

The Overton Oracle

Volume 25 Issue 7

July 2023

Overton's Free Newspaper - delivered to every household monthly for 24 years



Welcome to our Twinning Friends from La Murette

Our French friends from our twinned village of La Murette will be arriving in Overton on July 30th. Details on p 4.

Welcome back to the White Horse

It is good to have our village pub open again. Open -
Mon.-Thurs. 3.00pm-11.00pm
Friday 3.00pm-12.00am
Saturday 12.00pm-12.00am
Sunday 12.00pm-11.00pm
Regular band monthly on a Friday.
Would anyone like to organise a Monday Quiz?

Use it or lose it!

Congratulations to Father Jeremy

who is celebrating his Silver Anniversary, 25 years since his Ordination.

Wellbeing Day

Come along to the Rainbow Wellbeing afternoon in the Village Hall on Monday July 10th
See full details on page 2

Well done

to Overton's Polina Horelova who will conduct the Ukrainian folk piece 'The River Song' during the concert of remembrance at the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod.

Overton Playcentre Holiday Club

This Summer Holiday Club will be running again 7.30am-6.00pm every week day except B/H. Lots of fun including archery, water fun, baking, camping, woodwork, arts, crafts, parachute games as well as playing in our beach style sandpit and much more- we can't wait for the fun to start!

Sunshine for the Fete



Fete day dawned warm and sunny as our many village organisations set up their stalls for the 2023 street market, opening at 10am. Joined by other small businesses, there were some 30 stalls spread along the streets and through the church yard, for

everyone to browse the goodies and delicacies, and try their luck at the games. The church yard provided welcome shade to sit and enjoy refreshments whilst listening to organ music.



The street market was followed by 'Picnic on the Pitch' from 2.00 to 4.30pm with a bar and Woodlands Ice cream cart on hand.

The afternoon finished with the well attended fun dog show, with classes to suit every dog, from showing off their best

doggy tricks, to wagging the waggiest tail.

The Overton Community Council must be congratulated on excellent organisation and publicity. It provided an opportunity for many of our local organisations and charities to raise funds, but the funds raised by OCC themselves will go to the Jubilee Community Fund to help individuals within Overton.

More photos in colour on the Oracle website



Musings from the Manse

.....
by Rev'd. Richard Parkes



Dear friends,

I've only been the minister for Overton for a year, but already this will be my last 'musing'.

I reached retirement age in April. Like a disgraced politician, I want to spend more time with my family!

It has been suggested that you know you're middle aged when you stop dreaming of playing for your country, and start dreaming of your children playing for your country. I'm dreaming of my grandchildren playing for their country, so what does that make me? I can't say I'm middle aged any more, but I don't feel old (although those same grandchildren probably see me that way!)

So what goes into a successful retirement? I think that finding a role, finding a calling, might have a part to play. Somewhere, there is rumoured to be a gravestone of a working woman whose epitaph read, 'Don't bother me now, don't bother me never; I'm going to do nothing for ever and ever'. But that can't work, at least not for me. Is it the dreaded Protestant Work Ethic?

So, initially I'll do nothing much, but think and pray. How can I give retirement a shape? Join Extinction Rebellion? Go on Saga holidays? Watch a lot of cricket? I'll probably read a lot of books – but why? All the knowledge I will gain won't be much use unless I find a purpose – so, after a break, I'll go back into the pulpit, and certainly, be available for family and friends.

But, whatever stage we're in life, we need to stop and consider. What is my calling? Is the way I live healthy? Have I got the work/life balance correct? But don't wish your life away, don't wait for the next thing to come along. Enjoy the present. Enjoy the people around you.

One final thought, I am increasingly convinced of the vital importance of the local – local shops, churches, schools and so on. Support your local community – and Overton has a lot going for it. May God bless you all.

Peace,

(Rev) Richard Parkes

Superintendent Minister, Wrexham Methodist Circuit

The Spinning Wheel Craft Group

The Spinning Group would like to invite everyone to come along to our first gathering in Overton since we moved from Ty Mawr country park. It is on Wednesday July 5th, 1.00pm-4.00pm in the Catholic Church Hall.

Jenny Pritchard will be visiting with her beautiful fleece rugs and some dyed fibres from her own pet sheep and alpacas. No animals are harmed in the process.

