

The Overton Oracle



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March 2011

Overton's Free Newspaper - issued monthly



March dates to remember

It's voting on the 3rd and Census Day on the 27th (not forgetting Pancake Day on the 8th!)

The referendum on the law-making powers of the National Assembly for Wales is on Thursday 3rd March. Electors in Wales will be asked to vote 'Yes' or 'No' on the law-making powers of the National Assembly for Wales. In Overton you can vote at the Parish Room 7am to 10pm. A booklet has been delivered to every home to explain, so don't miss the opportunity to have your say.

Census Day is March 27th and you will receive your form by post in the middle of March. It can also be completed on line. The census takes place every 10 years and counts everyone in the country.



Diamonds in the Community from Vonnie Bamber

24th March 2011 will be a 'Red Letter Day' for my family - the Moraghans. It is the 60th Anniversary of my parents Des (otherwise known as Paddy) and Marjorie's wedding. Dad has been the best Dad one could wish for. All his family were soldiers, from his grandfather, recruiting Sergeant for the Connaught Rangers 88th Regiment, to his uncles James MC, MSM, the RSM of the Regiment and Michael DCM, Frank, and Will all decorated and 'Mentioned in Dispatches'. His father Charles fought at the Battle of Mons and Gallipoli in WWI and received the Gold Cross of Romania from King Ferdinand I, and then was at Dunkirk during WWII. So it was natural for Paddy to become a soldier too and his service during WWII added to the 167 years service of his family for the Crown. But despite his military background he was no disciplinarian, Mum was the strict one!

They met in Spilsby, Lincolnshire where he was in charge of a POW Camp and she was nursing, and for the next 3 years until his discharge in 1950 they had an on/off relationship and finally married in 1951 and moved back to live in Overton, (Mum grew up in Knolton). As a civilian Dad became a steel erector, travelling to almost every town in the country working on such installations as Nuclear Power Stations, bridges and gas plants.

Mum did mostly voluntary work, she was appointed to Clwyd South Community Health Council and served from its inception for the maximum period of 2 full terms. Her election in 1974 to Overton Community Council was source of pride to her and she spent 30 years on that body. For 15 years she was a Governor of the Maelor School, Penley and in 1981 became a Magistrate on the Wrexham bench for a period of 20 years, 12 of which as Court Chairman. In 1977 she was awarded the Queen's Silver Jubilee medal for her work on the Health Council, one of only six in the whole of Wales and in 2001 she became 'Volunteer of the Year'.

Both of them have worked hard for the Overton Catholic Church, Our Lady and the Welsh Martyrs, clearing the site and raising money for the building and upkeep of it. (I know that Mum made and sold thousands of pots of jam and preserves over a period of nearly 50 years, which helped to keep the books 'in the black' for the building of the Church Hall and Priests House).

My two sisters Helen and Linda, my brother John and myself are every proud of both our parents and we look forward to a day of celebrations. 60 years is a long time, a life time, but as Diamond Weddings don't come round all that often we congratulate them and hope for more anniversaries to come.



Paddy & Marjorie Moraghan 1951

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,
I read this Chinese parable of 'The Lost Axe' the other day.

'A man who lost his axe suspected his neighbour's son of stealing it.

To him, as he observed the boy, the way the lad walked, the expression on his face, his manner of speech - in fact everything about his appearance and behaviour, betrayed that he had stolen the axe.

Not long afterwards the man found his axe while digging in his cellar.

When he saw his neighbour's son again, nothing about the boy's behaviour or his appearance seemed to suggest he had stolen the axe.'

That parable got me really thinking. So often we make rash and quick judgements about people which then colours our opinion on their motives and integrity. Jesus took people as they were and tried to understand where they were coming from. He never made rash judgements or held onto grudges His two basic principles in life were that we should love God and love each other.

So this means for us that we should make sure we haven't got unkind thoughts or destructive thoughts about people.

That we're not making people feel stupid or useless.

That we aren't pre-judging people and situations. That we aren't putting people down or running them down behind their backs.

Because those things are in the destructive spirit of hate,

Which is the opposite of God's law of love. What we need to do is to keep our eyes upon Jesus And whatever we do, - think

'Does this thing I'm thinking or doing or saying make Jesus happy.

Is it a loving thing to think or do or say?'

And if it is carry on.

If it isn't stop and change direction.

Every Blessing
David

Going to Europe?

