

The Overton Oracle

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February 2014

Overton's Free Newspaper - issued monthly



Overton mentioned in Parliament



There can not have been many times that the village of Overton has been mentioned in Parliament, but that is what happened on January 8th. Member of Parliament for Clwyd South, Susan Elan Jones presented a 10 minute Rule Bill to the House - The Driving Offences (Review of Sentencing Guidelines) - to bring in a Bill to require the Secretary of State to undertake a review of the maximum penalties for driving offences causing death and serious injury.

Susan referred to the tragic death in October 2009 of 9 year old Robert James Gaunt in the village, to the sentence of 22 months (serving 10 months) of the convicted driver and to the

local petition calling for sentences for this sort of crime to be raised. The bill asks the Government to look at the maximum penalties for driving offences that lead to death and serious injury.

She concluded with the words *"My constituents embarked on their campaign to secure justice for Robert. Of course we can never secure true justice for a young boy who was so tragically and needlessly deprived of his life, but what I hope that we can do is to take action that*



will save more families from similar heartbreak in the future. That is why I stand here today—on behalf of the family of Robert James Gaunt, the people of Overton, and people throughout the country who share our concern—and urge the Secretary of State to undertake a review of the maximum penalties for driving offences that lead to death and serious injury."

The full details can be read in Hansard online and a printed copy is available to read at Overton Library. Susan spoke in the debate on driving offences on Jan 27th and it is hoped the bill will receive a second reading on February 28th.

Picture left: Susan stands in front of the mace to present the Bill



Bus Shelter Consultation

Following the requests from the community for the provision of a bus shelter, and the recent consultation, the Community Council agreed at their meeting on January 10th to support the installation in about 2 months of one bus shelter on the pavement near the grass area to the left of the entrance to Parkside.

The Council took into serious consideration all the objections received, many of which related to the potential anti-social behaviour of young people using the shelter as a meeting point. However the majority of replies received were in favour of a bus shelter. The Council believe that the positive provision of an amenity for all residents who use the bus route to Wrexham outweighs any negative issues.

The shelter and its installation will be paid for by Wrexham CBC but Overton Community Council will take responsibility for its upkeep. We will work closely with the Police to ensure that the bus stop is not used for any other purpose than waiting for a bus. Should any major problems arise from the shelter, we will review the situation carefully.

David Burton, Chairman

Ramblings From the Reverend by Rev'd Canon David Child



February 14th is as everyone knows Valentine's Day.
So who was Valentine?

Well he was a young man who lived in Rome during the time when Christians were being persecuted. Although he was not a Christian, he helped them and he was caught and put into prison. In prison Valentine became a believer in Jesus and because of this he was condemned to death. He was beaten with clubs, stoned and finally beheaded outside the Flaminian Gate on February 14th AD 269. While he was in prison he sent messages to his friends saying, "Remember your Valentine!" and "I love you."

Love is a strange word. We can use it for all kinds of things from food through to something deep, personal and permanent - children, partners, pets, God. Love can sometimes seem easy, all pink hearts and fluffy toys. Real love seems more often like hard work - Jesus spent time being with people, listening to them, healing them even when he was tired. He knew he had to keep on telling them of God's love - a love that keeps going. But even romantic love, which we now celebrate on Valentine's Day can at times seem hard going.

There was a young woman called Megan who lived in a village in South Wales. She fell in love with a young farmer named Dai. Dai was inexperienced in the world of romance., he was man of few words and extremely shy. Megan realised early on that she would need to help him quite a bit to move their courtship along. 'Oh, Dai', she said, do you think my eyes are like the glittering stars? 'Yeh' he replied. 'And do you think my teeth are like a beautiful string of pearls?' she asked. 'Yeh' he answered. 'And do you think my complexion is like gorgeous rose petals?' she questioned. 'Yeh' he replied. 'And do you think my hair shines like gold in the moonlight?' 'Yeh' he answered. 'Oh, Dai!' She exclaimed. 'You do say such wonderful things.'

Jesus too has some wonderful things to say to us - that God loves each one of us, and that God loves our world. And you know it does make sense.

