

# The Overton Oracle



Volume 13. Issue 7

July 2011



Overton's Free Newspaper - issued monthly

## Fabulous Fete



It may not have been bright sunshine but it did not mar the fun and enjoyment of Overton's fete day. Plenty of stalls, super things to eat and drink, displays to watch made it a great afternoon. More pics and write-up next month



## Cuts to Overton bus service?



Wrexham Council is considering saving cash by making cuts to its public transport spending by axing 8 subsidised bus routes, one of which is the Number 146 bus route through Overton. Cuts are being proposed to services where the Council makes a subsidy of over £2 per journey.

Amongst those routes affected is the No 146 Wrexham to Whitchurch 6.45pm, 8.45pm, 10.45pm from Wrexham to Whitchurch and 6.45pm, 7.45pm, 9.45pm journeys from Whitchurch to Wrexham. The subsidy for these journeys is £3.83.

Also it could cut the whole of the No 146 Sunday services Wrexham to Whitchurch and return, which are subsidised at £2.49 per journey.

The matter was discussed in June by the Council's Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee. One councillor said "These services are a lifeline for their communities and if they are withdrawn there will be nothing to replace them." Another said that cutting services would have a knock-on effect on trade in Wrexham town centre. Council officers have promised a full consultation exercise with everyone affected by the proposals which will be finished by the autumn.

## Aliens arrive in village



Strange new faces have been seen loitering in the village streets, many appearing to have arrived from France.



More details and more pictures in next months Oracle.



## Medical News

### Measles Outbreak

Many of you will be aware of the recent increase in the number of cases of measles both in the UK and in Europe. Measles is an acute viral illness that can be complicated by encephalitis and pneumonia. It is most common in younger children but anyone who has not been immunised can catch it. It is therefore important to ensure that your vaccinations are up to date. Usually children have a vaccination at 13 months and then a booster pre-school. It you are aware that your child has not had one or both of the vaccines please arrange an appointment with the nurse to complete them. We will be contacting patients up to the age of 25 years who have not been fully immunised, to invite them to come in to complete their immunisations.

If you are travelling to Europe, particularly France where 7,500 cases have been reported, it is important to check your vaccinations are up to date. All children should be up to date for MMR and ideally, non-immune older children and adults should receive two doses of MMR vaccine, at least one month apart, before travel.

# Kids Kolumn

Hey

guys,  
Did you enjoy  
the fete?  
We did!



### July Jokes

Teacher:

You missed school yesterday didn't you ?

Pupil:

*Not very much !*

What's the difference between an American student and an English student ?

*About 3000 miles !*

What's the worst thing you're likely to find in the school canteen ?

*The food !*

### July Games

Complete the chain of words by changing just one letter at a time.

Example: CAT, COT, DOT, DOG.

1. Change RIVER into a jockey
2. Change SHORT into something to play
3. Change RUMBLE into a fall.

### July Facts

July birthstone: Ruby

July birth flower: Larkspur

Star sign—The mighty Leo is a Fire Sign, they are extrovert, faithful, larger than life

Leo's Flowers & Plants are: safflower (Carthamus), croton, Joseph's coat (Codiaeum), marigold, gerbera , crocosmia, dahlia, clivia, and sunflower.

### FIND THE HIDDEN WORDS



HIPPO  
FLY  
OWL

FROG  
ELK  
KOALA



## Ramblings From the Rectory

by David Lewis



Dear friends,

Whenever I feel under pressure or tempted in some way, sometimes a verse from the Bible can really help me focus that I am not alone in sometimes feeling isolated or guilty.

One verse I turn to is this one from 1 Corinthians: *'No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.'* - 1 Corinthians 10:13

What I like about this quotation is that it reminds me that we are all human with strengths and weaknesses. And whatever we face in life, God is alongside of us. If we have faith, he will never abandon us.

I was reading on the internet, this story.

On June 2, 1995, Air Force Captain Scott O'Grady was flying an F-16 fighter over NATO's "no-fly zone" over western Bosnia. Suddenly a Serb surface-to-air missile ripped through his aircraft. Reaching for the eject handle he remembers praying: "Dear God, let it work," and it worked.

Floating down some 26,000 feet, the Serbian soldiers were quickly moving to where he was going to land. Scott prayed again: "Lord, let me at least have someone know I'm alive and maybe come rescue me."