If you are planning a holiday to Europe, as well as checking when your passport expires, check the expiry date on your European Health Insurance Card card. (This replaced the E111) The expiry date is in very small print!

A benefit of the new improved card is that they are easily applied for on-line and a family can be included on one application form. Apply on line at www.ehic-nhs.org/ or pick up an application form at a main Post Office.

COUNTRY BEAT

by Constable Stephen Evans



As many of you will have seen, the police station house is currently on the open market for sale at £185, 000 .

At the moment this does not include the station office.

North Wales Police is undergoing changes and many of these changes will come into effect as of May later this year.

However neighbourhood policing will remain a priority and as such you will continue to have a presence in this area.

Generally we have had a quiet month in Overton, however we have seen a rise in theft type incidents in the surrounding villages ranging from scrap metal to heating oil thefts.

Unfortunately this time of year does bring out the pick-up trucks that troll around looking for opportunities to steal. If you see anything that doesn't look right then please let us know.

We do get good stories to tell you sometimes and just last week a pick-up truck which had stolen metal from Penley was stopped prior to off loading at a local scarp yard. Three persons were arrested and charged to appear in court.

Thank you for you continuing support.

Steve, Beth and Jemma.

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

Confirmation

This year's confirmation will be in the Deanery Festival in Gredington on Sunday 22nd May 2011.

If you know of anyone who would like to be confirmed please let Rector David Lewis know as soon as possible. Classes will start in mid March.

Lunch Club



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

The menu will be Cottage Pie with fresh vegetables followed by Apple Crumble and Custard.

To book please ring Gwynneth Austin on 710672.

A Party in the Park !

Our Street Party has moved; we are now holding A Party in the Park! on Overton playing fields on Friday 29th April when we hope to join together to celebrate The Royal Wedding.

This will be the best wedding reception you have ever attended! There will be music, dancing, competitions and games to cater for all.

Bring your own picnic or feast and a prize will be given to the best wedding table or wedding blanket. Be as adventurous as you can, bring candelabras, centre pieces, flowers and remember to dress for the occasion; it is a wedding after all!

To make this day a real success we need you and your ideas but most of all we need you to attend. To become involved in the running of the event or to participate (band, dance, music etc.) or for more details please contact either:-

Alice on alicecoramurray@btinternet.com
or Jo on joannechammond@btinternet.com

Medical Practice

Dr Wadsworth has now left us to return to life in the hospital and we welcome Dr Sandeep Chillal as our new Registrar until August. Dr Myres is back doing 1 surgery a week and of course we are keeping Dr Stevenson for a further 12 months.

The new appointment system, though still in the very early stages, does seem to have eased the pressure slightly on appointments. There are more telephone consultations for those who want advice or don't feel that they actually need to see the doctor and the everyday duties are now shared between all the doctors who are on duty that day. Thursday afternoon opening is well established now and seems to be running without any hitches.

There was a total of 788 missed appointments during last year. We are in the process of sending out letters to the 65 patients who missed 2 appointments during 2010. In addition we will contact the 16 patients who missed 3 appointment and the 7 patients who missed 4 or more appointments. Often if you ring us to cancel an appointment we can re-use the slot for another patient. There is the facility to book on line if you register with the surgery, that way you can also cancel at a moments notice and not have to worry about ringing and speaking to a member of staff.

We have had several incidents recently where patients have thought that they have not had all the medication they requested. This is usually because they did not recognise the packaging. Just make sure that the details on the written instructions on the box, the name, strength, how often to take are the same. Be aware that size, shape, colour can change depending on where the medication has been ordered from.

Kids Kolumn

by Alice

Foster, Lydia Biggs
and Lottie Blake



Hey everybody, Pancake Day is on its way.

Pancake Facts.

- Pancake Day is Shrove Tuesday, 8 March 2011
- Pancakes are eaten all over the world.
- They come in many different shapes and sizes.
- Butter, lemon or syrup are popular toppings.
- You could even cook pancakes with peanut butter in the batter for a really delicious treat.
- A French tradition is to make a wish while turning the pancake and holding a coin in the other hand.

Ingredients.

100g(4oz) plain flour

1 egg

300ml(1/2) pint milk

Pinch of salt, optional

Sugar & lemon juice or a topping of your choice

Oil for frying



Method.

To make the pancake batter, add the milk, egg and then the flour and blend using an electric blender or food processor or if a blender is not available, sift the flour and salt into a bowl. Add the egg and beat well. Then add the milk gradually and beat to make a smooth batter.

