



The Overton Oracle



Volume 25 Issue 5

May 2023

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

Saturday May 6th is The Coronation of King Charles III

Sunday May 7th is 'The Big Lunch' see details right

Monday May 8th is 'The Big Help Out' see pages 6 & 7

Congratulations to Liz Wilson of Ma Baker who has been shortlisted in the 2023 Welsh Food and Drink Awards for the Local Community Award.

The AGM of the Overton/La Murette Twinning Association will be held on Tuesday 2nd May at 7.30pm in the Parish Rooms. All welcome.

The Community Hub

will be held on Monday May 15th and 22nd from 2.00pm - 4.00pm. Come along for tea and cake in the Parish Room.

2023 Village Handicraft Show

Come along to the Village Hall, May 20th. Details on page 10.

The Coronation Big Lunch

brings neighbours and communities together to share friendship, food and fun and will be an opportunity for our community to get together to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III.

It will be Sunday May 7th 12noon to 2.00pm in School Lane. Bring your own tables, chairs, food & drink. It will be a first come, first seated event and we will need to place chairs and tables strategically to fit as many people as possible in quite a small area.

Giggles and Games company have offered to supply games for the afternoon and **ALL** children will need to be accompanied by an adult in this area at **ALL** times. There will be signs to remind families of this too. Well behaved dogs on leads are welcome too. We may even have a visit from Woodland's ice cream, that could take care of your lunchtime sweet-tooth!

We would love for you and your families to take as many photos as possible around the event to help future generations from our village know who was where, and with who. The road to St. Mary's Avenue and Dark Lane as well as Bangor Road will be open as normal to traffic. There will unfortunately be no alternative to the 'street party' if the weather is inclement, and the event will have to be cancelled. Let us know that you are coming by RSVP on <https://www.facebook.com/events/136440625891454/?ref=newsfeed> or search on Facebook page - "Overton on Dee...a lovely funny old village" to find the event.



Come and Sing MUSIC FOR A ROYAL CORONATION

Saturday May 6th - starting with a rehearsal at 2:30 pm

Written for the coronation of George II in 1727 it is well known as a patriotic anthem and is frequently heard on radio and television. You will almost certainly be familiar with the opening, at least. It is not difficult, being only 6 minutes long, and we will hold community rehearsals to help you join in. We will provide copies of the music but do bring your own if you have one. Everyone is invited to join us!

The performance will take place as part of a short celebratory event, including a cherry tree planting, at St Mary's Church on the afternoon of the Coronation, starting with a practice first at 2.30pm. We will conclude with refreshments by 4.00pm.

Community Rehearsals (around 30 minutes) will be held in St Mary's Church, Overton on - Friday 28th April at 6:30pm., Thursday 4th May at 7:00 pm. And. Saturday 6th May at 2:30 pm

We look forward to welcoming you.



Musings from the Manse

by Rev'd. Richard Parkes



Dear friends,

This month sees the Coronation of King Charles III. Like most people, I wasn't around during the last Coronation. A small matter of being born 4 years too late. There will be celebrations and street parties, but it will all be lower key than in 1953. Still, it is good to be able to celebrate together.

So, what do we need from a King? What do we need from our rulers? The prophet Samuel was not a fan of Kings – God was the only King the people of Israel should need. Samuel told the people that a King would take their sons for his army, his daughters to be servants. He'd give the best land to his mates, and he would levy taxes.

So, the prophets rail against injustice – usually the way the rich and powerful treat the poor (so nothing has changed much!) This injustice shows a lack of faith – God is just and merciful, so a lack of justice and mercy betrays a lack of faith in God. If we really believe in God, we will act in a way that demonstrates that belief.

The prophets want rulers to crush their enemies. I'm not sure that's how King Charles will see his role! But they also look to them defending the poor and vulnerable, with righteousness and peace being the natural order. That vision is focused on the ideal King, who will be wise. He's given names such as Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Christians look to Jesus to fulfil that vision.

Charles has a lot to live up to! I celebrate his commitment to the environment, and to disadvantaged and vulnerable young people.

Let's celebrate his Coronation, and put our backs into making our schools, churches, and communities the places we'd like them to be – places of equality and justice, but above all places that celebrate life in all its diversity.

If Charles can enable us to do that, he'd have my vote. But we don't get to vote for our King.

Peace,

(Rev) Richard Parkes

Superintendent Minister, Wrexham Methodist Circuit

Thank you for the eggs

Mary from the Wrexham Salvation Army collected all the donated Easter eggs from St Mary's church and was so pleased with them all. She was delighted with our efforts and asked to pass on her thanks to everyone.