Come along and try your hand at spinning wool and find out how it can be knitted, crochet, wet felted or needlefelted into beautiful creations.



email: overtonoracle@gmail.com

Come along to the Wellbeing Event



Join us for our Rainbow Wellbeing event on **Monday July 10th** from **1.30pm to 4pm** at the **Overton Village Hall**.

The Rainbow Foundation

The Wellbeing afternoon will be joining the Overton community hub afternoon tea, and will provide free advice, information and support. You can come along to chat to your local Community Agent to find out how they can support you.

There will also be several other service providers joining the Rainbow Foundation team, including the local Welfare Rights team, your local Social Prescriber, PCSO's, Community Wardens and local Councillors.

This **FREE EVENT** is a great opportunity to also address any concerns you may have or ask questions. Alternatively, just drop by for a hot drink, cake and a chat. No need to book, just drop in.

Hayley Scott, Community Agent Officer

Thank you Many thanks to everyone who came and supported our Macmillan Coffee Morning. We raised £709.38. Also thank you to all those who helped out on the day, and the local businesses that provided such generous gifts for the raffle.

Hill Farm Penley

WI News

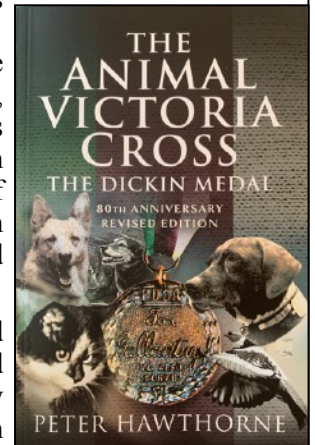
Our June meeting was open to all and it was lovely to see so many visitors. Our speaker was Peter Hawthorne who told us more wonderful stories of the animals (dogs horses, pigeons and one cat!) which had been awarded the Dickin Medal, the Animal Victoria Cross, for their outstanding bravery. We are delighted that Peter will return in the future to tell us even more.

He brought along lots of the new revised edition of his book, which he signed for us. It has been published for the 80th anniversary of the instigation of the medal and includes even more animal stories. By the end of the evening he had sold out.

We have a lot to look forward to, with a packed and varied programme for our monthly meetings, including Gin Tastings, a visit from Hugo Bourne of Malpas Cheese, and the opportunities to learn or just observe different crafts. Please do come along if you'd like good company and lots of fun. If you want any information, or a programme, you can ring me on 01978 710451.

As I write this, we are preparing for the Village Fete which is always a great day out. Overton certainly does put on great events. After that, we will be getting schedules ready for the Village Flower & Produce Show on September 2nd - the months are whizzing by!

Margaret O'Neill



Overton Cricket Club

The season has started and our first game was a home fixture. Once again, we are under the flag of Ellesmere/Overton with a good number of fixtures to be played at Overton on Dee.

Last season was good for both the first and second teams with all games scheduled being played, commitment from players and also the amazingly hot, dry summer.

Work on the ground started in early March and thanks to our groundsmen, it looks in good condition, regardless of the wet weather leading up to the start. Maintenance and improvements

to the pavilion are also in progress, with a new boiler being installed, enabling the showers to be used every game. Water and gas lines will be renewed, giving a complete overhaul of the facilities. The outside of the building is also being worked on, making it more functional and inviting to visitors for cricket and other events.

We are hoping for friendlies as Sunday fixtures with local cricket team. Afternoon sessions with the primary school children will also soon be taken at the cricket field.

There is a full midweek T/20 league with home games to be played at Overton – our team being ‘Dee Lions’. Ladies training sessions will be taken over at the ground as well as net sessions for those who fancy trying their hand at cricket.

Fixtures are posted on Facebook and shown are fixtures for weekend and midweek games.

It would be great to see you over at the ground throughout the season.

Rob Lawrenson



Breaking Tennis News

Following a very successful course of tennis coaching at our tennis courts on St Marys Avenue, and the very generous donation from an Overton resident, we are able to offer a further 4 weeks of FREE coaching for both children and adults.



The

dates are as follows:-

- Monday 26th June
- Monday 3rd July
- Monday 10th July
- Monday 17th July

Children 5pm - 6pm and Adults 6pm - 7pm

Our coach, Blake from Tennis 2You, has enjoyed coaching an average of 10 children and 16 adults.