Landing on a hill, Scott began his evasion. Bosnian Serb search parties tried to flush him out by firing rifles into the bushes where he was hiding. For the next five days Scott was constantly praying. He moved from place-to-place at night, sending out short messages letting others know he was alive. He subsisted on leaves, grass, and ants, and catching rainwater in Ziploc plastic bags. Though he was hungry and cold, he knew that a superpower would be working to save him.

Then early on June 8, O'Grady's prayers were answered. He reached a safe place and radioed for help. Headquarters immediately dispatched about forty planes for his rescue. When the helicopter landed in the clearing near where O'Grady was hiding, he didn't relax in the brush. He shook off fatigue, fought through bushes and with every ounce of energy he had, ran to the escape that had been provided for him.

We are often thrust into hostile situations in our own lives. Sometimes it can feel we are on our own and are unsure which way to turn. But God promises us he is alongside of us and if we have faith to follow him, he will provide the right road for us to follow. Even when we are in dark situations in our lives, the Lord is faithful to provide a way of escape, if we only look to Him and we take it.

Today in our own lives, may we thank Jesus for His faithfulness that in every temptation, in every testing situation, he has provided a way out for us.

David

## COUNTRY BEAT

by PCSO Stephen O'Connell

Over the past few weeks, Bethan and I have carried out speed checks in the area. These checks are in response to the increase of bikers in the area due to the recent weather. We are not victimising bikers in any way, just a friendly reminder to be careful whilst out enjoying the summer weather. We will also be carrying out speed checks around the village due to a report of speeding along some of our roads.

A few weeks ago, a vehicle with four males on board was reported seen in a suspicious manner around the village. At the time they were challenged by an off duty police officer and they were scared off. Since then we have not had any more sightings of the vehicle or the males. Nor has there been any reports of crime that could have been related to the vehicle. Can I just ask you all to be vigilant and report anything you feel is suspicious to North Wales Police on 101 or in an emergency 999. Bethan or I will attempt to contact you about your suspicions either on the same day or shortly afterwards.

Regards,  
Stephen O'Connell

Contact us by

E-mail: [stephen.o'connell@nthwales.pnn.police.uk](mailto:stephen.o'connell@nthwales.pnn.police.uk)

Overton Station telephone number: 01978 348425

Mobile number: 07854 352 601

### *For your information*

A government spending review has indicated that Nth Wales Police will have to reduce their spending by between 15 – 24 Million pounds over the next 4 years and as a result all areas of Police work have been subject to a review. Nth Wales Police have therefore restructured the entire force in order to maintain a high standard of service whilst reducing the numbers of support staff and police officers.

The divisional boundaries have now been removed and the number of policing sectors has been reduced. In Wrexham this is now divided into Wrexham Town, under the command of Inspector Alex Goss and Wrexham Rural under the command of Inspector Paul Jones. PCSO funding has been guaranteed for the next 2 years so each PCSO will remain in their existing wards and will still be the public's first point of contact for neighbourhood policing matters. Sgt Dawn Samuels (based in Gresford Police Station) is the point of contact for issues relating to PCSO's.

CBM's however will no longer be attached to a ward and will adopt a more 'team' based approach to neighbourhood policing. There is an obvious disadvantage to this, in that the personal contact that the public has enjoyed with their own CBM will be lost. The benefits operationally are huge. A team of officers covering the whole area allows supervisors to more effectively deploy officers to problem areas to prevent and detect crime rather than just allocating the issue to one officer to deal with. Sgt Mark Williams (based in Rhos Police Station) is the point of contact for issues relating to CBM's.

## Twinning Nostalgia + new website

Calling anyone who has ever been involved in the Twinning Association over the past 17 years. Also of course anyone at all who may be interested in becoming involved will be very welcome to come along and see what we're all about. On **Saturday 16th July** from 7pm onwards in the upper room of the White Horse, we will be holding an evening of reminiscence, looking at old photos taken both here and in La Murette since the organisation was set up.

If you have any photos or souvenirs or just memories come along and share them. Maybe you have photos of the colourful inauguration parade through the village? The appearance of the mayor dressed in his finery or the la Murette Fire Service dressed in theirs, walking through Overton High Street was a sight to behold. Did you take photos of the event? If you did bring them along to the White Horse for everyone to see. Appetisers, tea and coffee will be served and of course food is available from the pub menu.

Remember everyone in Overton village and parish is automatically a member of the twinning association. Everyone will be made very welcome so even if you don't know any of those currently active in the association, do come along, we are very friendly! Finally, thanks to the expertise and generosity of Adam Edwards of Cloy Lane, we are very excited to have launched our very own website. See us at [www.overtontwinning.co.uk](http://www.overtontwinning.co.uk) It's just the start so far and will be developed over the coming months with news, events, photos and information.