Tracey and Sam also send their thanks to all who gifted.

Photo right - Father Jeremy & Mary from



The Rainbow Foundation launches new Reminiscence Choir

A free singing group for people living with dementia and other life limiting conditions has launched in South Wrexham. The Rainbow Reminiscence Choir is a community group run by The Rainbow Foundation; an active ageing charity based in Sth Wrexham. Research shows that music, especially singing, can be a powerful tool in unlocking memories and improving communication while keeping the mind active and enhancing both mood and wellbeing. Director of Operations Ian Pope says: "We have long since seen the positive impact that music and singing has in our Day Opportunities service which is why we are thrilled to be able to offer this to the wider community free of charge. Dementia can be debilitating, and families often feel that they are slowly losing their loved one. That is why our Rainbow Reminiscence Choir will help those people living with dementia and their carers to reconnect through song."

The Rainbow Reminiscence Choir launched in April, meeting once a month at a choice of three locations. Participants are welcome to join once a month at one location or attend all three. The group is free of charge and anyone living with dementia or other life limiting conditions are welcome to attend with their carer.

At Penley Rainbow Centre – once a month on Thursday at 1:30pm, 20th April, 1st June, 22nd June, 20th July, 14th September, 12th October, 9th November, 7th Dec. Other sessions are held at Chirk and Marchwiel.

To find out more about the Rainbow Reminiscence Choir and to book a free place, please contact The Rainbow Foundation on 01948 830730 or email info@therainbowfoundation.org.uk



Overton WI toasts the King

Overton on Dee WI toasted the King's Coronation at their Annual Meeting at the end of April, and then celebrated with a delicious fish and chip supper delivered by Overton Fish & Chip Shop. A review of the year highlighted the busy and varied time it has been, and new members were welcomed. A Coronation quiz with Coronation cup cakes completed a delightful evening. In May we look forward to a coach trip to Port Sunlight and an evening tour of Stans Superstore to hear about its history and development. *Margaret O'Neill*



The 2023 Village Fete

Overton's annual village fete will take place on **Saturday 24th June** which marks the return to its traditional date of the last Saturday in June for the first time in 4 years! It will take the form of a Street Market in the morning with a "Picnic on the Pitch" with a Fun Dog Show in the afternoon. Many thanks to Overton Football Club for letting us use the pitch.

Street Market

The Street Market will be from 10am to 1pm. Like in previous years, there will be stalls dotted around the village in the following locations:

- on the grass verges by Church Road
- Dark Lane
- In the Church yard
- To the left and right of the War Memorial up to the notice board on the lower High Street
- In front of the Village Hall

Stalls will be £10 for Clubs and Associations and £15 for businesses with proceeds going to the Jubilee Community Fund. Whilst there will be no charge for businesses operating from their own premises they may wish to make a donation to the Jubilee Community Fund or a charity they usually support in lieu. Bookings are now open - scan the QR code to open the form on your phone.



Picnic on the Pitch and Fun Dog Show

This will take place between 2pm and 4.30pm. Make your way to the football pitch bringing your own picnic things (including whatever you'd like to sit on) and pray for fine weather! There will be a bar serving drinks, and maybe a food vendor or two (keep a look out for more information nearer the time) if you don't want to make and bring your own picnics. There will also be a Fun Dog Show which the fantastic Kate Jones has kindly agreed to organise with Ma Baker ("Ma Barker" for the day!) acting as judge. The categories will appear in next month's Oracle.

Raffle tickets will be available for sale on line in the run up to the event - so even if you're away on the day you won't miss out on winning a prize! - as well as during the Street Market and the Picnic. The raffle will be drawn at the end of the picnic. Proceeds from Dog Show entries and raffle ticket sales will also go to the Jubilee Community Fund. If you'd like to get involved and help with the organisation - it's a lot of fun! - please contact Charlotte on 07960 538089.



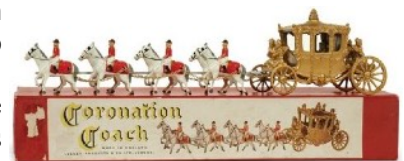
Memories of the 1953 Coronation

Myra Worthington remembers that on June 2nd, her family was invited next door by Mr Hobbs who lived at Peel House, Wrexham Road, to watch the Coronation on his tiny little TV. He was an elderly gentleman who lived there with his housekeeper. Myra remembers that every time 'God Save The Queen' was played, Mr Hobbs stood up to attention, and everyone had to follow suit. She remembers that all the children in Overton School were given a prayer book, signed inside the front cover and she still has hers safely tucked away.

