

The Overton Oracle

Volume 15. Issue 2

February 2013

Overton's Free Newspaper - issued monthly



"I've started so I'll finish"



For those wishing to brush up their culinary skills, Overton WI has the answer. They are inviting members and non members to an entertaining cookery demonstration of Starters and Puddings in the Village Hall on Thursday February 21st at 7.30pm.

Chairman of Shropshire Federation of Women's Institutes, Sue Bradley, will be giving the demonstration which she has entitled "I've Started So I'll Finish".

Sue is totally committed to the organisation which truly has done so much for so many and by so many since it was formed in Anglesey in 1915. She says "Being Chairman is a role I love because it lets me meet WI members in every corner of our wonderful Federation. We have over 130 WIs in the county at the moment and plans for more. It is marvelous to see interest in our movement growing - even though the Shropshire Federation dates back to 1919."

This will be an Open Meeting so everyone is very welcome. There will be a draw, tea, coffee and refreshments. Entrance for non members will be £5.

The Overton WI also invites every one to their **Coffee Morning on Saturday March 2nd** at 10.30am in the Village Hall. Tickets are 50p which includes coffee and biscuits. There will be a cake stall, bric a brac, books, a tombola, and a draw.



Sue Bradley Chairman of Shropshire Federation of WIs

A Successful Outcome

Many thanks to all those readers who contacted Jill and told her she was mentioned in the January Overton Oracle in the article "Can you help". Karl Koschorke from Canada had contacted the Oracle to ask if we could help his father Frank. Frank (age 92) is now in a care home in Canada but talks all the time of when he was a POW working on a farm near Overton and how he would like to find the family who were so kind to him.

Readers quickly identified the farm as Cloy Farm run by the Darlingtons, and Dave Austin even found photos of Hector Darlington's daughters Jill and Rachel, copies of which were sent off immediately to Canada. And then Jill got in touch and said she was willing to talk to Frank. Within hours she received a call from Canada and as you can see from the note (*below*) Frank and Jill had a long conversation.

Dear Editor,
My father phoned Jill last evening and had a wonderful conversation. From what I over heard, they chatted like sixty years ago was like yesterday. I learned more about my father's life in fifteen minutes than in fifty years. Thank you for all your help and everyone that called Jill
Darlington and the Overton Oracle.

Karl and his family had no knowledge that his father had been a German POW in WWII. He says that the knowledge helps to explain so many things in his parents life that he did not understand.

"They were always worried that they may not have food even though they could well afford to go out for dinner.

After hearing the recent stories I can fully understand why they are the way they are."



Jill & Rachel with Olive Roberts nee Austin

Ramblings From the Reverend **by Rev'd David Child**



February can be a dismal month. It is after all the time of year when mornings and evenings have been dark for a long time and when they seem to show no signs of getting lighter. It's cold and if it does snow, that snow often turns into a black icy slush. Cars are so filthy that we are ashamed to drive them, but also afraid to wash them just in case it's the dirt and the grime that's holding them together. No wonder then that some people experience what's called Seasonal Affective Disorder or 'Sad' as it's sometimes called.

Some people think that the Old Testament Book of Ecclesiastes must have been written in February. It makes for dismal reading. Its punch line is. 'Vanity, all is vanity' or in a more modern translation, 'Meaningless, everything is meaningless' – you get born, you live, you die and after a passage of time no one will remember that you even existed. You begin to wonder how a book like this got into the Bible in the first place – but I suppose it does make you think.

Many scientists think that a series of meaningless random events created most of what we see in the universe. After all everyone knows that if you let a million monkeys type randomly on a million keyboards for a million years, you'll get all the great works of literature. But is that true?

Bob Berman the American Astronomer recently wrote an article called 'Strange Universe'. He tells us that a clever programmer with an even cleverer computer has worked out how long it would actually take for a million monkeys typing randomly on a million keyboards each one at a rate of one letter every 4 seconds to type out the first sentence of that famous novel Moby Dick – that first sentence is 'Call me Ishmael'. Guess – the answer is 2,100 trillion years or roughly 153,000 times the age of the universe.

So may be there is something in that children's hymn we love to sing – you know the one 'Who put the colours in the Rainbow – It surely can't be chance'.