### School Reunion

Due to other functions going on in the village during the month of September the school reunion has had to be rescheduled for **2nd October** at the White Horse from 7.00 pm

The reunion is for ex pupils from the School from the 60s to 80s era. Food will be available on the evening but please book in advance by contacting Steve Dodwell directly at the White Horse

### Overton Speed Debate

The sad death of Robert Gaunt in Overton in 2009 was used as an example in the Debate in the House of Commons in June on "Sentences for Driving Offences".

Speaking after the debate Susan Elan Jones MP for Clwyd South said "The law needs to be seriously tightened up in this area. If the driver in this case could have been convicted of "death by dangerous driving", the maximum sentence would have been 14 years – but being unlicensed and uninsured is not enough to qualify as dangerous. That is scandalous. In fact, if an unlicensed and uninsured driver who flees the scene of a death does not commit any other "aggravating" factors – as if illegally taking to the road and killing someone was not aggravating enough – the maximum sentence would be just 26 weeks, or a minimum community order. That is totally pathetic. I know the strength of feeling on this subject. Robert's family launched a petition calling for much tougher sentences for uninsured and unlicensed drivers who kill, which was signed by over a 1000 people. I fully back that call. Although MPs of different political parties now want to see the law strengthened, I was disappointed to hear the Government Minister in the debate saying there are no plans to bring in what he described as 'tinkering legislation'. I don't think that's good enough - and we need to keep the pressure on the Government to consider new sentencing guidelines for this offence."

### Playgroup News

Hello! We had a very successful Craft Fair on 4th of June and raised just over £180 for Playgroup. So many thanks for all involved in the organising and to all of you who went and made it such a success!

After a successful AGM on 10th June Andrea and Rachel would like to say goodbye as we are now passing on to a new committee and a new chair - Angie, who we know will be fantastic! We'd like to say a huge thank you to all the people who have supported playgroup and us in our roles over the past nearly four years! We couldn't have done it without you and of course without Margaret and her excellent staff team - Thank You!

Things to look forward to in July include -

- a Teddy Bear's picnic on the last day of term for playgroup children, toddlers and babies - look out for the posters in playgroup.
- During the holidays don't forget our excellent Summer Holiday Club for 0-8 year olds £1.50 per half hour - do talk to and book with Margaret!!
- Also during the holidays we run a Family Session on Tuesdays from 10-12am. All families with children from 0 - 8 years are welcome!!

The Toddler and Babygroups do not run during the school holidays) Many thanks, Andrea & Rachel

### Lunch Club



The July Overton Lunch Club is on Wednesday July 13th at 12.30pm at the White Horse. The menu will be Breakfast Brunch followed by Meringue Surprise.

To book please ring Gwynneth Austin on 710672.

### Cricket Club Excel

Overton Cricket Club turned the league table upside down in June as they returned from promotion chasing Newport, in the Shropshire League, with an impressive 70 run victory. Put into bat on a damp wicket, Overton produced their best batting display of the season, smashing 238 for seven from 40 overs.



Opener Rob Lawrenson top scored with 67 before a hamstring injury forced him to retire hurt. He put on 105 with Paul England (42) for the second wicket and a quick fire 33 not out from Matt Lawrenson plus the bonus of 53 extras helped put a match winning total on the scoreboard.

Veteran left arm bowler, Steve Daulby ended with figures of 4-40 and worked superbly in tandem with spinner Paul Williams, who ended with a career best 3-44 as the hosts were bowled out for 168 in the 31st over. The victory moved Overton up to fifth place in the Division Five table!

### Pot Hole News

Overton Community Council wishes to advise residents and motorists of the intended resurfacing work due to be carried out on the St Martins Road. It is hoped this work will commence during the summer months. Overton Community Council has been working closely with Wrexham County Borough Council in order to have this particular stretch of road resurfaced due its poor condition and potholes which is affecting road users.

We are on a mission to help more men lose weight and bust the myths and misconceptions that Slimming World is just for girls. They just need a little nudge to get them there! This is a MAN-Tastic idea so come on ladies bring your man and get a free week, bring 5 men get 5 free weeks, Bring the football team and get 11 free weeks. Contact Jackie on 07887 988 732

### WI Handicraft Show

The WI Handicraft Show will be held in conjunction with the Village Produce Show on

**Saturday September 3rd 2011.**

Everyone is welcome to enter the 2 OPEN CLASSES

**1. A knitted 5" square in garter (plain) stitch**

- a) Adults section
- b) Children (under 12)

**2. A Photograph**

- Subject - Water scene
- Size of photograph 6" x 4" or 7" x 5"
- Mounted on card no larger than 8" x 6"

Entries should be brought to the Village Hall on the day of the show 9am to 11am or contact Jean Hughes on 710388. Entries should not have been entered in a precious Overton WI Handicraft Show.

