

The Ovington Oracle

May, 2025

A grand turnout ...



A bright day at the end of March marked the annual village litter pick; a very successful event with

heaps of rubbish and some larger items collected. The result, a noticeably neater village with nothing to detract from the daffodils in full bloom.

After the collection we met back at the village hall.

Sincere thanks to the catering crew for such a wonderful lunch spread including hot soup, sausage rolls and cakes in many forms!

It was a busy time at the Village Hall because as soon as we finished it was time to set up for the quiz in the evening, see page 4.



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Village events this month:

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

Oak Apple Day is also ...

Revd Patrick Morrow

29 May is Oak Apple Day, or Royal Oak Day! This year it is something else as well. It is the Day of Ascension. Easter is late this year. Ascension is always 40 days after Easter Day, which means it always falls on a Thursday. To mark Ascension Day, there will be a service of Holy Communion at St George's, Saham Toney, at 7:30 pm, and you are warmly invited.

Ascension Day marks an event that is recorded by Luke, in his second volume, the Book of Acts – the acts of the apostles. It is an account of how Jesus, already risen from the grave, ascends into heaven, and is no longer seen, as he had been seen in the previous 40 days. And then there is a gap – of 10 days – before the descent – the coming down – of the Holy Spirit.

Now, I am not here to persuade you that we know it really happened that way. That is a much bigger discussion. I do think it offers food for thought. The Church – knowing the whole story, as we think we do – celebrates this as a Feast, a Festival. But I think we can also think of it in a different way. For those first disciples, was it not also a loss? Surely they were just beginning to get used to having Jesus with them again, after the trauma of the crucifixion, and then that really rather wonderful reassurance is taken away from them.

I've taken enough funerals to know the pain of grief, and the reassurance that follows intimations that this was not the end. The Feast of the Ascension takes us to the next step. The disciples must have been asking: And what now? How to live now? Thank God we are in such good company, when we ask that! We can feel so alone in grief, but truly we are not.

Revd Patrick Morrow,

Email: patrickmorrow@live.co.uk

Tel: 01760 330258

Village Hall (VH)

Mike Howes (Village Hall Trustee)

Review:

On 29 March we held our Quiz night.

This was very well attended. Questions were a little easier this time and we had some high scores. Congratulations go to the winners. A good night was had by all.

Friday 11 April we had our games night. Unfortunately this was poorly attended, all those who did come had a great time.

On Wednesday 2 April the Village hall had its regular committee meeting. Forthcoming events were discussed and these will be noted a bit later.

It was noted that due to the size of the hall we could accommodate 50 persons sitting together with 12 seated in the committee room.

It was agreed that the proceeds from the bowls night, held every 2 weeks, would go to help the Youth Club.

It was decided that it was about time that the fence had its annual coat of stain. This was carried out on Monday 7 April just after coffee morning.

It was mentioned that the toilets and entrance hall could do with a lick of paint. This will be carried out in the summer when it is a bit warmer.

Forthcoming Events:

Sunday 11 May. – Afternoon tea

This very popular event is very nearly fully booked ,so be quick if you wish to book a table.

Saturday 31 May 7:00pm – Quiz Night

Due to the popularity of the last quiz night we will be holding another. £3 per person and max of 6 per team.

Sunday 1 June – First Aid (Bandages and dressings)

More information to follow. Those who attended the resuscitation course realised how important these courses are.

Saturday 12 July – Barn Dance

This should be a fun event with Line dancing in the marquee together

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.

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.

ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk

The VH Trustees

Curious visitors

A male and three female peacocks have moved in at the east end of the village. Where they came from or how long they will stay is unknown. If anyone can fill in their life story, please share it with us.



Parish Council (PC) AGM

Laurie Shepherd – Parish Clerk

Next Meeting:

28 May (AGM & APM) in the Village Hall follows the APM, see below

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

PC documents at:

ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home

Annual Parish Meeting

Editor

The Ovington Annual Parish Meeting precedes the Parish Council AGM on 28 May at 7:30pm. This is a time to receive reports from the various groups in the village and for villagers to ask questions and make suggestions. It is hosted by the Chair of the Parish Council, but is not a PC meeting as such, although your Councillors will be present. We usually hear from:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| ◦ Parish Council | ◦ Youth Club |
| ◦ Village Hall | ◦ Oracle |
| ◦ Fuel Trust | ◦ District Councillors |
| ◦ Church | ◦ County Councillor |
| ◦ Allotment Association | ◦ and sometimes
<i>The Ovington Navy!</i> |

If you are running an event or have something to contribute to village life please let the Clerk know and your activity can be added to the agenda.

Rainfall

Tim



Total rainfall for March was just 7.1mm ($\frac{1}{4}$ ").

As of 25 April the monthly running total stood at a modest 14.5mm; hummm, starting to look a bit too dry.

Church News

David Welsted

Services:

4 May – 10:30am	Holy Communion	(Revd. Patrick Morrow)
11 May – 10:30am	Morning Worship	(Jean Rockett-Woods)
18 May – 10:30am	Family Service	(Jean Rockett-Woods)
25 May – 10:30am	Book of Common Prayer	(Jean Rockett-Woods)



Our new Priest-in-Charge excelled himself for the holy week of Easter; we had an evening service here at St John's on Maundy Thursday which involved not only the stripping of the altar but also a foot washing procedure where both Jean and Patrick washed at least one foot of everyone in the congregation. This is in remembrance

of Jesus at the last supper when he washed the disciples' feet and encouraging them to continue such a practice. Patrick also held two Good Friday services at Ashill and Saham, a Saturday service at Saham and an Easter Sunday service, again at Ashill.

On Easter Sunday we held our own Easter family service at St John's with some lovely singing by the children as they led on two modern hymns out of our normal four hymns. The service was followed by an Easter egg hunt and so the children were well rewarded for their singing.

And Finally

Tim

Some thoughts on thinking ...

Many know the famous quotation “I think, therefore I am”, which is quite deep, but maybe not as useful as another great saying by René Descartes (1596-1650):

“To know what people really think, observe what they do, not what they say.”

— <<<<>>> —

Give Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821) some credit, he was right about this:

“As a rule, you must always reserve the right to laugh the next day at your thoughts of the previous night.”

— <<<<>>> —

In this world of instant opinion and ‘alternative facts’, Galileo Galilei (1564-1642) nailed it a long, long time ago:

“In questions of science, the authority of a thousand is not worth the humble reasoning of a single individual.”

— <<<<>>> —

George Orwell (1903–1950) created some dystopian imagery, including this quite disturbing example:

“If people cannot write well, they cannot think well. And if they cannot think well, others will do their thinking for them.”

— <<<<>>> —

That was a bit dark, so let’s finish with Winnie-the-Pooh:

“Did you ever stop to think, and forget to start again?”

Submission deadline for next issue: 23 May

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