One of the old medieval saints wrote, 'Faith is believing that all will be well'. I prefer a more modern version 'Faith is believing that all will make sense'. In the meantime I can enjoy with God all those amazing coincidences that seem to happen.

With every blessing,
David

The next Film Club will be Wednesday 13th February at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. The film will be Golden Globe winner "Argo"



COUNTRY BEAT

by PCSO Phil Jones



Hello, my name is Phil Jones and I would just like to take a moment to introduce myself as the new PCSO for Overton. I have been a PCSO in NWP for the past 4 years covering Gwersyllt, so moving to Overton is a complete change from what I am used to. However I am looking forward to the challenge of covering a rural location and being involved with community events. I am very much looking forward to meeting everyone in the village and I will be attending as many community events as possible so you can all get to know my face.

I'm glad to report no crime has been reported to NWP for the past month. But I do want all members of the community to report anything suspicious to either myself or my colleagues at Overton station, via the non-emergency number 101 or, in an emergency, 999. With your help we can continue to keep crime in the village low.

I've only been in the village a couple of weeks but already I've had a few people report issues to me. Dog fouling seems to be on the increase, especially outside people's homes. This is completely unacceptable and if caught, offenders will not be given a warning, they will be issued with a £75 fine. Fines can also be issued retrospectively, meaning that if someone has witnessed your dog fouling and reports it either to Wrexham Council on 01978 298989 or myself (see my contact details below), a £75 fine can still be issued. Please make sure you clean up after your dog. Overton is a beautiful village, please help to keep it so.

Car parking problems have also been passed to me. Double yellow lines have been painted in the village along Wrexham Road and Pen-y-Llan Street. Unfortunately, some people have ignored these new lines and I have witnessed vehicles park on the lines outside the pharmacy; in some cases blocking the whole path for people walking past. There are plenty of parking spaces in the Doctor's Surgery or public car park. Parking on the double yellow lines outside the pharmacy is not only illegal but also hazardous to other road users and increases the risk of road traffic collisions.

I was pleased to meet several of you at the Drop In session that was held on the 16th of January. I will be out around the village so feel free to come up to me and say hello. I am also available on the below numbers and email.

Many thanks,

PCSO Phil Jones

01978 348 425

07854 389 056

philip.w.jones@nthwales.pnn.police.uk

Sunflowers

Sunflowers would like to thank all those who helped to make "Afternoon Tea with Father Christmas" in the Scout Hut such a fantastic success. We raised over £150 to help support families with children with additional needs in the area.



Sunflowers is a parent support group for families of children with additional needs. We meet every third Thursday evening in the month. At our January meeting Lynne Mort the new Childcare Brokerage Officer came to explain her role and told us how she can support our parents and families.

If you would like to join us then please do contact us. Phone **01978 710041** or **01978 710087** or email 123Sunflowers@gmail.com

Writers of Overton

Do you write? Are you interested in being part of a writers group?

We are looking to create a group of like-minded people who wish to gain helpful and constructive feedback on their work, and are also willing to provide helpful and constructive feedback on the work of others.



If you are interested, please can you send a note to writersofoverton@gmail.com and we will then look to arrange a time and place for an initial meeting, which would probably be on a weekday evening about 8pm probably once a month.

If you could tell us in your email, which evening(s) would work best for you that would be a great help. We look forward to hearing from you!

Lunch Club



The Overton Lunch Club is on Wednesday 13th February at 12.30pm at the White Horse.

The menu will be Cottage Pie and Peas followed by Toffee and Vanilla Cheese-cake with Cream.

To book please ring Gwynneth Austin on 01978 710672.

Kids Kolumn

by **Kate Jenkinson, Robyn Rehbock and Charley Middleton**



Hey!!!! Have you all enjoyed the snow?

It's Pancake Day coming up, what's your fave topping?!



It's on the 12th of February this year!

Choose from: Syrup - Sugar - Lemon - Chocolate ?

Guess who the celebrity is with these clues.



It is a singer? It is a lady?
She is never getting back together?

It is a judge on a singing competition?
It is a man?
He wears his trousers very high?

Have you solved them all? Signed, *Charley x*

Cinema Review - "The Life of Pi" PG

This movie is absolutely amazing. It is by far one of the best films I have seen!! It was definitely one for the family, but I wouldn't advise taking too small children to watch it, I hardly coped!!!!