Phil Edwards has memories of seeing the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh on the **1953** Coronation Day, 2nd June 1953. As a member of the RAF he was chosen to be part of the Guard of Honour that lined the 5 mile procession route from Westminster Abbey to Buckingham Palace. Chosen for his height, he and his comrades had trained for 3 months and were camped for the last few weeks in Kensington Gardens. They were fed well and issued with smart new uniforms, which were afterwards taken off them! His position was on Oxford Street near Selfridges. Phil has memories of the procession with its music and bands, of seeing the Queen in her golden coach, but also of the carriages with General Montgomery, Winston Churchill and Queen Salote of Tonga in her open carriage, waving to everyone despite the rain.

Margaret Evison said "We were invited to a neighbour's house to watch the Coronation as it was televised. She lived at the end of Tanners Row near what is now Maelor Court. Edna was well known as she was the usher at the films shown in the village hall by Mr Jenkins. I remember someone commenting to Maisie, Edna's niece, who was a hairdresser, how much lacquer was needed to keep the Queen's hair in such an immaculate condition. We were thrilled, as a family, to be invited to watch this spectacular event in the small room surrounded by friends."

From the Editor "After the Coronation we went on a trip to London to see the decorations along the Mall and Oxford Street, and to Westminster Abbey. I was bought what was to be my favourite toy, a Matchbox Coronation Coach with horses and riders that hooked on to the front. How I played with it! It got bent and battered being pulled back and forth in the garden. And eventually Mum chucked it out. If only I'd known to keep it safe and look after it and its box, because it would be worth a lot more now, all those years later!"



Dee Valley Medical Practice

Thank you to all of our patients who continue to be understanding, tolerant and supportive as the practice manages high demand. This was particularly acute over the Christmas and New Year period but we are pleased to reassure you that our staff levels have now been reinforced.

Dr Andrew Doyle has formally left the partnership since the beginning of April in order to pursue a more fulfilling work-life balance. He will still be active in the practice for a few months though as a regular locum so his patients should be reassured that he will still be available. In the meantime we are seeking to appoint a Salaried GP and are engaged in this process with a number of promising applicants.

Our Post Office customers will be aware that since we lost our key Post Office colleague in November last year we have had to limp along on limited opening. Unfortunately, we have not been able to find a means to continue the Post Office without detriment to our clinical service delivery needs as our recruitment has had to focus on meeting that priority. Our constrained opening has also been a source for unwelcome criticism in local social media. We have therefore taken the difficult decision to close our Post Office, and at this time have been informed by the Post Office that our last opening will be on Friday 22nd September 2023.

We are sorry that our Station Road, Bangor-on-Dee, new branch surgery and dispensary opening has been delayed. You will appreciate that we are subject to Wrexham County Borough Council and Health Board process in order to do so. We trust that a minor planning issue concerning vehicle access and egress from the site will be resolved shortly and understand that our application to move the branch surgery will now also be discussed at the Health Board Primary Care Panel due mid-May. Assuming that the Health Board approve the move we will then have to wait until NHS Wales Infrastructure are authorised to connect the buildings to online services. Notwithstanding these administrative hurdles we look forward to start delivering dispensing and clinical services from Station Road by early July 2023.

In the meantime our contractors are making substantial progress towards preparing the front, former showroom, for this deadline. Initial opening will replicate the current Chapel House level of service whilst the remainder of the building is renovated. Works have been planned so that there will be no interference or inconvenience for patients during this second phase build. By the Autumn we will be able to deliver twice as many clinics in Bangor-on-Dee. In the interim we will be seeking to dispose of Chapel House and have submitted a planning application for it to be returned to a two-bedroom dwelling should any new owner wish to use it as such.

Tony Marriott Business Manager

Overton Village History

Ever thought you would like to know more about the history of your village? Or that you would like to be involved in preserving and sharing that history? Then come along to the village hall on Tuesday 23rd May at 7pm when we plan to hold the first meeting of a Village Heritage Group which will be supported by our Community Council and find out more. All welcome – we look forward to seeing you.



Come along for an evening of music with award winning Porthywaen Silver Band performing at St Mary's Church on Saturday May 13th at 7pm.

