The Overton Oracle

Volume 24 Issue 8 August 2022

Overton's Free Newspaper - delivered to every household monthly for 23 years



A Full Peal

On Saturday 27th August between 10.30am and approximately

1.30pm, Overton bellringers will be attempting to ring a peal.
A peal includes at least 5,040 changes (numerical sequences) and takes around three hours to ring.
There is only one documented peal rung at St Mary's Church Overton and that was in March 1976.
Will this be the next?

Knit and natter

The new Knit and Natter group will be meeting every Thursday 11.30am to 1.30pm at the Two Doves cafe, Overton. You're welcome to come along with your knitting or crochet and enjoy a friendly atmosphere in a cosy cafe, or if you always wanted to learn to knit or crochet we'll be happy to help you get started.

Bon Voyage

Wishing a safe trip to the Overton Twinners who left at the end of July to journey to our twinned community of La Murette, south eastern France, to strengthen our bond with that delightful French village.

Photos and news of their visit in the next Oracle.

Date for the Diary

St Mary the Virgin, Overton OPEN CHURCH & ANNUAL GIFT DAY



Saturday 18th September 2022

Events during the day & refreshments available; full details in next edition.

Congratulations to St Mary's Year 6 Leavers

This year, we were pleased that our Year 6 Leavers' events could return to normal, following two years on Zoom, as we celebrated



together in person with parents, friends and family. Our first Leavers' event was a Church service where Year 6 pupils shared their hopes for the future as they move to secondary school, and Year 5 pupils, joined by Reverend Peter, lit candles of hope and good luck for them. This was followed by another emotional gathering in school for our Leavers' Assembly, as Year 6 shared their favourite memories of St Mary's and we watched a video montage of school memories and 'embarrassing' baby photos!

We were pleased to be joined in our Leavers' Assembly by Katharine Crockford from the Overton Twinning Association, sponsors of our Global Citizenship Award. This year the award was presented to Year 6 pupil, Arthur Ware, for the positive contributions he has made within our School community and his keen awareness of national and global issues. Other Year 6 award winners were Maisey Edwards, who won the Daisy Haynes Art Award, for her outstanding creativity and artistic talent, and Hari Bloomfield, winner of Sportsperson of the Year, for his all-round sporting talents and being an excellent team-player.

We wish Year 6 pupils well as they journey on to new, exciting adventures. *More news and photos on page 5*

50th Anniversary of Overton Produce Show - Sept 3rd

This September 3rd will be the 50th anniversary of the Overton Flower and Produce Show. Started by the WI in 1972 it has been held every



year in the Village Hall (with a couple of interruptions for Foot & Mouth and Covid), showcasing the very best of the produce of Overton's gardens and kitchens. Photos show some of the 1970s shows. Photo left shows (L to R) Graham Watts, Vic Roberts, Duncan Rennie and Ron Upton. Photo

right is (L

to R) Gareth Upton, Michael Jones, Julie Roberts, Rachel Brown and Leigh Watts. 2022 Show schedules are now available in local shops and the Library or to download from the Overton Oracle website. Help make the Show's 50th Anniversary extra special by entering one or more of the many Classes.



Seeds from St Mary's with Rev'd. Peter Mackriell

Have you heard about the reduction in the speed limit in built-up areas in Buckley, Flintshire, has been one of the pilot areas for the



scheme to reduce the limit to 20 mph, and the trial has caused some controversy in the town - particularly as cyclists can now travel faster down the hill on Liverpool Road than the motorists can. I'm not sure why cyclists don't have to keep to the speed limit, but they are harder to catch (not having a number plate).

Residents of Overton might welcome the change, when we stand on the High Street and see people driving at speed through the village. It can be frightening to see cars and motorbikes clearly exceeding the current 30 mph restriction and, I have to say, when I hear the statistics about stopping distances and the injuries sustained by people hit at 30 mph compared to 20, I am pretty convinced that this will be a good move (however inconvenient we might feel it is).

But I have a confession to make. I have just received my second speeding ticket - and expect to go on another speed awareness course (the last one was a few years' ago). Why do I tell you this? They say confession is good for the soul (and they are right!) - but should probably be less public than this. Am I proud of driving too fast? No, definitely not. But I am aware that we all make mistakes - even Rectors, Vicars or priests.