It is about a boy, named Pi who finds himself shipwrecked, alone apart from wild animals and how he learns to survive with them.

The way that the story is told is fantastic; you are there with them, trying to survive just as they are.

My last words are - if you get very emotional about films (like me!!!!) definitely take a box of tissues as I ended up in floods of tears!!! Signed, *Kate x*



Connect Dots on this Winter Picture! Signed, *Robyn x*

Overton Cemetery

During a recent inspection of the graves and headstones in Overton Cemetery some headstones were found to be loose and some plots unsafe due to soil or concrete settlement. We would like to request that any relatives of the following contact the Clerk to Overton Community Council to discuss the maintenance work required:-



Walter Henry Hamlington and Caroline Hill (A322) – last burial 1958

Eliza Tinsley and Thomas Tinsley (A258) – last burial 1951

John Edwards and Sarah Jane Edwards (A390) – last burial 1973

William Arthur Bloxham and Alice Lucinda Bloxham (C80) – last burial 1989

James Morris, Sarah Morris and Margaret Vaughan Onckelinx (B96) – last burial 1953

James Haycocks, Annie Haycocks and Alfred Haycocks (B173) – last burial 1958

Mary Edwards, Eunice Ann Evans and Joe Evans (B160) – last burial 1943

If no relatives come forward it may be necessary for Overton Community Council to lay the headstones down and carry out remedial work.

If you can help please contact Katrina Chalk, Clerk to Overton Community Council or ring 01978 710 055 or email occ.clerk@btinternet.com

Toddlers move to keep warm

St Mary's Church Baby and Toddlers Group have moved temporarily!! In January we relocated for warmth to the Scout Hut. We are really grateful to the Scout Group who have very kindly offered to house us for the interim period January through to about March. The Church are working hard to provide us with a better heating system which should be in place by March if not before. So please do come along every Monday, 10 am till 12pm. You will find us in the Scout hut which is opposite the park. Look forward to seeing you there!

Candid Camera



Spotted in the snow

Garden statues with snow toppings and



more Snow-dorne than Sun-dorne

Wine Tasting

Last year the Twinning Association's Wine Tasting evening was hugely popular and attracted a capacity turnout. This year's event will be held on Saturday 16th March 2013 in the Village Hall. Everyone had such a good time that tickets are sure to go fast.



The formula will be more or less the same as last year. There'll be a selection of wines to identify and drink, an excellent home-prepared gourmet supper and marvellous company! All this for £10 with no hidden extras. A recession-busting cracking night out right here on our doorstep! Bring a couple of £1 coins for two games with Champagne and Whisky as prizes. A new touch for 2013 will be a free quiz on the tables to get into the spirit before the main event.

Tickets are available from Cath Starkey on 710322 or Georgina Mason on 710486. We look forward to seeing you all on the 16th March.

Otters in the Dee



Last month Philip and Claire Gerrard Jones found a dead otter at Pedyffryn, Salop Road. It appeared to have been hit by a car and crawled through

their hedge. They sent photos to Chester Zoo who positively identified it as a fully grown otter and logged it on their database.

They would be interested to know if anyone in the village has seen any sign of otters living in the area of the river or the brook that runs around the big meadow by the treatment works? Philip and Claire can be contacted by e-mail: gerrards@clara.co.uk

Playgroup News

A big thankyou to Capricorn Animal Rescue Centre for coming and showing us what great work they do. If you missed it you can still leave a donation of pet food at the playcentre for us to pass on to them.

Our next fundraising event will be on Saturday the 2nd March where we will be bag packing at Tesco in Ellesmere. All hands required here.

Rachel Harris is creating a book to help raise money. The book will contain recipes, handy hints on budgeting, shopping, house keeping, how to survive Christmas and anything else you can think of to help run a busy home. So if you have anything you would like to include in the book, please contact Rachel via the Playcentre. Our AGM will be held on the 11th April. We are looking for a member of Overton Community to become one of our Trustees. All Trustees are fully insured, for more information contact Angie via the Playcentre.

I'm Off Again! - My Latest Challenge!!

Wow, it was quite a few years ago since this photo was taken, as I completed my final expedition for my Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award! It was a very proud day for me and my group and all those painful hours of carrying heavy bags and getting lost seemed to drift into the background!