Heat a little oil in a large frying pan until hot and then pour enough batter to thinly coat the base of the pan. Cook for a couple of minutes each side. Serve sprinkled with sugar and lemon juice or a topping of your choice.

Quiz Answers for the January Kids Kolumn.

1. September.
2. Wild Child.
3. 28 Oracles.
4. 4.5
5. 28 March 1986
6. Santa Barbara, California
7. A Hamster
8. All Hallows Eve, Samhain, All Hallowtide, Feast of the Dead or Day of the Dead
9. Gladiolus
10. 'One of the Boys'

Hope you have done well.

Local Hero

On the morning of January 21st this year there was a patch of ice across the Ruabon road near to Wynnstay Park. The first to fall victim to the slippery road was Mick Pinder of the Corner Shop, whose van went backwards into the right hand verge, through the hedge. He was stopped from going down the steep bank and towards the stream at the bottom, by the pig wire fence. The driver of the small van that was following Mick, saw Mick's van spinning, and jumped on his brakes. He then slid, broadside, along the road, bouncing off the kerb and finally stopped on the opposite side of the road, but near to Mick's van. The driver, Tom Smith, a former Overton resident now living in Oswestry, called across the road to see if Mick was OK. Meanwhile Richard Done turned up, and went back up the road to slow traffic and warn them of ice.

Whilst Mick was on the phone to the recovery crew Tom shouted at him to look out. A silver 4x4 was coming almost directly at him. It hit the verge, and took off, landing 20 feet away on its front right corner. It then bounced onto its rear right corner, then over onto its roof, before landing on all four wheels. The roof was crunched in, the windows smashed and what looked like child seats and kids stuff was in a kind of mess in the back. The 4x4 then toppled over into a stream, landing on its roof with all four wheels in the air.

The driver, Trudi Meincken, travelling towards Ruabon, remembers getting her seatbelt undone and shouting for help. She tried crawling out of the window but couldn't. At this point Tom, who had followed as the car had plunged into the stream, crawled into the car and helped her out. "He was fantastic and must have been my guardian angel. I'm so grateful he was there to help me." Trudi suffered minor injuries including cuts, bruising and a loss of feeling in her right hand. She was taken to the Maelor hospital to be checked over. Well done Tom you were a real HERO!

History Group

Last month's appeal in the Oracle for memories of Overton in World War II travelled across the world and we received a reply from Gordon Richards, who lived at Bryn Cottage, Church Road, Overton from his birth in 1932 until 1950 when he left the village to serve 3 years in the RAF. Gordon had a successful career with the Sussex Police, retiring in 1984. After his wife passed away in 1993 he emigrated to Canada where he married again in 1996. He lives with his wife in Oakville in Ontario. This is an extract from notes written for his grandchildren.

'American troops were billeted in the Bryn y Pys park in the weeks preceding D-Day landings. There were literally thousands of them in tented accommodation and they were confined to camp, I guess so their presence would not become common knowledge and maybe passed to the enemy. Anyway, they were like caged bears with nothing to do but play baseball and softball, bored out of their skulls and no doubt anxious to connect with the local girls, however, fraternisation was OUT. We kids would talk to them over the fence, fetch them fish and chips, get beer for them (illegally) from the pubs and anything else they wanted, in return for packs of 200 cigarettes, packs of gum – which we were always begging from them, "got any gum chum" was a cry that was echoed throughout the land. Ten bob (50p) was a fortune and they didn't know the value of the pound (nor did we tell them) and they had nothing much to spend it on in their camp, so it was fair compensation for trips to the pub or whatever.

They were halcyon days for us, but many of those poor soldiers became casualties on the beaches of Normandy and some, who survived the onslaught, may have found their way to the hospital at Penley days after the landings.'

Overton Community Council Notice of vacancy in the office of Councillor

Notice is hereby given that **TWO** vacancies exist in the Office of Councillor (Co-opted) for the Community of **Overton**.

If you are interested in applying for this voluntary position, please send a short CV (½ page long) and a brief covering letter outlining your interests, hobbies and qualities that you feel would be suited to this role.

All correspondence regarding the vacancy should be sent to: Katrina Chalk, Clerk to O.C.C

Overton Village Hall, 5 Penyllan Street, Overton, Wrexham LL13 0EE

If you have any questions or queries please contact Katrina on 01978 710055

The closing date for applications is Thursday 31st March 2011

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



Do you care?