### wordybirdies

Wordybirdies live! Original poems, sketches and monologues. Friday July 1st at 7.45pm at Cross Lane Hotel, Marchwiel. Tickets are £5 from 07854 047388 or 07745 807973 or on the door.

### Coffee Mornings

The good people of St.Mary's Overton are beginning their summer coffee morning programme again.



Coffee mornings will be held every Wednesday in St. Mary's, from 10.30 am to 12.00, throughout the summer. The programme will run from the 29th June to the 24th August.

Last year, around £ 440 was raised, all for Night-ingle House hospice. The objective this year will be to beat last year's total. So please come along for a coffee, a chat and relax in the knowledge that what you have donated for your coffee and cake will be going to a most worthy cause.



## The Iron Man returns to the Village Hall



Following his amazing performance, (his 1st ever in the UK) at Overton On Dee last year, Michael Burks aka The Iron Man and his full American Band are stopping off at Overton **again** on **Friday September 2nd** on his way to the Monaghan Festival. Without a doubt, one of the biggest names in world blues, Michael regularly plays to audiences of 20,000 and at all the major American Festivals like Chicago and The King Biscuit often as headliner.

Having made the connection with Michael at The King Biscuit Festival, the Worthenbury team were able to persuade him to play at Overton last year and we are delighted that he has asked us if he can play there again. Last time he played non stop for nearly 3 hours and left

the sell out audience mesmerised and already we are getting enquiries so if you want a ticket, please send a cheque made out to 'Hooker Blues Club' with a sae to Pete Evans, Oak Cottage, Wallington Lane, Worthenbury, Wrexham LL13 0AL - we only have 220 tickets so book soon to guarantee.

Also advance notice...

The legendary Blues Band i.e. Paul Jones (Manfred Mann etc), Tom McGuinness (Manfred Mann and McGuinness Flint), Dave Kelly (voted UK's no 1 blues guitarist), Rob Townsend (Family) and Gary Fletcher have been persuaded to play at Overton on December 16th... a massive scoop. Tickets available September.

## Old school photos required

As the 25th anniversary of St Mary's School is this coming September, the school is seeking old photos of Overton School before demolition and St Mary's School when it was opened.

This one is of the Overton School Christmas play in 1983. Father Christmas is played by class teacher Mr Richards, and the giant is Mr Nicholls. The photo was taken in the old school.

Have a look in your old photo albums and see what you can find to embarrass your friends and family.



## History Group

The next meeting of the History Group is on Tuesday July 19th upstairs in the White Horse. We will be collecting memories of Overton schools, so if you have photos, bring them along and we can scan them so there's a copy for St Mary's School.

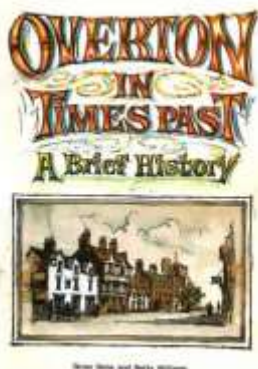
## National Eisteddfod



For the first time since 1933 Wrexham and District is to be the home of the 2011 National Eisteddfod - one of the world's greatest cultural

festivals - held from **30 July – 6 August 2011**. Music, dance, visual arts, original performances, shopping, family activities – there's something for everyone and you don't have to speak Welsh to have a great time at the Eisteddfod – there's plenty for everyone to see and do .

## Overton in Times Past



Since the Overton Charter Celebrations I have continued to sell the booklet "Overton in Times Past", several to people in other countries.

I have now passed the proceeds of £200 to the Village Hall and still have a few copies for sale at £5 each.