There will be something for everyone, Songs from the shows, Movie themes, Marches, Beatles hits, Music for contemplation, Solos and Famous Welsh tunes. The acoustics for a silver band in church are superb.

Tickets are £10 (under 15 yr olds free) to include light refreshments and are available from 01978 710219 or 710631, or pay on the door.

The event is in aid of the Friends of St Marys who support the building repairs and maintenance of our parish church.

Ty Pawb Maker Space

During May and June you will be able to find Rachel Harris in 'The Maker Space' in Ty Pawb most Saturdays and during the week when she is not in Overton Playcentre.

She says, "I am very excited to have such a big space to be able to explore new skills and create new work! I will be working with Maddy Fowler from Welsh Dee River Trust to create a large quilt banner. Come to the Maker Space and tell us what the River Dee means to you and create a piece of artwork to go on the banner! On May 19th we will both be there celebrating Eels as part of World Eel Day and Endangered Species Day. Then join us for Dee Flows Day on the Saturday 27th May in Ty Mawr Country Park!

In The Maker Space I also will be working on a ghost net installation so do pop in to see how that is coming along! (Ghost net is old fishing gear that has been lost overboard and drifts in the sea never rotting!)

It will be lovely to welcome old friends and new into this studio space during this incredible opportunity.

At the end of my time in the Maker Space I hope to have an exhibition as well so look out for details there! Look forward to seeing you there!"

Defib Machines

In addition to the defib machines outside the village hall, at the Police House, in the doctors surgery and St Mary's School, there is also a defib machine outside the football pavilion by the playing field. which is owned and maintained by Overton Community Council. For information OCC will also be arranging CPR training sessions (2 hour) with the local Community First Responder. Please contact the Clerk on clerk@overton-on-dee.co.uk or 01978 710055 if you wish to register for the training. Please note spaces are limited.

St Mary's School News

It has been an extremely busy few weeks at St Mary's School with lots of exciting learning and trips galore!

As part of their work on the theme of 'Through the Ages' the children in Year 1 and 2 decided they wanted to visit a castle. So they took a trip to Stokesay Castle in Shropshire (*photo right*) to see how people used to live. They explored the different parts of the castle and said their favourite bit



(*left*) where they experienced a recreation of a Roman settlement. Pupils donned their Roman armour and took up their shields as they practised battle formations and spear throwing.

Continuing our history theme, children in Year 5 had a taste of what it would be like to have been a schoolchild in Victorian times during their recent visit to Blists Hill Living Museum. They got dressed into authentic costume and experienced a fully immersive school lesson in an original Victorian classroom, complete with a very stern and demanding school mistress. (*photo right*) The children all agreed that they certainly preferred the modern-day education experience! Year 6 also took a trip back in time to Tatton Park Farm, where they became evacuees and were introduced to their billet, the rather scary Aunt Mary! Children toasted bread in front of the fire in Aunt Mary's authentic 1940's parlour and learnt about the impact of rationing. They discovered what was expected of evacuees to the farm and had a go for themselves, including milking the cows, caring for the farm animals and cleaning the horse's saddles, as well as taking cover when the air raid sounded. These were all certainly trips to remember, as they brought our learning to life.



Nursery and Reception classes have been exploring their new woodwork area. The children have really enjoyed being able to work with real tools and they have made some amazing creations. (*photo left*) They have also become scientists and engineers as pupils had to use their problem-solving skills to build bridges and rafts to transport characters from their 'Traditional Tales' topic across a river.

Our whole school have come together on several projects and events recently. For World Book Day we had a magical 'Reading Cafe' created in the hall; older pupils read to younger children in the relaxing chill out zone whilst the cafe served delicious cakes and treats. Children loved sharing their favourite books with each other and dressing up as their favourite characters. For British Science Week we embarked upon a whole school 'Biscuit Dunking' investigation, with all classes, from Nursery through to Year 6, testing a range of biscuits for a final 'dunk off' challenge at the end of the week to crown the best biscuit for dunking. The results were quite surprising, but the best bit was eating the left-over biscuits! (*photo above*)



And, finally, children across the school were excited to receive over 400 native trees and edible hedgerow plants from The Woodland Trust. (*photo left*) The saplings have been planted by all classes to create a new boundary for our ever-developing Forest School and pond areas. Our planting sessions were supported by members of our school community and Overton Growers, so huge thanks to them, and we can't wait to see the trees develop and provide wildlife havens in our school environment.



Phew! What a busy few weeks we have had!