If you exist, something or someone else beyond must also exist and that something, that someone we call God. Until 2,000 years ago God was a mystery, but then Jesus came to show us exactly what God is like - that God is love.

And that's why Valentine was prepared to die rather than give up his love for Jesus.

With every blessing,
David.

Country Beat

by PCSO Phil Jones



Hello again, The bad weather has taken its toll this month with lots of reports of trees down and floods. These can be reported direct to the council on 01978 298989. However if there are road problems then you can ring us on 101 to report.

I'm happy to say there have been no significant crimes this month, however, please report any suspicious persons in the area and also report all incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour to 101.

When you're out and about, follow our simple tips to ensure you, your family and your property are safe and secure.

- If you are out walking or jogging, stick to well-lit and busy areas.
- Avoid short cuts and deserted areas - stick to well-lit main routes.
- If you are out alone, avoid using ipods or personal stereos - you won't hear anyone approaching you from behind.
- Look and act confidently - look like you know where you are going.
- If you think you are being followed cross over to the other side of the road. If you are followed again cross back. If you become concerned go to the nearest public place such as a shop or pub and call the police.
- Always keep the phone number of a reputable taxi firm with you.
- If you use a wheelchair, keep things at your side rather than on the back of the chair.

Protect your personal possessions

- Spread your valuables around your body - for instance, keep your phone in your bag, money in your jacket and so on.
- Don't draw attention to yourself by talking on your phone, carrying a laptop or listening to an iPod - this will make you more attractive to a thief.
- Mark valuable items with your postcode using a UV marker pen - contact your local Neighbourhood Policing Team for further advice.
- Make a note of your phone's unique IMEI number - access this by tapping *#06# into your phone and note the number. This will assist your service provider in blocking its use should your phone be lost or stolen.
- Carry your bag in a secure position in front of your body. Keep all fasteners closed and ensure they are facing towards your body.
- Carry wallets, mobiles and other small valuables in a secure inside pocket..

Thanks, Phil Jones 2858

Tel: 01978 348425 or 07854 389056

e-mail: philip.w.jones@nthwales.pnn.police.uk

Non urgent calls 101 or in emergency call 999

Overton Police Station covering area's Overton, Penley, Hanmer, Bettisfield & Horseman's Green.

Playgroup News

Last month I announced we would be holding a joint fundraiser with Tenovus on 1st March. For reasons beyond our control we have had to postpone the event until early in the summer. I will keep you posted with updates. Meanwhile, we are still planning many fundraising events, including, our Nearly New Sale on 5th April and a Bingo Night in March. We are also collecting good quality teddy bears, if you have any unwanted teddies; please drop them off at the Playcentre.

The focus for our fundraising this year will be to make vast improvements to the back garden area at the Playcentre. Amongst many jobs on the list, we need to buy new play equipment, climbing frame, slide and playhouse. We hope to create a small outside classroom / reading area and in general create an outdoor space for the children from both Playcentre and the toddler group to enjoy. To kick start the fundraising Steve Andrews very kindly put our name forward to receive funds raised from his works Christmas raffle. So it is with thanks to Steve and to Amanda Redhead from B.T that we were awarded a cheque for £205, it has been very gratefully received and will be put to good use.

Our AGM will be held on the 27th March 2014 at the White Horse Inn, Overton. 7.30pm onwards, all welcome to come along, and please do, as we are a charity and need as much support as we can get.

Thanks
Angie Atkins

Kids Kolumn

Happy February everyone! This month **it is Valentine's Day!** Do you know who **you're sending a card** to?



Valentines Day Crafts

How to make a valentines day paper chain

Collect your chosen colour of paper card and scissors. Fold the paper like a fan. Cut out the shape you want with a bit of your image on the very edge of the folds. Unfold your paper.



Try finding 10 Valentine's day related words!