Please contact Janet Edwards for any details (anybody already enlisted does not need to re-book)

Tel 07812939068 or email jgedwards56@gmail.com

Overton Recreational Football Club

What an end to a season!

Well done lads for last season. We can only grow from here, bigger and better next season!

Congratulations to

- Eddie for winning Sportsman of the Season,
- Alex Williams - Players' Player,
- Harry Massey - Top Goal Scorer,
- Harry Plumb - Manager's Player (*photo below*)



Creative Learning in Early Years Arts Project

Overton Playcentre is one of fifteen childcare settings across the whole of Wales chosen to be the first cohort through the Creative Learning in Early Years Arts Project. Early Years Wales and Arts Council Wales have facilitated this project.



During May and June, we have been very fortunate to welcome and work with Ticky Lowe, an artist who has worked with us bringing incredible 'Invitations to Play' to set up in our indoor and outdoor spaces, and John Merrill who has been working with staff and children to advance our woodworking skills, creating a hive of industry in our wood workshop. Ticky works with many groups across North Wales and John creates sculptures for the National Trust amongst others - the nearest to us is his child sculpture by Ellesmere Mere.



Overton Twinning News

This year we are welcoming 19 of our French friends from La Murette. They are arriving on Sunday 30th July, and departing on Sunday 6th August. Overton on Dee Scouts have kindly let us use their Scout Hut for the week – we will be using this as a base for meeting each morning and generally all other communal Twinning activities. Please feel free to come over and say hello / bonjour while we're there. We love to welcome new members, and to chat to anyone interested in joining, or what we're all about.

What are we all about?

Overton on Dee and La Murette have been twinned since 1994 – it will be our 30th Anniversary next year. It is a great opportunity to discover and explore the cultural diversity between Wales and France, and to show off our values and rich cultural heritage.

During the twinning week, several host families take in the visitors for a week, or a few days. It's a great opportunity to practice our French and for them to practice their English. It is fantastic to get to know the "real people", live with them, spend time in their homes and experience their way of life, food, and their country for the week.

Every other year we visit La Murette, and they visit us in the intervening year (usually at the end of July / beginning of August – perfect timing for families / children). We visited La Murette last year, and will be visiting them again next Summer, 2024.

On the "host year" (that's us, this year!), the Twinning Association members meet and plan daily activities for the week that the visitors are here. We try and organise a nice mix of local attractions, places of interest which are further afield, and some relaxing days in and around the village. Watch this space to find out what we have planned this year – we will be telling you all about it in the August issue of the Oracle.

We raise funds all through the year at various events, (the famous Wine tasting, Christmas Fayre, Easter Eggstravaganza, Summer fete, Games night, raffles, etc) and **all** monies are used **only for the French visitors**, to enjoy their week's stay – entrance tickets to events / places, meals, etc. Anyone who is interested can join the Twinning, it is completely open to all and free. It is a fun, joyous week, and over the years, firm friendships have been made.

Student Exchange

This year, 2 weeks before the twinning week, we are welcoming Johan Ancel, a 17 yr old from La Murette. I am sure we'll all make him feel very welcome. He is coming over to practice and improve his English language skills, and will be working at The Cross Foxes. Please do say hello (or bonjour) if you see him out and about.

Katharine Crockford, Secretary, Overton Twinning Association



Overton welcomes back The Blues!

For the first time in a few years, Overton Village Hall was the venue for a fantastic night of live blues music which had people dancing in the aisles! The Cinelli Brothers, a four-piece line up, certainly knew how to get the packed hall moving as it was impossible not to get caught up in their fabulous blues music and their remarkable showmanship.



As they played in the style of the Chicago and Texas blues of the 60s and 70s, this classy band kept the crowd fully entertained, every now and then swapping instruments to keep things interesting but also demonstrating their musical skill and versatility. Yes, it was hot; yes, it was loud too, but it took us back to when Overton regularly hosted live blues events in our village hall. It was a night to remember with everyone on their feet by the end of the show! Looking forward to the next live blues gig in Overton in November, details will be in The Oracle.

Anti Social Behaviour at the river

With the great weather, the bay/beach at the river in Overton has again become popular with the local youths.