My next big challenge was when I had just turned 18, I left the comfort of Overton and travelled 4,000 miles away to make my home in Georgia, USA. I spent 13 months travelling, studying and representing Wales as best I could! Not always the easiest thing to do when people around you keep asking if Wales is a part of London!! I had such an amazing time in the States and it will always have a place in my heart.

Currently I am studying at the University of Nottingham, and am having a brilliant time! However the love for travel and exploration is still within me and so I have decided to take on a new challenge, which I think will be my toughest yet!

Alongside my fellow students at Nottingham University, on 30th June 2013 I have decided to travel to Africa and climb the tallest freestanding mountain on earth, Mount Kilimanjaro!! Taking 6 days in total to climb, we will

trek for 8 hours a day, braving the heat of the African days and the freezing temperatures at night, combined with the increasing effects of the altitude to reach the summit on day four. The next two days will be our return to the bottom and our challenge completed!!

Yes I agree, it does sound kind of crazy. However the reason behind it has inspired me to ignore any fear or apprehension and take part, as we are raising money for the incredible charity "Hope for Children", which gives aid to Poor, Orphaned and Exploited children all over the world, including the UK! Last year alone, "Hope for Children" helped over 70,000 children worldwide and we hope to help enable their tremendous efforts to continue long into the future so more children get a good start in life!

In order to take part in this challenge of a lifetime I must raise £2650 for the charity, and this is where I need your help! You may have seen me wandering around the village Carol Singing just before Christmas and I am planning a lot more fundraising events both at University and at home, and I would be incredibly grateful to anyone who can attend! I also have a donation page online, any size donation is accepted and all of them are very appreciated!! Here is the link to my sponsoring page; http://www.hopeheroes.org/jennifer_england

So far I have raised £860 so thank you to everyone who has helped me already! Please continue to support me in my efforts to raise money for a charity that is truly changing lives! Best Wishes, Jenny England

*Jenny was for many years one of the editors of the Kids Kolumn page for the Overton Oracle.
We look forward to hearing how her latest challenge progresses and wish her well.*



Medical Practice

To save you time and the cost of petrol, why not sign up to use the ONLINE access facility for Overton Practise. You will then be able to book appointments with Doctors and order repeat prescriptions from your own computer. For more information ask at reception.

If anyone in the 'At Risk' categories including pregnant ladies, or over 65's, has not had their FLU vaccination please contact reception. For the over 65's, it is possible to have your Pneumococcal injection at the same time. The campaign against Whooping Cough is ongoing. Pregnant ladies over 28weeks are strongly advised to have this vaccination.

Medical student April Rowntree is with us for her 6 week secondment. She may sit in on your consultation providing you have given us your consent.

What's On at the Rainbow

Rainbow Lunch & Learn is on **Thursday February 7th**. The activity is Easter Sweet Modelling. Booking essential. Ring Jane on 01948 830730.

Penley Rainbow Centre Open Day is on **Monday 25th February** 11 am – 2 pm. Would you like to increase your social circle and have some fun? Get involved in a group or try something different? Or change someone's life and volunteer? Then come along.

Also there will also be Service User & Carer Involvement Information. Service user and carer involvement offers an exciting opportunity to tell your story, share your experience, have your say and help make a difference to mental health services.

Come along and find out how you can get regular information on mental health matters and a range of training and involvement opportunities in Wrexham.

OCC Drop - in Sessions

The 1st of the OCC drop-in sessions was attended by 6 members of the public who enjoyed a cup of coffee and took the opportunity to meet 2 council members plus Clerk Katrina Chalk; County Councillor Lloyd Kenyon and PCSO's Steve O'Connell and Phil Jones. Several problems were raised covering such subjects as blocked drains, parking, traffic, hedges and one member of the public came in just to meet the council. One comment was that this was the best thing the Council had organised. Although the public gets an opportunity to speak at Council meetings, there are only 10 minutes to put across problems, whereas this forum was much more relaxed and an opportunity to explain and request help and assistance.

Chairman David Burton and Vice Chairman Mike Minihane said it was an excellent first meeting and hoped more people will drop in at the next OCC DROP-IN at 10.00 to 11.00 on Saturday 23rd February in the Parish Room.