The 'driver education course', as it is called, explains a number of things about the roads that I didn't pick up when I first learned to drive – proving that we can all learn something new. But the focus of the course is on awareness, something very familiar to me as a counsellor. Some people might deliberately choose to speed - I've seen a few of them on the A483 and some in the village here – but most of us only speed when concentration lapses and we don't notice a change in speed limit or don't notice that we are slowly accelerating. That's why I use my cruise control a lot – but I know I have to beware of using that as a replacement for paying due care and attention on the road.

It strikes me that a lot of the mistakes we make in life are because we are not fully aware. We don't intend to hurt others, we don't set out to mess things up, but sometimes it just happens. We wander across the line and find that we have trespassed (as the traditional Lord's Prayer says). It is part of being human that we make mistakes. The problem is, the hurt still hurts and the mess remains.

So, I need to take the points, pay the fine – or go on the speed awareness course. And eventually my mistake will be forgotten, my record wiped clean. The great gift that God gives us, in the name of Jesus, is the opportunity to start again. The slate can be wiped clean, our sins (or trespasses) can be forgiven. That is good news!

I know about making mistakes, but I also know about forgiveness. If you want to know more about making a fresh start, please speak to me.

Yours, in the mess,

Peter

revpeter@maelormissionarea.uk

Tel: 01978 710294

Get making in the holidays!

There are 11 classes for children and young people in this year's Overton Produce Show, from under 5 year olds to 16 years old.

So why not make some thing in the school holidays that you can enter in the Show!

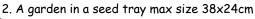
Age 5 yrs and below: 1. a Potato Monster

2. Vegetable Jewellery

Age 6-9yrs:

- 1. Bug House or Bee Hotel
- 2. Vegetable Jewellery
- 3. 6 Jam Tarts

Age 10-12yrs: 1. BugHouse or BeeHotel



3. 6 Jam Tarts Age 13-16yrs:

1. BugHouse or BeeHotel

2. A Garden in a Seed Tray max size 38x24cm

3. 6 Jam Tarts

Bring your entries along to the Village Hall on Saturday September 3rd from 9.00am to 11.00am.

The Show is open from 2.30pm and the presentation of trophies is at 4.00pm We look forward to seeing you then.

News from the Recreational Club

It's been another busy month for us but a special highlight was being able to host the Overton St Mary's School Year 6

Leavers Party.

The theme was "I'm a Year 6 Leaver - Get Me Out Of Here" and the club was transformed into a jungle! DJ Tim Rouse was amazing in keeping the children entertained. Lots of games were played, bush tucker trials were won and lots of fun was had in the jungle photo booth. It really was a memorable party for all and we wish Year 6 the best of luck in secondary

(photo left of Yr 6 Yasmin Scott). This month we have John's

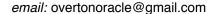
Family Quiz on Saturday 13th August with a 7.30pm start, open to families, young, old and everyone in between! Teams of up to 6 / 50p per person entry.

Friday 5th August sees the return of the Premier League and, as always, we will be showing most matches on our big screen TVs throughout the season.

Bingo continues on Thursdays and Sundays - the more who play the more we pay! Tickets on sale from 7pm, Eyes Down at 8.00pm.

Our weekly Meat Raffle also continues and has been a steady, helpful addition in supporting the club. Enter for £1 to win a £20 voucher to spend at M E Evans Butchers. Drawn 6pm every Sunday.

To enter contact Paul Edwards on 07743 244727 or message us on the Club's Facebook page - 'Overton Recreational Club'.

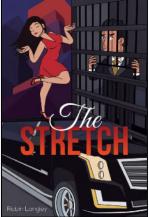


Summer Reading

Another of our local authors has had a book published just in time for reading on your holidays or on the beach.

Robin Langley (also from Overton's own Ego Xcentric hairdressers) has published his new book "The

Stretch".



Based on a true story, each time Rockin tries to book a limo to take him and his friends on a drunken trip to London, they are refused, until one firm informs them that the only way that they would be able to book a limo for six lads was if they were going to a wedding. They have their answer! By the next day, the limo is booked and the morning suits are hired, even down to the buttonholes - -" One review says "A brilliant story, a

A DI RUTH HUNTER CRIME THRILLER BOOK 12

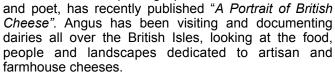
SIMON MCCLEAVE AMAZON NO.1 BESTSELLING AUTHOR

modern cross between The Full Monty and The Hangover, It would make an great film". Available in paperback or Kindle.

Local Worthenbury author **Simon McCleave** has just published "The Chirk Castle Killings", the latest and number 12 in his popular DI Ruth Hunter Crime Thriller series, all based in North Wales.

