

The Overton Oracle



Volume 13. Issue 2

February 2011

Overton's Free Newspaper - issued monthly

S O S K n i g h t s

by Joanne Kember

Two harsh winters have highlighted for all of us, how vulnerable we are to the elements and 'natural' disasters. This sparked off an idea for me and other Community Councillors, aimed at providing help and support for anyone in our community at times of crisis, or when they feel vulnerable.

We are planning to create the 'SOS Knights' – a handful of trusted 'knights' who will be the contact point for anyone needing help, whether because of illness, injury, family tragedy – or *just* the weather! The Knights will number between 6 and 8 people living across the geographical spread of our community. They will all be CRB checked (at the expense of the Community Council) and will not only be willing to 'watch over' the vulnerable residents in their area, but also will carry key telephone numbers, contact names etc. to rally help where required.

Backing the knights we need a group of people to handle the setting up and administration of the SOS service. We plan to assemble a 'key' telephone number list which will be sent out to every household, and also a window card 'SOS Knight - Help' which people can display in an emergency. In this way we hope we will be able to provide help whilst respecting people's privacy, and desire for independence. The Knights will be there for everyone, - young and old. We know that in snowy conditions it is hard for the elderly to venture out, but mums with young children with prams to struggle with, were also 'stranded'. Anyone can suddenly find themselves in the position of needing help and maybe not knowing who to turn to, or being embarrassed to ask neighbours.

So this is our rallying call! Anyone who feels they can help in anyway, whether as a Knight, or as a planner and administrator please contact us. We will be planning a meeting in February to get the ball rolling. If you are interested please contact the OCC clerk, Katrina Chalk, at her office in the village hall, telephone her on 710055, or email occ.clerk@btinternet.com. Or contact any Councillor, including Harold Toone, or myself as we are leading on this. or contact us via Katrina, the OCC clerk.

C h e e s e a w a r d s f o r O v e r t o n D e l i



Congratulations to Woodlands Deli who have won a prestigious award for two of their cheeses in The London Cheese Club Annual Awards. A customer had visited the shop wanting a couple of local cheeses to take down to a party in London. After a bit of a discussion as to what sort and where from etc. the customer chose a Shropshire Blue made near Whitchurch and a Welsh cheese called Golden Cenarth.

Richard Done who runs Woodlands Deli with his wife Julie, thought no more about it until he received a recent phone call from the customer who had bought the cheeses saying "YOU'VE WON, your cheeses won!".

It appears that the customer had entered the cheeses into The London Cheese Club Annual Awards, and the Shropshire Blue won the blue category and the Golden Cenarth won the soft cheese category. Golden Cenarth has also recently won the Supreme Champion at this years British Cheese Awards after winning the classes Best Semi Soft Cheese and Best Welsh Cheese.

Overton's cheese selection was up against cheeses from all the posh delis in London and won. Which goes to show that you don't have to live in a big city to get top produce, just shop in Overton!

Left: Richard at The Woodlands Deli cheese counter

The Overton Oracle has changed its email address.

Contact us on overtonoracle@gmail.com or leave items in the envelope at the Corner Shop

Ramblings From the Rectory

by David Lewis



Dear Friends,

Did you know that snowdrops are considered to be unlucky if brought into the house before Candlemass day? No I didn't either!

Candlemass falls on the 2nd February. It is an ancient festival which marks the midpoint of winter, halfway between the shortest day and the spring equinox. It is a traditional Christian festival that commemorates the presentation of Jesus in the temple. Forty days after the birth of a Jewish boy, it was the custom to take him to the Temple in Jerusalem to be presented to God by his thankful parents.

In pre Christian times, the day was known as the Feast of Lights and it celebrated the increased strength of the life giving sun as winter gave way to spring. For Christians traditionally it was the day when all the candles that were to be used in the church during the coming year, were brought into church and a blessing was said over them. So it became known as the festival day or 'mass' of candles.

Candles were important in olden days, not only because there were no electric lights, but also because some people thought that they would give them protection against plague and illness and famine. The Romans thought that the custom of lighting candles would scare away evil spirits in winter.