Do you care for a relative, friend or neighbour who may have a disability, long-term illness or be struggling with the effects of old age? Could these people manage without your help?

Wrexham Carers Service, based at AVOW, work with Carers across the County of Wrexham, to ensure they are given advice, support and guidance on any issues that may affect their caring role.

They offer support in a variety of ways:

Carers Information Packs, Monthly Carers support groups,
 Weekly Carer drop in session, Information on local & national support,
 Free 1-2-1 counselling sessions, Training Opportunities, Free Therapeutic massage and reflexology,
 Social events, Quarterly newsletters, Discounted Leisure & Fitness Scheme with Wrexham C.B. Council,
 Signposting to a range of organisations who may be able to offer specific support to you or the person you care for including: Parkinsons Society, Stroke Association, Alzheimers Society and National Autistic Society, among many others.

If you would like any further information, advice or support, please ring 01978 318812, email: carers@avow.org or simply pop in for a chat.

Not all Jam and Jerusalem ! by Jean Hughes

Some years ago I decided to attend a 5-day course at the WI's Denman College for Advanced Driving Instruction, although after applying and being accepted, a few doubts set in!

In due time I drove down one Monday morning in lovely weather so I began to feel more confident to be met by friendly staff and other WI members on various courses. I got settled in my comfortable single bedroom and looked forward to the evening meal and relaxation.. But no - at 7pm our first lecture of the week!

The next day we all had to go on a test drive to be marked on our driving ability. The rest of the week we were kept busy with lectures and hands-on experience of driving techniques, wheel changing, simple maintenance and 4-wheel driving (through a slurry covered field - very mucky) and finally on the Thursday afternoon a trip down the motorway to the skid pan (this was optional)

Most of us had a great time, though 2 ladies left early in the week, and on Friday morning we had our final test drive and eventually received our new driving ability results (everybody had improved I'm pleased to say) and our certificates to prove we had passed. We were all extremely pleased and felt that the time had been very well spent.

Over the years I have tried to drive as well as possible but recently decided to take an Over 70 assessment so drove around Wrexham, town and country, for an hour with an assessor by my side taking notes. Of course things go awry and I found that my observance of the 30mph limit was a little adrift, which didn't get me in the top bracket (a bit harsh I thought as every other aspect was good). But worth doing anyway and just the jolt I needed to improve performance and remain within the laws!

I hope this will help to let folks know that at the WI we are not all 'Jam and Jerusalem' but our interests cover a vast range of subjects.

Playgroup News

For all those gardeners out there, collect your copy of Sutton Seeds Catalogue from the Library, Corner Shop or Playgroup. Place your order and 20% of the profit goes towards the Playgroup. We are collecting old printer cartridges and mobile phones to recycle them for money for the playgroup. Collect a bag from the Playgroup or Library. So get checking those cupboards and drawers.

On March the 9th 1pm-2pm the Playgroup will be meeting Book Start at the Library for lots of stories and fun.

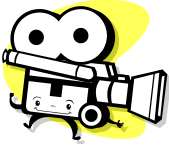
Donations are still needed for Bags 4 School by March 24th. If you have any handbags, shoes, belts, soft furnishings, toys or unwanted clothes please take them to the Playgroup. We have plenty of space for storage. Please note that we are more than happy to collect items. Just contact the Playgroup on 01978 710 688 to arrange pick up.

Any good at packing bags? Please come along to Stans on 2nd April and help with bag packing to raise funds for the Playgroup or come along and have your bags packed and make a donation. All help welcome!

The Easter holiday club will be running so please book now for a place. The fee is £1.50 per ½ hr, 8am - 6pm for ages 2 - 8yrs. Please contact Margaret on 01978 710688 for further information or to book.

Watch out for exciting and fun future events, the Easter Egg Hunt and the May Craft Fair. Details to follow.

Overton Film Club



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

- **Tuesday March 8th** 'The Secret in their Eyes' tipped to win Best Foreign Film at the Oscars
- **Friday March 25th** 'The King's Speech', already won 7 awards at the Baftas and is tipped for similar at the Oscars.

Put the dates in your diaries.

Invite friends.

Overton Village Hall.

Doors open 7.15pm.

Film for 8pm.



F U N Q U I Z N I G H T

In Overton Village Hall on Friday 11th March at 7.30 Prizes for winners.