Mrs Williams, Yr 6 Teacher and Yr 6 Reporters, Josh Carpenter & Caitlin Rooney.

Come along to the **Open Morning on Sat. 20th May from 9.30-11.30am. All welcome to attend, please come and see our incredible village school and all we have to offer. Contact us on 01978 710370 for more details**



Overton Volunteers

“The Big Help Out will highlight the positive impact volunteering has on communities across the nation, in tribute to His Majesty The King’s public service. The Big Help Out will encourage people to try volunteering for

Thanks to the volunteers of **Overton on Dee WI** who organise the the village Handicraft Show and Produce Show, and provide friendship and fun for members. Come & join us, ring 01978 710451

Running **Overton Bowling Club** requires a lot of effort. Keeping the green to the necessary level of precision requires constant work. Overton is fortunate to have one of the best greens in the area, and also has the people who put so much effort into maintaining the green. The finance and organisation required to keep 3 teams in the local leagues, is also substantial. We must offer a big thanks to the people who put so much effort into having a successful club which offers fun and competitive sport to over 40 sporting people.

The Royal British Legion – Overton on Dee Branch would like to thank all those who every year volunteer to take part in the Remembrance Sunday tribute in Overton - without your contribution this would not be happening. Also many thanks to the shops, pubs, clubs and schools who kindly have a collecting box for the Poppy Appeal every year. And also thank you to Paul and Chris of Eastwick Nurseries, who plant out the flower bed surrounding the War Memorial through the seasons. The contribution made by these volunteers in support of the Armed Forces Community is much appreciated - Thank You.

Thank you to everyone in the **Overton Community Growers** who turn up to help make our village both beautiful and wildlife friendly.

We always need more help, gardening experience is helpful but not essential, everyone is welcome. For more information on our spring/summer volunteer days contact overtongrowers@gmail.com or Claire on 07825-959548 or Facebook group ‘*Overton on dee community growers*’

Thank you to all our **Twinning Volunteers**, who are so generous with their time to make our fundraisers so successful, so that our French Visitors can come over for Twinning week.

The cake makers, packed lunch artists, chefs, washer uppers, cleaner uppers, poster makers, organisers, raffle ticket sellers, moppers, mini-bus drivers and hosts. Your energy and boundless enthusiasm make every event a joy.

At **St Mary’s School** we are blessed to have a huge amount of volunteers who regularly help us out; from our wonderful Governors and PTA to volunteers such as Joanne and Paul from St Mary’s Church, Ma Baker teaching pupils how to bake bread, Danielle helping with craft, Claire Watkinson and Clare and Mick at Wildbanks Conservation helping us in our wonderful outdoor spaces, Rob, Keith and Paul helping keep the school neat and tidy, Jill Burton taking us on history tours of the village, and countless parents and grandparents who help out on trips and other occasions. Thank you to you all.



Overton Playcentre has over 55 years of volunteers who have actively helped,

- from managing by our Trustees,
- to fundraising literally thousands of pounds over the years by running events, applying for grants, finding funds,
- to volunteers maintaining our building, gardens and yards, toys, put things like sheds together, take old sheds down, tip runs, and much much more.

Our Playcentre would not exist if it were not for our incredible amazing volunteers, they are so integral to our whole being and ethos, a huge HUGE THANK YOU to each and every one of you who have helped and continue to support us in whatever way - we simply cannot do this without you.

THANK YOU

The Big Help Out



Where would Overton be without volunteers? Here is a thank you to all those who volunteer to make our village a great place to live, and highlights the

Overton Cricket Club has been a part of this community for over 170 years. We remain grateful for every player, young and old, their families and the much loved tea providers too. We need to thank those who keep our ground and pitch and those who keep our machinery running. The past few years have been tough and we are glad to have the support from Ellesmere Cricket Club and we look forward to forging stronger links with them too. We are holding 2nd XI matches from April 29th; let me know if you fancy a game and an afternoon in summer sunshine (hopefully)! *Rob 01978 710537*

For over 1,000 years **St Mary's Church** volunteers have maintained the Church and its Mission to our Community. These include our Wardens, Treasurer, Church Committee, Worship Leaders, Belltower Captain & Bellringers, Cleaning Rota, Flower Arrangers, Churchyard Gardeners, Choir & Organist, Social & Fundraising Committee, and the Friends of St Mary's. Everyone has played a role. This has enabled our Parish Church to continue to serve as a house of prayer, worship & celebration central to family and community events in our village. Thank you to them all.