But for Christians, candles are powerful reminders of Jesus, the light of the world, who came to earth to help and save people who lived in darkness. People were lost and lonely and often afraid. Then came Jesus with the light and hope of God's love and the message that he would always be with them to guide and comfort and love them. So candles are powerful symbols of Jesus guiding people in darkness.

So my candlemass wish for us all is that Jesus will be a light of hope whenever we feel lost, alone or in any kind of darkness.

Every Blessing
David

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard for Christmas at St Mary's, providing wine and mince pies, cleaning the church, changing altar frontals, arranging the flowers, singing in the choir and playing the organ.

Your hard work is much appreciated and valued.

Thank you to June and Grace who provided our Christmas crib this year.

COUNTRY BEAT

by Constable Stephen Evans



I am aware that there is upset in the village over recent incidents of anti-social behaviour / vandalism and in particular the break-in at the church. I am also aware that local residents are voicing their concerns that the police appear not to be doing too much about these problems.

I can assure you that all reports are being dealt with and investigations are progressing. As with all investigations the police carry out, we rely heavily on witness evidence. If you witness an anti-social incident, be it nuisance on the street or damage being caused, then please let us know about it. But not only let us know about it, give us support by providing a statement so that we can visit those responsible.

I understand that witnesses don't always want to get involved but there are avenues that you can provide details in a confidential way. We quite often get reports of anti-social incidents which have occurred some days previously and which are reported to the community council first.

I know that Overton police station is not staffed 24/7 but there are a number of ways to inform us what is going on.

Anti-social behaviour problems are not only an issue for the police to deal with but is the responsibility of all the community.

Please help us help you so that together we can combat these problems.

As always our contact details are;

Overton Police Station Tel: 01978 348425.

E-Mail:

Stephen.Evans@nthwales.pnn.police.uk

Mobile - 07966 086868

Bethan.large@nthwales.pnn.police.uk

Mobile - 07854 336420

Jemma.White@nthwales.pnn.police.uk

Mobile - 07854 331472

Thank you
Steve, Beth and Jemma.

Lunch Club



The February Overton Lunch Club is on Wednesday February 9th at 12.30pm at the White Horse.

The menu will be Brunch Breakfast followed by Jubilee Pancakes with ice-cream.

To book please ring
Gwynneth Austin on 710672.

School News

Can you believe September 2011 will be the 25th anniversary of the opening of St Mary's V. A. School, Overton. The headmistress, Pat Clarke would like to collect as many photos as possible of the school,

- either of the building and opening of the present school
- or of the old Overton school, going back as far as you can.

Here is one to start the collection. It shows Mrs Clarke taking "drill" in the playgroup of the old school, during the Victorian week to celebrate its closing in July 1986. The new school, with builders vans still there, can be seen in the background.



Playgroup News

Many thanks to Martin Suckley, Manager of the Dulux Decorator Centre for kindly donating the paint for the painting of the office and parents room. Thank you to James Sankey and team, of the Youth Justice Service, Wrexham, for undertaking the work whilst the playgroup was closed. The next stages will be done at weekends. We now need to furnish it properly and buy a computer. Any donations to achieve this would be gratefully accepted.

The Christmas Fayre and Pamper Night was a great success. A big thank you to Danielle Baker and Nicola for making this possible and to everybody who braved the weather to make it a wonderful evening. The Christmas show, "One Winters Night", was fantastic, thank you to all who made it happen and to Father Christmas who made a special appearance.

Book now for the February half term holiday club. £1.50 per ½ hr, 8am-6pm for ages 2yrs - 8yrs. Please contact Margaret on 01978 710 688 for further information or to book.

Coming in March will be Bags 4 School. Can you save all your soft furnishings, clothes . . . etc. We have room to store them so please contact the Playgroup on 01978 710 688 for collection or to drop them off.

Kids Kolumn

by Alice Foster, Lydia Biggs and Lottie Blake



Hi guys.
Are you all loved up for Valentines Day?