H	A	B	C	D	E	S	H	G	K	E
E	S	A	Q	W	D	M	C	P	N	R
A	W	D	C	D	E	C	H	Q	E	L
R	O	M	A	N	C	E	O	F	P	O
T	A	I	R	V	B	N	C	X	R	V
X	B	R	D	A	T	E	O	K	E	E
L	I	E	P	A	S	B	L	I	S	B
K	E	R	B	V	C	Q	A	L	E	L
J	B	V	A	L	E	N	T	A	N	E
P	C	M	T	Y	U	I	E	V	T	H
O	D	B	N	L	H	D	S	B	S	G
I	R	D	F	H	E	H	T	N	E	S
U	F	L	O	W	E	R	S	M	S	V

- * Love
- * Flowers
- * Chocolates
- * Date
- * Romance
- * Card
- * Valentine
- * Admirer
- * Presents
- * Heart



VALENTINE BALL

on
Saturday 15th February

Venue: Overton Scout Hut
for Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6

£3.00 admission
includes snack and cold drink

Raising money for attending the World Scout Jamboree

Look out for posters with further details



Lunch Club



The Overton Lunch Club is on **Wednesday 12th February** at 12.30pm at the White Horse.

The menu will be cheese topped fish & potato pie with garden peas, plus lemon meringue pie & custard.

To book please ring Gwynneth Austin on 710672.

FILM REVIEW

'Disney Frozen'

A brilliant film for children and for adults!

An amusing and moving movie. I would recommend this film for all ages, as me and my 8 and 2 year old siblings loved it.



The Maelor School Christmas Panto

Year 12 pupils at The Maelor School in Penley put on a fabulous pantomime for three nights in the week before Christmas. "Rock 'n' Roll Cinderella" was an entertaining all singing, all dancing show performed in front of family, friends, local primary schools, the Penley Rainbow Centre and their own Year 7 pupils.

All those involved put in such an effort to make it a success and were led by Head of Sixth Form, Mrs Sue England, and English teacher, Mr Paul Drake. Well done to everyone!



Picture above: The Fairy Godmothers, from the left - Eleanor McCusker, Hannah Clarke and Megan Jones.

Picture Left. The entire cast

More pictures on Page 6 in the Oracle on line

<http://www.overton-on-dee.co.uk/oracle>



St Mary's School Food Co-operative

As part of the Welsh Government's drive to make fresh fruit and vegetables accessible to all, we have started a food co-operative at our village school, with the help of the Rural Regeneration Unit (RRU).

As a group of consumers, we are able to obtain top quality healthy food at affordable prices to our families. The provision of our new food co-operative shall support us in encouraging our pupils to think about healthy food choices whilst further developing their entrepreneurship and business skills.

The new food co-op was launched on Friday 17 January and was a huge success! Well done to some of our older pupils who shall be running the food co-op for the benefit of all within the school community.

Mr Wyn-Jones, Headteacher



Bee Helpful!

Bees and butterflies need our help and we need to help improve conditions for our little friends the pollinators. Are you a community group, school, or organisation? Do you want to help pollinators this spring? Why not apply to have a Wild Weekend and get up to £150 of National Garden Centre Vouchers to help you carry out a small project to benefit pollinators. The 'Wild Weekend for Wales' campaign (7-9 March) aims to increase food for pollinators from flowering plants such as wildflowers and hedgerows. Or why not get the children involved in building bee hotels! Projects must take place on publicly-accessible land and result in the creation of a new wildlife habitat. **The deadline for applications is midday on Friday 14th February 2014.** Download application form from the [Keep Wales Tidy](http://www.KeepWalesTidy.org) website.

Mystery picture

Sharon Griffiths wants to know if anyone recognises who's in this picture. In the centre is possibly her aunt, Joyce Griffiths. The writing on the door says to keep the doorway clear as "the ambulance may be needed in a hurry"



Salop Road hotspot



Late in 2012 at the request of the Community Council, Go Safe (the Wales Road Casualty Reduction Partnership) conducted a speed survey on Salop Road and found that it was a speeding hotspot. It was declared a speeding red route and as a result there has been an ongoing campaign to catch the speeding motorists. The Go Safe van was a regular visitor to Salop Road last year, checking speeds in both directions and looking for motorists on their mobile phones or not wearing seat-belts.

