be seen again.

Lyndia, Rod.

May you both rest in peace.

May we all find a way to continue without you.

We will hold dear our love for you both in our hearts.

We all cherish the memories we have of spending time with you.

Karen x

Parish Council (PC)

Laurie Shepherd – Parish Clerk

A report for the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held on 19 March

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

In attendance: The Clerk and two members of the public

Matters arising:

1. Highways – The trod collapse was actioned to the furthest degree, but a hard surface won't be installed. It has been resurfaced to bring it back to the way it was.
2. 30 mph sign to be addressed further on.

Councillor Reports:

from DC H Crane, P Bates and CC C Bowes are on the website.

Correspondence – none

Planning:

- PL/2025/0060/SU37: Stable Block, Shipdham, IP25 7RN; Add a third conductor to the existing overhead electricity line.
- PL/2025/0048/TRE: Thornborough, 1 Church Road, T10 Common Lime TPO ref. 2005 no17, Crown clean, the height of the tree will be reduced by approx 2 – 2.5m.

Payment of Accounts and precept update:

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|
| <u>Payments Received</u> | Rent | £650.00 |
| | Ovington Parish Trust Receipt | £430.00 |
| <u>Payments to be made</u> | Village Hall Hire | £36.00 |
| | HMRC Taxes | £63.33 |
| | Clerk Expenses (4 months) | £51.80 |

Expenses were signed and agreed by all present

Policy Review:

Following a brief discussion about wording, the following policies were approved in line with the schedule: Standing Orders, Code of Conduct, Financial Regulations and Statement of Internal Controls.

Any Highways or Village Issues:

There was a discussion over the 41 metres of hedge that has been pulled out. The Breckland Tree & Hedgerow Officer has been out to inspect and will return to do a species assessment. It was noted that last time no action was taken despite it being deemed two criminal offences had occurred.

30 MPH sign fallen over.

The huge new field opening now opens on a blind bend and there are drainage issues nearby. TB to write up an email detailing these three issues to send to the Highways Officer and set up a meeting.

Community Table:

Information was received about the Carbrooke community table.

There is no one available at Ovington Village Hall to manage a Community Table. Ovington Village Hall are okay (with provisions) with having a Community Table on their property, but it would need to be managed properly. TB to put a note in the Oracle asking if anyone is willing to volunteer for this management position.

Litter Pick:

March 29th, 10:30 to meet at the Village Sign on The Street. Kit is booked, the risk assessment has been completed. There will be an event in the Village Hall after the Litter Pick around noon.

Adjournment for Public Participation:

1. The point was raised that the large gateway mentioned earlier is on a blind bend and the 30 MPH sign has been taken out which is a criminal offence.
2. There was a discussion on the spring well on that field which was the clean water supply for the village as well as the other wells in the village.
3. There was a discussion over the old Village Shop and its history over the years. Member of the public working on getting photographs of the old Village Shop. The member of the public emphasised the importance of keeping the history of the village alive.
4. There was a discussion over the cross roads and the speed issues.

5. A member of the public asked if Parish Council meetings could go to once a month.

Next Meeting:

28 May (AGM & APM) in the Village Hall at 7:30pm

Future meetings on: 16 July, 17 September, 19 November.

PC documents at:

ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home

THE
**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL
CHURCH MEETING**

WILL BE HELD

ON

SUNDAY, 6TH APRIL, 2025

AT

11.30 AM

(AFTER THE SUNDAY SERVICE)

IN

**ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,
OVINGTON**

**PLEASE COME ALONG AND SUPPORT YOUR
PARISH CHURCH — OR YOU MAY LIKE TO JOIN
THE PCC — MORE MEMBERS MOST WELCOME**

* * * * *

Church News

Jean Rockett-Woods

Services:

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 30 Mar – 9:30am | Mothering Sunday | |
| | Benefice Service, Ashill | (Revd. Patrick Morrow) |
| 6 April – 10:30am | Holy Communion | (Revd. Patrick Morrow) |
| 13 April – 10:30am | Morning Worship | (Jean Rockett-Woods) |
| 20 April – 10:30am | Easter Family Service | (Jean Rockett-Woods) |
| 27 April – 10:30am | Book of Common Prayer | (Jean Rockett-Woods) |



It is with great sadness that we had to say a fond farewell to Rod Rumsby and Lyndia Lewis. Both will be sadly missed for all the work that they did in our village, which was not always noticed but made quite a difference.

Our Mothering Sunday this year is held in Ashill Church. It is traditionally observed on the fourth Sunday of Lent.

Lent is the solemn Christian religious observance in the liturgical year in preparation for Easter. It echoes the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the desert and enduring temptation by Satan, according to the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, before beginning his public ministry. Lent is a time when Christians, and others, give up something that they like, and would miss, and give the money that they would have spent to a charitable organisation.

We are now looking forward to celebrate the rising of Jesus from the tomb that he was laid in after his death on the cross. Easter eggs represent new birth and some say that the shape of the egg also represents the stone which was laid across the entrance of the tomb. I hope that you enjoy the gift that Jesus gave to us, the gift of new life.

My daily prayers are for you all.

With love in Christ, Jean

Tel: 07749 870485

Village Bus Service

Christine Reilly

The number 15 bus will cease to operate after Saturday 29 March. They have axed it because not enough people used it! Apparently First Bus have also axed several other 'minor' routes for reasons of economy.

[**Editor:** *There is something odd with this. When the service started there was no information relayed to the Parish Council or The Ovington Oracle; we have only found out by wheedling it out via phone calls to First Group/Konnect or discussion with the drivers.]*

And Finally

Tim

I have recieved a message from Boy Sid who has hung up his pen and bids you all farewell:

“Dunt fergit, dew yew kip a troshin.

Orl tha best from boy Sid.”

Submission deadline for next issue: 22 April

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