Make a Valentine's Day Heart Wreath

Materials:

- *construction paper (various pink and red colours)
- * scissors
- * glue
- * crayons
- * a paper plate



Instructions:

1. Cut the centre out of the paper plate to leave a round "donut" shape. This will form the base of the wreath. (This may require adult assistance.)
2. Fold a piece of construction paper in ½ or in ¼ s (for young crafters, folding in ½ is challenging enough - more experienced crafters can fold 3 or 4 times to make hearts in "bulk")
3. Cut a ½ heart shape out of the construction paper along the folded edge. Unfold your cut out shape and you'll have a perfect little heart.
4. Repeat this process many times -- as you get better, you can make 2 or three hearts at once simply by folding your paper more times.
5. Glue your construction paper hearts to completely cover your paper plate "donut".
6. You can tie a bow and paste it on to decorate further.
7. You can put a piece of yarn on the back to hang it up.

Top 3 Films to Watch on Valentines Day



3. *The Proposal*
2. *500 Days of Summer*
1. *Twilight*



Top 3 Valentine Day Songs



3. *Kings of Leon - Use Somebody*
2. *Lady Gaga - Bad Romance*
1. *Taylor Swift - You Belong With Me*



GREAT NEWS!!!

You have more time to work out last month's Kids Kolumn quiz.

But don't worry we will have the answers for you next month.

Overton Medical Practice

A presentation lunch was held at the Medical Practice to celebrate the achievement of 10+ years service of 3 members of staff. Receptionist Gwen Griffiths and medical secretaries, Denise Ford and Liz Catherall and each were each presented with a gift and a card.

Jennifer Rudd, medical student from Cardiff is working with us for a 6 week training period in January and February. Dr Martine Zonka has left the Practice. This is the statement she asked us to issue: *“Unfortunately after not fully settling in at Overton, followed by a period of sickness after a miscarriage I have taken the difficult decision to leave the partnership. It is a great surgery and I enjoyed working with the doctors, nurses and staff. I am sorry not to have been able to say goodbye to my patients, but wish you all the best.”* We wish her well for the future and hope the coming year is happier for her. Dr Amy Stevenson has agreed to stay with the Practice for a further 12 months. This will help with continuity as Dr Zonka has left. I am sure many patients will be really glad that they can continue under her care for the coming year.

Since January the Medical Practice is now open on Thursday afternoons and this will enhance the service we give our patients and hope it is a welcome and productive move. We are also implementing a new appointment regime from this date which we also hope will be beneficial, but like all new systems it may take a little time to settle into – please be patient patients!!.

Your Letters...

Dear Editor,

Overton Community Council would like to condemn the recent spate of vandalism within the village, especially the damage to St Mary’s Church.

In conjunction with the local Police we wish to encourage residents who witness these acts to come forward and make a statement, as this could work as a deterrent to others (a very small minority)

Overton is a lovely rural village where many law abiding people live, please let us all work together, taking responsibility for our actions and for those of our families.

Thank you

For the third year in succession Lion President Noel and members of Wrexham Maelor Lions Club extend their appreciation to Mick and Karen of the Corner Shop, Overton for donating a Christmas Hamper and selling the raffle tickets to their customers. They raised a grand total of £335. The money was gratefully received by Lions, Noel, John and Frank and will be put to good use in the community to help those less fortunate than ourselves. We would also like to thank the people of Overton for their continued support.



Lion President Noel with Corner Shop staff & winning ticket

Your Letters...

Dear Editor,

We hear a lot about disaffected youth these days. Let me tell you how some youths conduct their lives.

Jamie Jones 18, who lived in Overton and now resides in Penley has a very full life. He played football for Welshpool and attended The Ian Rush Academy at Aberystwyth University. Fourteen countries were represented, two of which were Welsh, both of whom reached the final, and unfortunately Hereford won!

Flying is another recent passion and to date he has completed four hours in a light aircraft. Jamie has shown such proficiency that he has already been allowed to “touch” land. This is when you land and take off again immediately, something which is normally achieved after quite a few more hours flying than Jamie has accomplished.

Music is another interest in particular playing and writing music for the drums. He travels to Queensferry for examinations and has achieved Grade 5. Of course living in this area Jamie also has an interest in horse riding, show jumping to be more precise, where again he has won many cups whilst enjoying this sport.