Number 11 in the series, "The Lake Vyrnwy Killings" actually mentioned Detective Inspector Hunter getting her tea from Overton Chippie!!.

Angus D. Birditt, another local resident, writer, photographer



From Lincolnshire Poacher to Stichelton (the original Stilton), Britain's own Brie in the form of Baron Bigod from Suffolk, to Brefu Bach sheep's milk cheese from



Snowdonia and Appleby's Cheshire cheese from the heart of rural Shropshire, this is a unique journey through photos, essays and recipes, revealing the joys and challenges of a life in cheesemaking.

It celebrates the excellence of artisan and farmhouse cheese in the British Isles, expressing it as a product of the land, its animals, and its people, offering a snapshot of rural life, artisan traditions and delicious dishes.

A Special Day at Overton

On Saturday, June 11th a very special village wedding took place as Pauline Alexander of Salop Road was married to Thomas Slater at the magnificent St Mary's Church. The church wedding service was conducted by Reverend Peter Mackriell to a congregation of 135, his words of wisdom provided a moving and special spiritual experience enjoyed by all, a wonderful event that certainly set off the day of celebration. The church bells were ringing out as the congregation came



along to the church on a fine summer's day with the



bride being "piped in", bagpipes and all. After the ceremony the bride and groom were "piped out" of the church followed by the peel of the church bells announcing the marriage. After photographs the whole procession was piped to the village hall for the reception.

Recently renovated, the Village Hall looked splendid and ideal for the reception. The staff at the hall did a sterling job in particular Bill Grindley (Village Hall Management), Tony Shaw

(Caretaker) and John McCusker (Local Councillor). The bar was expertly organised by Jackie and her staff from the Social Club who worked hard to make the evening a great success.

For the wedding meal an Indian Street Food buffet was served by Gurdev's Catering which literally went down well followed by an excellent band "The Big Beat" from C hester, suggested by Pete



Evans of the Up Country Blues Club, Worthenbury. The dance floor was never empty all night.

Thanks to everyone involved. Pauline and Thomas certainly had a fantastic day local to Overton, that will be remembered always.

Send your news

The Oracle is a compilation of articles and news items sent to it by local individuals and organisations. If your organisation is not mentioned that is because you may have not sent us any information. The Oracle does not publish items submitted anonymously.

A Fun Day enjoyed by all

St Mary's Church held a Fun Day in July to connect with the community and encourage more families to come into church. We laid on a lively service in which children were encouraged to play musical instruments, along the theme of Make Some Noise. The youngsters clearly enjoyed themselves banging drums and shaking tambourines. After the service, we all went out into the churchyard where free activities including a bouncy castle and games kindly donated by Giggles and Games were laid on.

The church also provided free refreshments, including cakes, tea and coffee and later on, a barbecue lunch with delicious burgers and sausages from our high street butchers.



Despite intermittent showers which occasionally had us all scurrying back into church, around 100 people attended. Families could be seen sitting either outside or inside church, enjoying the food and drink and lively worship music including some inspirational songs by,



among others, Graham Kendrick and Rend Collective. Charlotte organised arts and crafts and the "make some noise" musical instruments which went down a treat. Meanwhile, her partner Scott did a great job

manning the barbecue which he had brought along for the day.

Revd Peter Mackriell hailed the day a great success, especially since the event managed to attract so many people who do not normally come to church. Despite the fact that we wanted to offer everything for free, a total of £89 was very kindly given in donations.

* All-age worship at St Mary's, Overton, is always on the first Sunday in the month at 10am.

OCC Update

After consultation with the community, it is with great pleasure to announce that Overton Community Council have now installed a new Trim Trail on the Football Pitch.

A big thank you to Councillor Peter Lynch for all his hard work to bring this project to fruition.

Overton now has its own outdoor Gym that is free to all I would invite you all to use this excellent equipment and the park / playing field is now a facility to be used for all ages.

Paul Ashton Chairman of Overton Community Council

Overton's new Trim Trail





Ruth

Ruth Caswell sadly passed away in May. She and her husband Eddie only lived in Overton for a few years but during that time Ruth shared her knowledge and talents to enrich our village life.