Overton Methodist Church are very grateful for the help from all those who volunteer to keep the chapel going. Thanks to those doing the services, communion, refreshments, finances, organisation, cleaning, music, monthly coffee mornings, grass and hedge cutting. Also for all the support of the village.

Overton's Community Councillors are all volunteers, giving of their time to look after village facilities, the playing field, public toilets, cemetery, Millennium Meadow, fete, community hub, jubilee community fund, and others. We thank them for their commitment.

And thank you to the other volunteers not mentioned, like those who pick up litter, and all the others whatever they do, who help make our village a great place to live.

Early every Sunday morning Sam, Jim, Pauline, Gareth, David and Liz give their time and enthusiasm to ring the **St Mary's Church bells**. They also practice every Tuesday evening so, a big shout out and thank you. Let us know if you would like to have a go or just come and watch!

Listen out and enjoy the bells ringing during the Coronation weekend. *Clare Morris, Tower Captain*

Thank you to all the volunteers who make possible our village newspaper - **The Overton Oracle**, the Editorial Team and the Distributors who go out in all weather to make sure you get the village news - they are all volunteers. We are looking for more to join the editorial team and for a new Editor, so if you can help please email overtonoracle@gmail.com

The **Overton Wildlife Group** is a part of the Overton Community Growers, and works to try and make Overton an even better place for wildlife than it already is. We have created over 2,000m² of wildflower meadow, planted over 5,000 wildflowers and 5 trees, put up 2 barn owl boxes, 5 tawny owl boxes and created a wildlife pond. We'd like to give a big thank you to all the volunteers who have made this happen.

Overton Recreational Club would like to thank all our volunteer committee members who spend a lot of unpaid time organising events, including bingo, dances, quizzes and race nights amongst many other things, for the benefit of the village. We have recently had a very successful charity weekend raising much needed funds for our chosen charity Hope House Children's Hospice and we thank our many local companies who have shown their support. More details next month and don't forget everyone welcome and no membership required.



Goin' Up The Country Blues Club is back at Overton Village Hall

The Goin' Up The Country Club makes a welcome return to Overton on Dee Village Hall on Friday June 16th at 7.30pm for what could be one of the gigs of the year when we welcome the amazing Cinelli Brothers for their first appearance at our club.



The band is made up of London residents of Italian birth Marco Cinelli on guitar and keyboard and his brother Alessandro on drums. Completing the lineup is Tom Julian-Jones on guitar and harmonica and Stephen Giry on bass and guitar. All members of the band share vocal duties individually or harmonise collectively and will often swap or exchange instruments in the middle of a song creating great excitement as they do.

Since they burst on the UK scene about 5 years ago with their modern take on traditional blues, introducing aspects of soul, rock and gospel, they have been selling out venues across the UK and Europe and building up a massive fan base. They have released 3 superb cds in that time and have just returned from recording their latest release at the legendary Woodstock studios in New York State where Muddy Waters, Johnny Winter, Bob Dylan, The Band and many more famous artists have recorded.

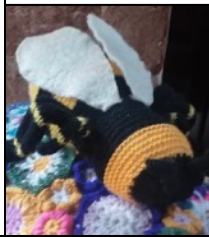


In January they represented the UK at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis competing against 200+ bands from all over the USA and the world and after 5 days were awarded the silver medal as runners up. Unsurprisingly (sarcastic tone!) an American band won however, we have it on good authority that everyone present on the final night made it clear that the Cinellis should have won the gold medal!!

Already this gig is attracting massive attention and this is why we have booked Overton, so please get your tickets @ £17 asap by contacting Pete Evans on email - petevans@btinternet.com or leave a message on 07725 442905. Check out the Cinelli Birthers on YouTube or on their website <http://www.cinellibrothers.com/>

Dafydd the sheep's latest transformation

Dafydd the sheep has been in St Mary's church this Easter spreading the word about the importance of bees. He has been sporting his new Springtime coat and giving away free seeds which were kindly donated by Overton Growers Group. I'm sure the Overton bees will be very grateful.



Monarchs of Britain

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email: overtonoracle@gmail.com

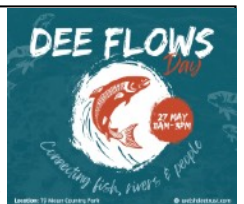
The Overton Community Growers

are a group of hardy local volunteers who meet up regularly to maintain green community spaces in our village. It was started by some local mums from the St Marys Toddler group about 10 yrs ago with some raised beds growing 'food for free' outside the Scout Hut. Now the areas overseen have increased & are diverse, ranging from the traditional hanging baskets and tidy flowering plants outside the Village Hall & High Street, to the beautiful biodiverse chaos of the car park wildlife garden. We have mini allotments at the end of the bowling green that anyone from the village can apply to use to "grow their own" with the bonus of professional growers on hand within the group for advice.