Jamie is now attending Loughborough University where he is in the first year of a three year course in Electronic Engineering and also working on his own private projects.

His Granddad wishes him all the best for the future.

A famous visitor to Overton



William 'Buffalo Bill' Cody

During the gathering of memories about Wrexham Road at a recent meeting of the History Group, there came to light another famous visitor to Overton.

No less than 'Buffalo Bill' - William Cody.

Myra Worthington's father John Hughes, always told her that as a boy he remembered Buffalo Bill had used the families smithy on Wrexham Road and had stayed at Pendas House.

After checking the internet, his story is spot on. In 1903 when John Hughes would have been 8 years old, Buffalo Bill brought his Wild West Show on a tour of England and Wales. On May 29th 1903 they put on the show near Ruabon. Part of the show must have stayed in Overton on their way to their next venue, as on May 30th 1903 they performed in Shrewsbury. The show was huge, some newspapers report that it involved up to 800 people and 500 horses.

Are there any more memories or stories out there about this event? Did your grandparents go to the show? Did your family provide lodgings for any of the performers? Perhaps Annie Oakley or Chief Black Bird?. Leave a note in the Oracle envelope at the Corner Shop if you know more!

C o n g r a t u l a t i o n s

Congratulations to Anwen Bancroft for winning the national competition from Cauliflower Cards. She designed such a beautiful piece of artwork for the school's PTA fundraiser to design a Christmas card, that it was chosen in the national competition as winner of the Early Years category.

She is pictured with her artwork on a canvas and with her prize, a fantastic easel. She promises to share the prize with her sister Megan. Well done Anwen, St Mary's School is very proud of you!



E n d o f a n e r a

Pat and Pauline Lynch would like to thank everyone who have supported them over the years of their Christmas Lights. Pat was delighted with this years donations amounting to £1,128.98p collected for North Wales Ambulance.

Pat has covered his house with decorations for over 30 years and raised money for many charities over that time. On January 6th he turned them off for the last time and says he's overdue for a quiet Christmas.



C o n s u l t a t i o n

Wrexham County Borough Council placed the Local Development Plan on deposit for consultation between 4th June and 16th July 2010. Consultation responses included representations which either suggested the allocation of new sites, the alteration or deletion of sites allocated in the Plan or alterations to settlement limits.

These site allocation representations will be subject to formal **public consultation commencing on 14th January 2011 for a statutory period of six weeks ending on 25th February 2011.** Should you wish to comment your representations must be received by the Feb 25th. A register of these sites known as the **Alternative Sites Register**, a standard **Alternative Sites Comment Form** (to download and print) and an online form can be found on the www.wrexham.gov.uk website.

Overton Film Club



The Overton Film Club has booked the following dates and films for the last four screenings.

- Tuesday Feb. 15th - 'Social Network' (*see poster right*)
- Tuesday March 8th - 'The Secret in their Eyes'
- Friday March 25th - 'The Kings Speech' (availability to be confirmed)
- Friday April 15th - 'The Kids Alright'



Put the dates in your diaries; invite friends etc. to the Village Hall. Doors open 7pm. Film for 8pm. All the films will be excellent! 'Social Network', 'The King's Speech' and 'The Kids Are Alright' are all heavily tipped to be Oscar-nominated in March. And 'The Secret in their Eyes' (an Argentinean police thriller) won last year's Foreign Film Oscar, probably the best film of the lot - not to be missed

Incidentally, in view of no subsidies this year, and not enough members, this season will probably see the end of Overton Film Club.