Born in Keighley, Yorkshire, Ruth trained as a costume designer at Nathan's in Drury Lane and went on to work at Glyndebourne Opera. At age 22 she became the costume supervisor for Theatre 69, who later formed the Royal Exchange Theatre in Manchester. Ruth worked on such films as "Shakespeare in Love", "Elizabeth", and "Dad's Army" and was textile advisor for "Pride and Prejudice". The clothes she made were sold, first of all on her stall in Kensington Market next to Freddie Mercury's stall, and later from her bridal shop in Yorkshire. Her clothes were photographed for Vogue, worn by Jean Shrimpton, and sold in Liberty's, Harrods and Sach's 5th Avenue.

Ruth was a brilliant and inspirational teacher at Bradford College and was awarded an Honorary Fellowship of the School of Art, having secured the future of Bradford Textile Archive.

After moving to Overton to be closer to children and grandchildren, Ruth gave her time and

expertise to the costume department at Wrexham Museum and in organising exhibitions at the Ty Pawb Arts Centre. In Overton, she was involved with the preparations for the Overton Parade and Fete, in 2018 dressing our "local suffragettes" to accompany her 'Votes for Women' banner. In 2019 she was the lead in creating banners for the Twinning and for the Am Dram Associations, which now adorn the Parish Room and will be appreciated by future generations for years to come.



St Mary's School News (cont)

Photo shows from Year 6 pupils left to right -

Maisey Edwards who won the Daisy Haynes Art Award, for her outstanding creativity and artistic talent,

Arthur Ware, Global Citizenship Award sponsored by Overton Twinning Association, for the positive contributions he has made within our School community and his keen awareness of national and global issues.

Hari Bloomfield, winner of Sportsperson of the Year, for his allround sporting talents and being an excellent team-player.

We have also bid a sad farewell to Mrs Sonia Whittle, our muchloved Foundation Phase Teaching Assistant who has been at St Mary's for ten years. A few tears were shed, but we wish Mrs Whittle well as she moves on to new, exciting adventures.



An end of term performance with an environmental message from Year 1 and 2.

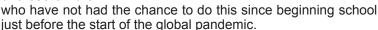
The children have been learning about inventions with the help of a story called Rosie Revere, Engineer and we

found an amazing play called 'The Litter Muncher' set in a village not dissimilar to a village near you in some ways - Lazy Daisy village is idyllic - or at least it would be if it weren't for a litter problem. The overworked hero, the Litter Muncher, sets out to change the attitudes of the local people and eventually succeeds in encouraging everyone to put their own litter in the bin, not wait for someone else to do it.

The children sang, performed and captivated a jam-packed audience of parents, grandparents and even overseas visitors and a truly enjoyable afternoon in the sunshine was enjoyed by all. The children



chose their own roles, decorated scenery, and we, at St. Mary's are incredible proud of these children



Overton Wildlife

Mini meadow update

Another summer is slowly slipping away, and it's once again time to cut and collect the hay from the mini meadows around the village. Small signs have appeared this year to show an encouraging shift in the meadows, towards becoming wilder and more thriving spaces. Yellow rattle, known as the meadow maker, has been found growing across all sites. This plant feeds off nutrients stolen from grasses, and therefore cuts back the amount of grass, allowing more space for wildflowers to thrive.

Many of the plug plants have also been seen slowly establishing themselves, with species such as betony, oxeye daisy and chicory all making an appearance. With another winter to grow and establish, hopefully, next year these patches of colour will spread even further. Other encouraging signs have been the wildlife making use of these spaces, from butterflies flittering through the long grass, to swallows swooping down to feed on the insects living in the meadows. While there may still be a way to go to get these spaces as wild and natural as they once were, it's great to see it's already making a difference to our local wildlife.

Meadow signage Competition

In order to help to educate and engage more people in our work to create wildflower meadows in the village, we would like to put up some signage which includes pictures of the wildflowers we are growing. We are therefore launching a competition for wildflower pictures that we can include on our signs. If you are interested in entering, please draw a picture in any medium of one or more of the following wildflowers; wild carrot, common bird's-foot-trefoil, common knapweed, autumn hawkbit,

lady's bedstraw, yellow rattle, red clover and field scabious. The best pictures will be displayed on our new signage, and the winners will receive some wildflower seeds for their own space. You can enter either by scanning and emailing pictures to **katharine.piercy@googlemail.com** or getting in touch to receive the postal address.



Overton on Dee WI

The WI skittles team were in action last month in a match against other Nth Shropshire WIs, held at Loppington. We will brush over the results! We welcomed author Peter Hawthorne to the Village Hall this month, who enthralled us with the history of The Animal Victoria Cross.



The stories behind the incredible bravery and achievements of these acclaimed animals was told with compassion and humour .