The Overton Wildlife Group joined us just before lockdown setting up 5 mini meadows & their ongoing maintenance, a pond, bat & owl boxes & bug hotels. Thousands of wildflower plug plants and bulbs have been planted, swathes of land have been encouraged to be left alone, others have been tidied, weeded, mulched and watered.

If you care about our river

On 27th May, Welsh Dee Trust is hosting Dee Flows Day at Tŷ Mawr Country Park, 11am to 3pm, a community celebration to create awareness about the importance of migratory fish and free-flowing rivers. Organisations working to improve aquatic habitats across the Dee will be showcasing their efforts and offering free family activities to learn about our River Dee.



Overton Village Open Handicraft Show - May 20th 2023

This is your opportunity to enter the village open handicraft show. Bring along your craft, sewing, knitting, crochet, quilting, pottery, art, photography, floral art or wood craft, plus there are children's competitions. The full schedule is available on the Overton Oracle website www.overtonoracle.com Bring your entries to the Village Hall between 9am and 10.30am for judging.

Tips for showing at the Handicraft Show -

- Read the schedule carefully e.g. in Art classes note that the works should be mounted and NOT framed.
- Check any size restrictions.
- For craft items, make sure there are no loose threads, also check that all pins have been removed.

There will be lots of help and advice for you on Show Day, to make sure your exhibits are in the right place and correctly labeled, so don't worry - enjoy the experience and have fun!

And everyone can come along to the Village Hall from 2.00pm to see what beautiful things our villagers can create, and to enjoy delicious refreshments.

The Lord Mayor Elect of Wrexham, Cllr Andy Williams, will be presenting the trophies at 4.00pm.



Overton's Coronation Day in 1902

“At a meeting of the Overton Coronation Committee held on July 21st 1902 it was agreed to carry out the festivities on Saturday August 9th, the day of King Edward VII's Coronation, with teas for children and adults, sports, dancing and fireworks. A special Coronation Service will be held in Church on Sunday August 10th 1902 at 11am.

On the day the Church bells proclaimed the auspicious event and processions was formed at the School at 2pm before setting out for the Park which Mr Peel had kindly placed at the disposal of the Committee. Every child received a medal as a memento of the occasion given by Mr Peel; they also received from the Committee, Coronation cups and plates. Having marched through the village headed by the Bettisfield Brass Band, they reached the cricket field, and before dispersing, the National Anthem was sung, and 3 cheers heartily given for the King and the Royal family. The children entered on their programme of sports, and at 3pm had their tea. This over, the adults sat down in companies of about 100, to a meat tea, all this passed satisfactorily and it was agreed this was very good. The evening was spent in sports for the adults and dancing. At 9.15pm as a finale to the evening there was a grand display of fireworks arranged by Mr Child (of The Lodge). So ended a day of national importance and blessing.”

From Overton St Mary's Parish Magazine Sept 1902

Planning Application

A new planning application on behalf of Pickstock Homes has been sent to Wrexham Planning Dept, for 45 residential homes on land off St.Marys Avenue, 14 of which are “affordable housing”. It is Application P/2023/0186. You can read all the details and comment on the proposed plans on - <https://planning.wrexham.gov.uk/planning/search-applications#VIEW?RefType=GFPlanning&KeyNo=73965&KeyText=Subject>

This updated application addresses the problem of phosphorous discharge to the Overton wastewater treatment works.

It also says that “Principal access to the site will be via St Mary's Avenue which would be extended to the east and lead centrally throughout the site, providing direct access to the houses - - It has therefore been concluded that St Mary's Avenue will provide safe and suitable access to the development site.”

And also - “Plans submitted within this application also indicate where a potential connection to a future site could be situated, subject to further consultation with the council and the allocation of additional land to the north of the site.” !!



Overton Royal British Legion 120 Club

Results of the “120 Club” for April 2023
116 members entered and the draw was made on Thursday 13th April. Winning numbers were selected by Mrs Tracey Leech.