During the whole of 2013 the van was there 53 times and recorded **598** offences, that's over 11 per visit, or given the length of the visits, over 9 every hour! Had the Go Safe van been on Salop Road for 12 hours every day for the year the total number of offences could have been as high as 40,000.

If you haven't been caught you are either a careful driver or very lucky indeed! Go Safe will continue to monitor speed on Salop Road throughout 2014 – you have been warned!!



Thank you

Children in the Foundation Phase department and the eco-council of St Mary's School would like to thank Overton Community Council for their continued support for our outdoor environment with funding from the Community Chest. Hannah Rogers wrote on behalf of the Eco-council to ask for a donation towards planting trees to provide interest, food for birds and shade for our younger children in warmer months and we have now planted 2 beautiful specimen trees from our friends at Dingle Nurseries - a yellow berried rowan and a double flowered cherry measuring over 12ft high!



We used our gardening and mathematical skills to plant and measure the trees and had a brilliant time rooting for worms in the holes. We look forward to watching them

Saved !

BT will **NOT** be removing the phone box at Lightwood Green, but will be reviewing the situation on a regular basis.

Oil Consortium Update

I'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who got in contact with us after the article in the December Oracle regarding a heating oil buying group. It was great to see such a positive response from the village.

Since my last article, I have been in contact with a number of suppliers and other local buying groups as to how to secure the best discounts for members and I made contact with the Oil Baron buying group who are based in Audlem. They place orders for heating oil every month and with more than 600 members they have been able to negotiate good discounts for their members. They buy all the heating oil through DA Roberts of Whitchurch and following a discussion with Kevin, the group co-ordinator, I have confirmed that he would be happy to include us in the Oil Baron buying group. As they are placing orders every month and using a local supplier who many of us already deal with, becoming part of the Oil Baron buying group offers us the most flexibility and hopefully better discounts that I would be able to negotiate with our smaller group.

With that in mind, I am recommending to everyone who got in touch (and anyone who didn't) to join the Oil Baron buying group. Membership forms and full group details are available via email from

overton.oilgroup@gmail.com or

Kevin@jkdawson.co.uk. For anyone in the village who doesn't use email, we are more than happy to act as coordinators so feel free to get in touch on 710634 and we can drop the membership forms and details round to you.

The next group buy is scheduled for 10th February and you need to register an interest by the 6th February. A second group buy is scheduled for later in the month and interest for that must be registered by the 20th February.

Rob & Nicole

Livery available

Stabling & Grazing available in Lightwood Green. 12 x 12ft wooden stables and 4½ acres for turnout divided into 3 paddocks. Good hacking on quiet lanes and bridle paths. Barn storage for hay/bedding. £18 per wk with stable. £10 per wk grazing only

Contact Pam 01978 710556 or 07824 446317

Use your website

Is your organisation making full use of the village website to advertise your activities and recruit new members?

There is a What's Happening page for immediate events and news - and if you haven't already got a page you can have one for your organisation free of charge. If you already have one, have you updated it recently? Visit www.overton-on-dee.co.uk to see how the website can work for you or contact info@overton-on-dee.co.uk for more information.

OCC Drop-in



Overton Community Council invites you to 'drop in' on Wednesday 19th February, 10.00am to 11.00am in the Parish Room for coffee/tea and chat - an opportunity to come along and speak directly to Councillors and PCSOs about any issues or concerns you may have about your village, or to discuss an idea or project you would like to suggest. Come in and meet the people who are your voice.

February Music

The Maelor Music Society begins 2014 with a flourish as they welcome the Wu Quartet to their February evening on Wednesday 5th at 7.30pm in the Maelor School Hall. The Quartet comprised of Quai Wu - violin, Edward Breton - violin, Matthew Kettle - viola and Joe Zeitlin - cello, come with an international reputation not least being semi-finalists in the 2010 Beijing International String Quartet Competition. They were then winners of the Prague/Wien/Budapest Sommerakademie in 2011. They made their Purcell Room and Wigmore Hall debuts in 2009 and 2011 respectively. They have played in many provincial venues in the UK and in London at St Martin in the Fields and St John's Smith Square. and won the Artis Quartet prize in 2011.