In August we look forward to a workshop making sculptural paper flowers. Do join us.

Margaret O'Neill 01978 710451

Overton Royal British Legion 120 Club

Results of the "120 Club" for July 2022. 119 members entered and the draw was made on Tuesday 12th July 2022. Winning numbers were selected by Jean Edwards. Winners -:

1st Prize £238.00 No 07 Francis Glynne Jones 2nd Prize £119.00 No 81 Sharon Vaughan 3rd Prize £ 59.50 No 25 Josie Ralphs Legion Fund: £178.50

CONGRATULATIONS

Next Draw will be on Tuesday 9th August 2022 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

More photos from the August Oracle

Left - Having fun at the St Mary's Church Fun Day with the bouncy castle



Right - St Mary's School Yrs 1 and 2 performance of "The Little Muncher"

More old pictures of the Overton Produce Show

Right - Beaty Roberts in 1974

Below - 1970s, Kath Hamlington, Kath Price Jones, Graham Watts, Duncan Rennie, Vic Roberts





email: overtonoracle@gmail.com

What's On

August Diary for St Mary's

Aug 7th 10am All Age Worship Aug 14th 11am Holy Communion

Aug 21st 11am Morning Prayer Aug 28th 11am Holy Communion

& St Hilary's

11.00am Holy Communion 9.45am Morning Prayer 9.45am Holy Communion

9.45am Morning Prayer https://www.stmarysoverton-on-dee.org/worship

August Diary for Overton Methodist Chapel

Sunday Aug 7th 6.30pm Revd Neville Pugh Holy Communion

Sunday Aug 14th 6.30pm Revd Richard Parkes Sunday Aug 21st 6.30pm Mr David Young Sunday Aug 28th 6.30pm Revd John Wiggall

Services at Our Lady And The Welsh Martyrs

Every Saturday 5.00pm Mass

Every Monday 9.30am - 11.30pm Art Group at Penley Rainbow Centre.

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

Thursday August 4th 12.00pm-2.00pm Penley Rainbow Lunch Club. Meet - Eat - Socialise -Enjoy. £7.50 for a freshly cooked 2 course meal.

Saturday August 13th 7.30pm start, John's Family Quiz at the Recreational Club. Teams of up to 6. Entry 50p per person.

Thursday August 18th 7.00pm Overton on Dee WI Meeting in the Village Hall. A workshop of making sculptural paper flowers with Juliana

Thursday August 25th 7.00pm Overton on Dee Branch Royal British Legion meeting in the Parish Room

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

Saturday September 3rd Overton Produce Show in the Village Hall. Open to public from 2.30pm

Public Notice Earlier in the year, a large branch of one of the church yew trees came down in a storm causing damage to a tomb in the St Mary's churchyard. The tomb is on the north side of the church, identifiable by its broken state. If anyone knows whose tomb this is please contact the Churchwarden Mrs Jo Kember, or the Revd Mackriell:

overton@maelormissionarea.uk 01978 710294

On behalf of the Church Committee, St Mary-the-Virgin,

Craft Group

The Craft Group at Overton Methodist Chapel will not meet during the summer and will resume meetings on Tuesday 13th September at 2.00pm.

Dustbin Days

Thurs Aug 4th General Waste & Recycling/food

Thurs Aug 11th Garden Waste & Recycling/food Thurs Aug 18th General Waste & Recycling/food

Thurs Aug 25th Garden Waste & Recycling/food

Family Announcements

Happy August Birthdays to Harriet Clarke. Tara Stubbert, Francis Glynne Jones, Belinda Matthews, Seanie Clarke, Jackie Grindley, Gladys Evans, Carol Dykes, Lewis Evison, Chloe Malam, Brian Williams, Dave Bellis, Matt Worsdell, Trena Haynes, Alex Natrass, Charlotte Scott-Davies, Ethan Saunders, Jackie Tombs, Gill Evans. Cindy Myers, Kacey and Kevin Owens, Katherine Scott-Davies, Matthew Lawrenson, Derek Kellet and Liesel Netzband-Piggott.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brian Hamlington who passed away in July.



Thank you

We would like to thank the people of Overton who kindly sent cards, emails and texts of respect, for Ruth Caswell who sadly passed away on May 15th. We would especially like to thank Overton Community Growers who so kindly cut flowers from their own gardens with which we adorned Ruth's coffin. Ruth died aged 74 and lived in Overton for 3 years..

Sincere thanks and appreciation from Eddie, Amy and Joseph Caswell.

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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