Winners: 1st Prize £232.00 No 104 Nigel Williams
2nd Prize £116.00 No 27 Jennifer Knight
3rd Prize £ 58.00 No 53 Mary Perrin
Legion Fund: £174.00

CONGRATULATIONS

Next Draw will be on Thursday 11th May 2023
If you wish to join please ring Dave Austin Tel: 01978 710678 or contact him by Facebook Messenger.

All new members must play by Standing Order
“IF YOU DON’T PAY - - - YOU DON’T PLAY”
Thank you for your Loyal Support



What's On

May Diary for St Mary's

Sunday May 7th 9.30am All Age Worship
 Sunday May 14th 9.30am Holy Communion
 Sunday May 21st 9.30am Morning Prayer
 Sunday May 28th 9.30am Holy Communion

For all service details see

<https://www.stmarysoverton-on-dee.org/worship>

May Diary for Overton Methodist Chapel

Sunday May 7th 6.30pm Rev Richard Parkes
 Sunday May 14th 6.30pm Mr Martin Woodall
 Sunday May 21st 6.30pm Rev Neville Pugh
 Sunday May 28th 6.30pm Local Arrangements

Services at Our Lady And The Welsh Martyrs

Every Saturday 5.00pm Mass

The Community Hub, Monday May 15th & 22nd
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 Thursday 11.30am - 1.30pm Knit and Natter group
at The Two Doves Cafe, Overton

Tuesday May 2nd 7.30pm Overton & La Murette Twinning
Association AGM in the Parish Room

Thursday May 4th 7.00pm 'Zadok the Priest' rehearsal

Saturday May 6th 2.30pm. St Marys Church. Rehearsal
followed by performance of 'Zadok the Priest'
followed by Coronation tree planting.

Sunday May 7th 12.00pm-2.00pm The Big Coronation
Lunch in School Lane

Tuesday May 9th 6.50pm Overton Community Council
AGM in the Parish Room. Members of the
public wishing to speak can do so 6.50pm-7.00pm

Thursday May 11th Overton WI coach trip to Port
Sunlight, 10.00am from the car park

Thursday May 11th 7.00pm Overton on Dee Branch
Royal British Legion meeting in the Parish Room

Saturday May 13th 7.00pm Porthywaen Silver Band in St
Marys Church. Tickets in advance or on the door

Thursday May 18th 7.00pm Overton on Dee WI Meeting
to be held at Stan's Superstore

Saturday May 20th 2.00pm OVERTON VILLAGE
HANDICRAFT SHOW at the Village Hall

Tuesday May 23rd 7pm Meeting for those interested in
Overton history, in the Village Hall.

Saturday May 27th 10am - 12pm Methodist Church
Coffee Morning.

Saturday May 27th 11am-3pm Dee Flows Day at Tŷ
Mawr Country Park

Family Announcements



Congratulations to James and Sue Glover
who will be celebrating their Golden
Wedding - with four children and eight grandchildren
on May 29th.



Happy 89th Birthday to Grace Sidwell,
you're a very much loved Mum, Nanna &
Great Nana & friend, and we all appreciate
all you do for us. Love from all your family, Laura,
Harriett & Bartosz, Elle & Marce, Perrie & family,
Leigh-anne & family, Luke & Dane, Micki & Jayney

Happy May Birthdays to William Clarke, Barbara
Wynne, David Evison, Jenny Bellis, Jade Lyndsey
Hayward, Luke Haynes, Maddie Rouse, Eleanor
McCusker, Aaron, Liu, Elis Perrin, Olivia Dodwell,
Peter Grindley, John McCusker, Janine Austin, Eileen
Drysdale, Alice Murray, Chris Worthington, Clive
Hellingman, Les Mouldsdale, Lynne Williams, James
Glover, Carolyn Bellingham, Catherine Eve, Beaty
Roberts, Josie Ralphs, Doreen Walker & Julie Birrell.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of
Isabella Smith who passed away in March.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of
Lena Lawrence who passed away in March.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of
Joan Stant who passed away in March.

For Sale

Husqvarna 325 RJX series. Petrol Strimmer
with Mower Head Blades and Strimmer Head.
Good Condition £35 o.n.o. Tel: 07885 437445
Brand New Fence Panel 6ft wide x 6ft 7" high. ETC
Ship lap Boards. £10. In Overton. Tel: 01978 534218

Dustbin Days

Thurs May 4th General Waste & Recycling/food
 Thurs May 11th Garden Waste & Recycling/food
 Thurs May 18th General Waste & Recycling/food
 Thurs May 25th Garden Waste & Recycling/food

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