Rainbow News

The Rainbow Centre at Penley will be starting Coffee Mornings on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month 10.30 am - 12 pm starting 8th February, £2 including a drink and cake Transport can be arranged. Call 01948 830730 for more info.

The next meeting of the **Ellesmere Probus Club** is 10 for 10.30 on 6th February at the Comrades Club for coffee and biscuits and to hear Gordon Smith speaking of "Flintshire pioneers of steel coatings". New members are always welcome.

Commercial adverts are not included in the on-line version of the Oracle.

Business adverts can be viewed in the Business section of the Overton-on-Dee website page

To advertise on the website please click on link on Business page

More panto pics



Above Left: Rubella De Zees, Bethan Trigg and her Flunkies



Above Right: The Ugly Sisters, Robert Keenan & Tomos Munoz Buirski



Centre: Buttons, William Clarke



Left: The Prince, Alex Cooper



Right: Cinderella, Megan Martin

WHAT'S ON**February Diary for St Mary's Services**

Sunday February 2nd 10.00am Family Village Praise
Sunday February 9th 11:30am Holy Communion
Sunday February 16th 10.00am Family Communion
Sunday February 23rd 11.30am Holy Communion

February Diary for Methodist Chapel Services

Sunday evenings 6.30pm

Monday February 3rd Garden Volunteer Recruitment event at the Rainbow Centre, Penley

Monday February 3rd 7.30pm Overton & District Bowling Club Annual General Meeting in the Parish Room

Wednesday February 5th 7.30pm The Maelor Music Society presents 'The Wu Quartet' in the Maelor School Hall

Thursday February 6th 10.30 - 2.30pm Penley Rainbow Lunch & Learn - Recycling Workshop (Handy tips to reuse household items)

Monday February 10th 10.30am Overton British Legion meeting for coffee at Woodlands Deli

Tuesday February 11th 7.30pm Overton Community Council meeting in the Parish Room. Members of the public wishing to speak can do so between 7.20 – 7.30pm.

Tuesday February 11th 7 for 7.30pm Bingo Evening at the Penley Rainbow Centre

Wednesday February 12th 12.30pm Overton Lunch Club at The White Horse. Booking required.

Wednesday February 19th 10 to 11am Overton Community Council Drop-In in the Parish Room

Thursday February 20th 7.30pm Overton WI Meeting in the Parish Room. Speaker: David Burton on 'Living in a Castle'. Competition: A draught excluder

Friday February 21st 9.00pm Live Music Night at The White Horse.

Saturday March 1st 10.30am Overton WI Coffee Morning at the Village Hall

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Bethan and Wade on the birth of Eva Mae.



Congratulations to Rhian & Phil Barlow on the birth of your beautiful daughter, Aneira Lili on Dec 29th. Thank you both for our precious granddaughter from Nain & Gramps Farley xx

Congratulations to Christian Williams and Amanda Kinsey, to Derek Bell and Karen Thomas, and also to Dan Hunter and Leanne Bell on their recent engagements.

Happy February Birthdays to Neville Wynne, Harry Whittall, Lewis Jones, Sandy Foster, Chilly Grindley, Lyn Evans, Nicola Archer, Doreen Howells, Olive Roberts, Dereck Bell, Georgie Hunter Davies, Lily & Davina Simon, Miss Owen, Fred Cooper, and Roy Hoare. Belated 60th Birthday wishes to Jim Eastop



Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brian Hamlington on the recent death of Doreen.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Neil Edwards who has recently passed away.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Des Moraghan who has recently passed away.

OVERTON ON DEE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**Coffee Morning**

at Overton Village Hall

on 10.30am Saturday 1st March 2014

Various Stalls, Draw

Tickets 50p

For Sale**Thank you**

On behalf of Lucy and Fergus, we would like to thank everyone for their gifts, cards and good wishes on the occasion of their wedding. We had a wonderful day surrounded by family and friends.

Sue England

**PLEASE REMEMBER**

Copy deadline 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.

Your Oracle Team - Chairman & Advertising David Burton; Treasurer Rob Netzband-Piggott; Distribution Cynthia Davies; Sean Clarke, & Euan Stevenson.

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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.

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