Your Letters...



Dear Editor,

In January we were visited by two Irish accented men in a blue van with a foreign number plate offering chain saws for sale. They had a good look around as the younger of the two men came to the door. We had an uneasy feeling about the call and contacted Overton Police Station to report the incident.

We moved here from Cheshire 3 months ago and I remembered the spate of robberies around that area when a van had been seen looking at horses and livestock in fields etc and later the animals would go missing and also farm equipment, power tools, trailers etc.

Name & address supplied

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on-line
version of the Oracle.*

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Business section of the
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WHAT'S ON

February Diary for St Mary's Services

Sunday Feb 3rd 10am Candlemas Family Village Praise

Sunday Feb 10th 11.30am Holy Communion

Ash Wednesday Feb 13th 7.30pm Imposition of Ashes

Sunday Feb 17th 10:00am Family Communion

Sunday Feb 24th 11.30am Holy Communion

Methodist Chapel Services, Sunday evenings 6.30pm

Wednesday February 6th 7.30pm Maelor Music Society at the Maelor School Hall features "Chetham's School of Music"

Thursday February 7th 7.30 pm Overton Bowling Club AGM in the Parish Room

Monday February 11th 10.30am Overton British Legion meeting for coffee at Woodlands Deli

Monday February 11th 6.00pm Overton Practice Patient Participation Group meeting at the surgery. All are welcome.

Tuesday February 12th Overton Community Council meeting in the Parish Room. Members of the public wishing to speak can do so between 7.20 – 7.30pm.

Wednesday February 13th 12.30pm Overton Lunch Club at the White Horse. Booking required.

Wednesday February 13th 7.30pm Overton Film Club at the Village Hall presents Golden Globe winner "Argo". Bar from 7pm

Thursday February 14th 7- 9pm Valentines Supper at the White Horse. Booking recommended.

Friday February 15th 9.00pm Live Music Night at the White Horse. Free Entry

Thursday February 21st 7.30pm Overton WI Open Meeting in the Village Hall. Speaker: County Chairman Sue Bradley on "I've started so I'll finish", a cookery demonstration of Starters and Puddings. Competition: A Pretty Bowl

Saturday February 23rd 10.00 - 11.00am Overton Community Council Drop-In in the Parish Room

Saturday February 23rd 11.00am - 4.00pm Woodlands Deli Open Day

Wednesday February 27th 7.30pm Maelor Music Society at the Maelor School Hall features "Kosmos String Trio"

Saturday March 2nd 10.30am WI Coffee Morning in the Village Hall. 50p includes coffee and biscuits, cake stall, bric a brac, books, tombola, draw

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy February Birthdays to Neville Wynne, Harry Whittall, Lewis Jones, Sandy Foster, Chilley Grindley, Lyn Evans, Nicola Archer, Stella Austin, Doreen Howells, Olive Roberts, Dereck Bell, Georgie Hunter Davies, Lily & Davina Simon
Happy 80th birthday to Roy Hoare
& Happy 91st to Miss Owen & Fred Cooper.



Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Jim Lee.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Martin Lewis age 80.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Harold Wason.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Alf Dalby age 91.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Glenda Lewis.

OVERTON ON DEE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



Coffee Morning

at Overton Village Hall

on 10.30am Saturday 2nd March 2013

Various Stalls, Draw

Tickets 50p

FOR SALE

Livery available

Livery available in Overton. Quiet private yard with 2 wooden stables and a 4.5 acres of grazing has vacancies for DIY or part livery.

With stable and storage £25 p/w or grazing only £10 p/w. For further details contact Pam on 01978 710556

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 - Chairman & Advertising David Burton; Secretary Nicole Netzband-Piggott; Treasurer Rob Netzband-Piggott; Distribution Cynthia Davies; Sean Clarke, & Euan Stevenson. Editor - Jill Burton. Tel 710631 or e-mail overtonoracle@gmail.com

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Space constraints mean that submitted articles may be edited or not published.

The Oracle is available on the internet. Please be mindful that personal details submitted will be available to a wider audience.

The Overton Oracle is printed and supported by "Business Print & Design", Wrexham. Tel. No. 01978 664726 e-mail: info@bpandd.co.uk

The Oracle is delivered FREE to nearly 600 homes in the Overton Area.

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