Camping, litter and fires have been reported to NWPOLICE. NWPOLICE don't want to spoil the fun and enjoyment for all, so please, if you attend there, be respectful. This is not only anti-social but it's also a risk to livestock. Please can I ask parents, if your children are going there then ask them to not start fires and to take their litter home or dispose of it responsibly.



I will be keeping an eye on the location and more patrols are planned.

PCSO 2961 Dean Sawyer

email: overtonoracle@gmail.com



Overton Royal British Legion 120 Club

Results of the '120 Club' **BONUS DRAW** for June 2023. 116 members entered and the draw was made on Thursday 8th June. Winning numbers were selected by Richard Jones. 10 winners each receive £58.00

No 57 Les Thomas	No 98 Sheila Shoemark
No 93 Rebecca Baskerville	No 58 Ron Upton
No 18 William John Vaughan	No 110 Doreen Howell
No 6 Peter Rosselli	No 41 Gavin Li
No 114 Carrie Anne Osborne	No 111 Tracy Leech

CONGRATULATIONS

Next Draw will be on Thursday 13th July 2023
If you wish to join please ring Dave Austin Tel: 01978 710678 or contact him by Facebook Messenger.

"IF YOU DON'T PAY - - - YOU DON'T PLAY"

Thank you for your Loyal Support

News from your Community Council

Toilets in the village - we've had to call out the plumbers out a few times lately to unblock the drains in the toilets in the Football Pavilion and in the car park. They were blocked because people had tried to flush wet wipes, sanitary items and paper towels, which should be put in the bins provided. Please don't put anything down the toilets other than toilet tissue otherwise the toilets will continue to be put out of use whilst they're being unblocked. The cost for the plumbers' visits comes out of Community Council funds which is ultimately YOUR money, and the more we have to spend on this, the less we have to spend on more important things. So, please, put your wet wipes etc in the bin and not down the loo!

Post Office - John McCusker and Overton Community Council are making every effort to organise a temporary Post Office in the village and you'll be kept informed of progress along the way.

Defibrillators (defibs) in the Village - there are currently 4 Defibs in the village registered on The Circuit. The Circuit is the official register organised by the British Heart Foundation, and it is used by the North Wales Ambulance Service. They are located as follows:

- 1 - Football Pavilion - **this one is the responsibility of Overton Community Council**
- 2 - Police Station - the responsibility of the Police
- 3 - Overton St. Mary's School - the responsibility of the school
- 4 - Village Hall - the responsibility of the Village Hall Management Committee

There is a fifth defib in Overton Medical Centre, for the use of the surgery during opening hours.

The Village Hall defib will be checked and functioning normally as soon as practically possible. In the meantime, there is a notice on the Village Hall defib, directing users to the nearest alternative defib at the Police Station.

A two-hour CPR training, including the use of defibs has been arranged for Tuesday 25th July 2023 7pm in the Parish Room. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis. If you would like to attend please contact David Williams, OCC Clerk on Clerk@overton-on-dee.co.uk or 01978 710055

St Mary's School News

In Nursery and Reception, children have been learning about the seaside. Following their trip to Crosby beach a few weeks ago, pupils were inspired to build their own beach back at school. They have been looking at things that float and things that sink, as well as learning about things that live underwater. *(photo right)*



Children in Year 1 and 2 had an exciting day spent with Will from Technocamps. Pupils had an introduction to the world of coding and learnt about algorithms - how they are a set of rules and instructions that are followed in a specific pattern. Will demonstrated this as a 'Sandwich Bot' *(left)* and pupils had to program him to make a sandwich, which wasn't as easy as you think! The session finished with a crazy dance algorithm that worked well when it was at slow speed, but not so easy at full speed! It was an amazing, informative day.



Year 5 have been busy working in our new Kitchen Garden. *(left)* Following a successful funding bid, Claire from Wildbanks Conservation has been helping us to create a wonderful growing area with raised beds. The first plants are in, and we are so excited to be cultivating our own fruits and veg. Thanks to Claire for her expertise in guiding this exciting project!



Year 6 have recently completed their Bikeability training. *(Photo right)* You may have seen them cycling around the village, as they learnt to be confident and safe cyclists to gain their Level 2 certificates. Jo and Mark, our instructors, were impressed with their listening skills and everyone made superb progress over the three-day course.