Betty Williams

The aim is to create a sea of colour across the Wrexham area, and encourage everyone locally – businesses and local people – to go *bonkers for bunting*. Put a poster in your window, some bunting in your garden, or have the leaflets in your shop, to help show the whole of Wales that there's a great welcome for the 150th Eisteddfod and for the rest of Wales in the County Borough of Wrexham. To order free flags and posters visit [gwyb@eisteddfod.org.uk](mailto:gwyb@eisteddfod.org.uk)

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

**Sunday July 3rd** 11:30am Holy Eucharist  
**Sunday July 10th** 10:00am Sunday Praise & coffee  
**Sunday July 17th** 11:30am Holy Eucharist  
**Sunday July 24th** 10:00am Family Eucharist  
**Sunday July 31st** 10:30am Group Service in Penley  
 6.00pm Village Songs of Praise  
**Methodist Chapel Services, Sunday evenings** 6.30pm  
**Saturday** coffee mornings at the Methodist Chapel  
 10.30am till 12.00pm

**Friday July 1<sup>st</sup>** 7.45pm Wordybirdies live! Original poems, sketches and monologues. Cross Lanes Hotel, Marchwiell. Tickets £5 from 07854 047388 or 07745 807973 or on the door.

**Saturday July 2<sup>nd</sup>** 11am to 5pm Fun Day and Dog Show at the Maelor School, Penley. Car boot sale, floral art competition stalls, refreshments and prize draw.

**Tuesday July 12<sup>th</sup>** Overton Community Council meeting in the Parish Room. Members of the public wishing to speak can do so between 7.20 – 7.30pm.

**Wednesday July 13<sup>th</sup>** 12.30pm Overton Lunch Club at the White Horse. Booking required.

**Saturday July 16<sup>th</sup>** 7pm Twinning Association evening of reminiscence in the White Horse, looking at old photos taken both here and in La Murette since the organisation was set up.

**Monday July 18<sup>th</sup>** 6.00pm The next meeting of the Overton Practice Patient Participation Group at Overton Surgery. Remember you are very welcome to attend.

**Tuesday July 19<sup>th</sup>** 7.30pm Overton History Group meeting upstairs at the White Horse. "Memories of School" All welcome

**Thursday July 21<sup>st</sup>** 7.30 pm Overton WI meeting at the Parish Room. Speaker on "Flowers and Shrubs for Flower Arranging". Competition: A Specimen Rose

**Sunday July 31<sup>st</sup>** 6.00pm Churches United Village Songs of Praise at St Mary's Church.

**Monday August 1<sup>st</sup> – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> August** Dance Addiction presents a thrilling week of music and dance at Overton Village Hall.  
 Ages 2-3yrs old 9.00 - 10.30am or  
 4-15yrs old 10.30am – 2.30pm. Boys & girls welcome.

**Friday September 2<sup>nd</sup>** The Michael Burks Band at Overton Village Hall

**Saturday September 3<sup>rd</sup>** The Village Produce Show & Handicraft Show. Exhibits need to be brought to the Village Hall before 11.00am on the morning of the Show. Doors open at 2.30 pm for viewing. Presentation of Prizes at 4.00pm

**FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Happy July Birthdays** to Alice Foster, Philippa Whitley, Jasmine Grindley, Dave (coal) Jones, Miranda Austin, Matthew Lawrenson, Colin Davies, Paul Edwards and Davina Pritchard.

Belated birthday wishes to Ron Towers on his 70th and to Margaret Matthews on her 65th

**Congratulations** to Roger Glover & Lauren Evans on the birth of baby James David, and to grandparents Dave & Yola Evans and Sue & James Glover.

**Congratulations** to Natalie Stephenson & partner on their wedding on July 2nd and to Natalie Fowles and Adam Williams who got married on Friday June 17th.



All the Pritchard Clan, especially his wife Karen would like to wish Mike **a very Happy 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday** for the 1<sup>st</sup> July. →

**Thank you**

I would like to extend my thanks via The Oracle please to all those friends, church members and community members of Overton who have shown us such kindness and consideration following Christopher's passing a year ago. Many thanks and best wishes,  
 Louisa Bottomley

June Jones would like to thank everyone who sent her gifts, flowers, sincere get-well wishes and support for a speedy recovery during her recent illness. Thanks again from June, Reg, Richard, Gareth & Karen

**For Sale**

Mountain Bike, Peugeot Meteor. Very Good Condition  
 £35 **Tel: 01978 710582**

For sale due to house move

Hotpoint Dishwasher	£50 ono
Bosch Washing Machine	£50ono
Zanussi Condensing Tumble Dryer	£50ono
3 Seater & 2 Seater Sofas, loose covers, green	£75ono

Buyer to collect no sooner than last weekend of July.

**Tel: 01978 710953**

**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; Treasurer Rob Piggott; Distribution Cynthia Davies; Sean Clarke, & Euan Stevenson.**

**Editor - Jill Burton.**

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