Free Buffet included in ticket price available at door, £ 5 in aid of Church funds. The evening aims to be more of a fun night than a deadly serious quiz.

Bar available.....please join us.

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

The launch of the **Wrexham Dignity in Care Charter** is on 23rd March 10.30am to 3.00pm at the Catrin Finch Centre, Glyndŵr University. Dignity in Care means providing services which support and promote a persons self respect. Older people and carers are encouraged to attend and will have the opportunity to become a volunteer dignity in care champion. Please contact Alison Atkinson on 01978 298616 by **4th March 2011**.

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

- Tuesday March 1st** 2.30pm St Mary's School Service in Church. All welcome
- Sunday March 6th** 11:30am Holy Eucharist
- Sunday March 13th** 10am Sunday Praise and Coffee
- Sunday March 20th** 11:30am Holy Eucharist
- Sunday March 27th** 10.00 am Family Eucharist
- Methodist Chapel Services, Sunday evenings** 6.30pm
- Thursday March 3rd** 7am to 10pm Referendum on law-making powers of the National Assembly for Wales. Voting at the Parish Room
- Monday March 7th** Overton Community Council meeting in the Parish Room. Members of the public may speak between 7.20 – 7.30pm.
- Tuesday March 8th** Overton Film Club in the Village Hall. Doors open 7pm Film 8pm "The Secret in their eyes"
- Wednesday March 9th** 12.30pm Overton Lunch Club at the White Horse. Booking required.
- Friday March 11th** 7.30pm FUN QUIZ NIGHT in the Village Hall. Prizes for winners. Free Buffet included in ticket price £ 5 Bar will be available.
- Tuesday March 15th 7pm** Churches Together Lent Bible Studies in the Parish Room. All welcome
- Wednesday March 16th** 7.30pm Singing Workshop at the White Horse £5 in aid of Nightingale House
- Thursday March 17th** 7.30 pm Overton WI meeting at the Parish Room. Speaker, Mr Miller on "Poetry and Fiction Writing". Competition: 'An attractive small book'.
- Tuesday March 22nd 7pm** Churches Together Lent Bible Studies in Methodist Church. All welcome
- Wednesday March 23rd** 7.30pm Maelor Music Society – Bass Baritone, Soprano & Piano in the Maelor School Hall, Penley. For membership or tickets contact Bob Evers 01948 770633
- Friday March 25th** Overton Film Club in the Village Hall. Doors open 7.15pm Film 8pm "The King's Speech"
- Saturday March 26th** 8pm till late Final Farewell Gig for The Overtonians at the White Horse. Free Entry. Not to be missed.
- Sunday March 27th 2011 - Census Day**
- Tuesday March 29th 7pm** Churches Together Lent Bible Studies in the RC church. All welcome
- Tuesday April 5th** St Mary's Vestry will be at 7pm.

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy March Birthdays to Jack Edwards, Anne Clarke, Grace Haynes, John Austin, Gwynneth Austin, David Burton, Finlay Clarke, Janet Reid, Janene Davies, Freda Thompson, Barbara Griffiths, Kate Jenkinson, Joanne Kember, Liam and Matt Grindley, Roxanne Haynes and Cynthia Davies.

Congratulations to Gareth & Hayley Williams on the birth of their twins.

Congratulations to David and Jill Burton on the birth of a new grandson, Daniel John, a 2nd son for James & Lucy Burton.

Congratulations to Wayne Haynes and Helen Jones on their engagement.

FREE TO GOOD HOME!

2 storey hutch suitable for rabbits, guinea pigs, ferrets etc who need to 'upgrade or expand'. 1 Bedroom, upstairs dining space and spacious living space in downstairs accommodation. Pick up essential. Tel: 01978 710537 (evenings)

**Dates for the diary**

Overton Am Dram's next production will be 2 one-act plays directed by Alan Edwards, 'Last Tango in Little Grimley' & 'Last Panto in Little Grimley' on **April 7th, 8th and 9th** at the Village Hall. More details to follow.

Thank you

Matt and Heather and their 3 sons Alex, Teague and Drew would like to thank all friends and family for their well wishes and kindness after the birth of their new baby boy 'Ted' born on 25th January 2011. We have been overwhelmed by everyone's generosity. Ted is one very luck little boy. Thank you so much XXX

**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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Editor - Jill Burton.

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

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