Overton Community Council

Please note that the full Community Council meeting due to be held on Tuesday 8th March 2011 has been moved to **Monday 7th March 2011** commencing at 7.20pm for members of the public to speak

History Group

At the moment the History group is putting together memories of Overton during the war years 1939 to 1945. These years were such an important time and yet not recorded, so this is an opportunity to do so. Each generation had a tale to tell,

- What was it like to be a child in the village, school days, evacuees?
- Memories of German aircraft passing over at the time of the Liverpool bombing?
- The unrecorded heroes from the village in the army, air force or navy, the Home Guard, Observer Corp and Land Army
- The women coping with rationing, make do and mend.
- The forces stationed and billeted in Overton, British, American, Polish, Italian and German

The next meeting of the History Group will be at 7.30pm Tuesday February 22nd upstairs at the White Horse. Come along and add to the history of Overton

WHAT'S ON

- February Diary for St Mary's Services**
Wednesday February 2nd 2.30pm St Mary's School Service in Church. All welcome
- Sunday February 6th** 11:30am Holy Eucharist
Sunday February 13th 10am Sunday Praise and Coffee
Sunday February 20th 11:30am Holy Eucharist
Sunday February 27th 10.00 am Family Eucharist
Sunday March 6th 11:30am Holy Eucharist
- Methodist Chapel Services, Sunday evenings** 6.30pm
- Wednesday February 2nd** 7.30pm Maelor Music Society – "Cheethams School" in the Maelor School Hall, Penley. For membership or tickets contact Bob Evers 01948 770633
- Tuesday February 8th** Overton Community Council meeting in the Parish Room. Members of the public may speak between 7.20 – 7.30pm.
- Wednesday February 9th** 12.30pm Overton Lunch Club at the White Horse. Booking required.
- Saturday February 12th** Overton Twinning Association Social & Meeting in White Horse. Food 6pm, meeting 7.30pm. Everyone, including families, welcome.
- Tuesday February 15th** Overton Film Club in the Village Hall. Doors open 7pm Film 8pm "**Social Network**"
- Thursday February 17th** 7.30 pm Overton WI meeting at the Parish Room. Speaker on "Recycling in the Wrexham Area".
- Tuesday February 22nd** 7.30pm Overton History Group meeting upstairs at the White Horse.
- Wednesday February 23rd** 7.30pm Maelor Music Society – Piantel – Harp & Piano in the Maelor School Hall, Penley. For membership or tickets contact Bob Evers 01948 770633

A fun way of raising money for Nightingale House

A Singing Workshop

Wednesday March 16th

7.30 - 9.00pm £5

at The White Horse, Overton

Songs from the UK and around the world, all taught by ear.
 Session led by Kate Allen (enthusiastic and encouraging)

This will be a totally non threatening jolly evening.

It doesn't matter if you think you can't sing,
 you'll still enjoy it.

Remember this will be fun AND we will raise money for
 Nightingale House.

For tickets contact Anne Butt 01978 710107

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy February Birthdays to Sandy Foster, Chillely Grindley, Mrs Lyn (Welsh) Evans, Brian Manley, Nicola Archer, Stella Austin, Miss Owen, Doreen Howells, Olive Roberts, Dereck Bell, Amy Perrin and Georgie Davies.

Special belated 40th birthday wishes to Mr Darren Morris and Katherine Phillips.

Belated 50th birthday wishes to Jane Dodwell,

Congratulations to Christian Butler and Louise Hughes who are to be married in St Mary's Church on Saturday February 19th at 12pm.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Barry Haynes who passed away at the end of December.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Rose Parkin who passed away in January.

Good Luck

Good luck and best wishes to Mary Hilton Jones for her move to her new home in Bicester. We hope she will keep in touch with all the goings on in Overton by reading the Oracle.

Thank you

I would like to thank all my family and friends for their care and support during my recent illness. All your kind thoughts were a tonic and helped my recovery. Thank you, Gerry Owen.

Jean Edwards would like to thank Angela Rogers for organising the Boxing Day Party and draw. £150.00 was raised for Hope House Hospice. Many thanks to all those who donated draw prizes.

Margaret Haynes & family would like to thank all the friends and villagers who attended her late husband Barry's funeral on Friday 7th January. We are very grateful for the condolences and your kind donations raised £593 which we have donated to Hope House.

PLEASE REMEMBER

Copy deadline 20th of the month. Get your events & news to us early to avoid disappointment
THIS INCLUDES
ADVERTISEMENTS

Leave your contributions, & announcements at the Corner Shop.

Your Oracle Team -

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son.

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