Our school sports teams are celebrating their recent successes. Congratulations to our Year 5 / 6 netball team, who played a friendly competition against St. Chad's, Hanmer, winning three out of the four games they played. Our school football team *(right)* came runners up in the Little Red Tractor football tournament at Bangor on Dee - da iawn to our Year 5 & 6 team.



What's On

July Diary for St Mary's

Sunday	July 2 nd	9.30am All Age Worship
Sunday	July 9 th	9.30am Holy Communion
Sunday	July 16 th	9.30am Morning Prayer
Sunday	July 25 th	9.30am Holy Communion
Sunday	July 30 th	11.00am Joint Mission Area Communion Service at Holy Trinity, Bronington

July Diary for Overton Methodist Chapel

Sunday	July 2 nd	2.30pm Rev Neville Pugh
Sunday	July 9 th	2.30pm Local Arrangements
Sunday	July 16 th	2.30pm Rev Richard Parkes HC
Sunday	July 25 th	2.30pm Ms Sian Edwards
Sunday	July 30 th	2.30pm Rev Richard Parkes

Services at Our Lady And The Welsh Martyrs

Every Saturday 5.00pm Mass

The Community Hub, Mondays in July

from 2.00 - 4.00pm tea and cake in the Parish Room

Every Monday 10.00am-12.30pm Overton Art Group in the Catholic Hall, Wrexham Road.

Every Tuesday 2.00pm-4.00pm Craft Group at the Methodist Church, Overton

Every Thursday 11.30am-1.30pm Knit and Natter group at The Two Doves Cafe, Overton

July 4th - 9th Llangollen International Eisteddfod

Saturday July 8th 1.30pm-4.30pm Bangor on Dee's Big Day Out, stalls, games, raffle, food & drink

Monday July 10th 1.30pm-4.00pm Wellbeing Afternoon at the Village Hall. Free.

Thursday July 13th 7.00pm Overton on Dee Branch Royal British Legion meeting in the Parish Room

Thursday July 20th 7.00pm Overton on Dee WI Meeting at the Village Hall. 'A Crafty Evening'

Monday July 17th 6.50pm Overton Community Council meeting in the Parish Room. Members of the public wishing to speak can do so 6.50pm-7.00pm

Tuesday July 25th 7.00pm Oracle Editorial Meeting in the Recreational Club

Tuesday July 25th 7.00pm CPR training, including how to use a defibrillator. In the Parish Room. Details p5.

Saturday July 29th 10am - 12pm Methodist Church Coffee Morning

Adverts are not included in the on-line archived edition of the Oracle.

This is because the archive of the Oracle is available on-line going back many years and the adverts and contact details would be out of date.

Family Announcements

Congratulations to Robert Eve and Laura Barr on their marriage in Essex on the 17th June. Love from John and Catherine Eve.

Happy July Birthdays to Logan Netzband-Piggott, Anna Karlakki, Colin Davies, Dave (coal) Jones, Philippa Whitley, Jasmine Mannion, Miranda Austin, Paul Edwards, Matthew Lawrenson, Mike Pritchard, Stephen Reid, Davina Pritchard, Tracey & Kayle Leech, Jackie Kellet, Keith Miller, Ruth Overthrow, Avril Williams and Alice Foster.



Dustbin Days

Thurs July 6 th	Garden Waste & Recycling/food
Thurs July 13 th	General Waste & Recycling/food
Thurs July 20 th	Garden Waste & Recycling/food
Thurs July 27 th	General Waste & Recycling/food

Huge Congratulations

to Overton Playcentre CIO's Jackie Tombs for being awarded the 2023 Work Based Learner of the Year Award from Coleg Cambria.

Jackie has been incredibly dedicated, working so hard to get her Level 3 Playwork NVQ, working full time as well as caring for family members, coping with family illness and bereavement.

Despite all this she kept going and achieved her award. She gives 100% and more, the children know this and adore her. She is so worthy a recipient of this award.

WELL DONE Jackie!!!



PLEASE REMEMBER

Copy deadline is 20th of the previous month.

Get your events & news to us early to avoid disappointment

THIS INCLUDES ADVERTISEMENTS

Leave your contributions & announcements at the Corner Shop or email overtonoracle@gmail.com

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