

The Overton Oracle



Volume 14. Issue 3

March 2012

Overton's Free Newspaper - issued monthly

Welcome to Overton's new Headteacher



Welcome to Overton primary school's new Headmaster Mr Gary Wyn-Jones. Mr Wyn-Jones has replaced Mrs Pat Clark who retired in December after working for over 25 years as Headmistress at St Mary's. Gary writes -

"January has been an extremely busy month as I have been settling in to my new position as Headteacher of St. Mary's Church in Wales Aided School. The warm welcome and kind wishes that I have received have been wonderful and are testament to the strong community spirit within the village and surrounding area.

My professional background in education has involved working in various primary schools within North Wales and until Christmas I was the deputy Headteacher at Minera Church Aided School near Coedpoeth. On a more personal level, I live in a village on the outskirts of Mold with my wife (another teacher) and our young daughter. My background is very much in sports

and I competed until only recently in Athletics. I am also a keen cyclist and skier, having spent numerous holidays in the French Alps. During the warmer months, I am sure to be putting the children through their paces on the school field!

St. Mary's school has an excellent reputation within Wrexham and to lead a team of such hard working and talented staff is certainly a privilege and honour. High standards have already been set and the challenge now is to not only maintain those standards but to further develop and improve the school. Through working in partnership between the School, Governors, Parents, Church and the local community, St. Mary's will continue to grow each year as it becomes firmly established as one of the leading schools within Wrexham. Regards/Diolch, Mr. Gary Wyn-Jones

A M concerned over threat to loos

Clwyd South Assembly Member, Ken Skates, has voiced his concern over the proposed closure of well used public toilets in Overton and Chirk. A number of Ken's constituents have contacted him with concerns about the future of the public toilets, which have been brought into question by Wrexham County Borough Council's spending cuts.

The toilets are well used by tourists, who are then brought out of their cars and into the village, and are also vital for older people in the area.

Ken Skates AM said, "These public toilets make life simple for people who need the assurance of a local toilet when they leave home. Those who search for a toilet can then be attracted into the villages to use the shops and buy food, helping local businesses. Removing these toilets will make attracting people to enter the villages much more difficult. I am calling on Wrexham County Borough Council to clarify their plans. Public toilets are a basic requirement which these people should not be denied."

Overton A m Drams Spring Production

The Spring production by the Drama Society stars children from the local primary school and Penley Maelor. Lorren Wallwin's musical theatre group will open the show with dances with a circus theme. This will be followed by a group of 8 to 12 year olds presenting The Piccalilli Circus, a short play set in and around the big top and very loosely based on the tale of Romeo and Juliet.

After the interval, students from Penley Maelor School perform another version of Romeo and Juliet, this time set in the 1970's Glam Rock Era and devised by Paul Drake, who is directing with Sue England.

The dates for your diary are Fri. 23rd March at 7.00pm, Saturday 24th March at 2.30pm & again at 7.00 pm. Tickets at £5 for adults and £3 for children of school age will be on sale two weeks beforehand.



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



When I left home to go to university my mother and father each gave me something. My mother gave me my train fare home, told me never to spend it, to keep it safe, so that whatever happened, I could always come home. My father - he gave me some advice. He told that there would be times and situations when I would find myself not knowing what to do, not knowing which way to turn, with no-one to ask. Then, he told me, all I had to do was to think, what my mother would want me to do and to do that. It was the best of advice.

But why am I writing about this. Well March 18th is Mother's Day or Mothering Sunday and sooner or later we all have to let go of our children. But that 'letting go' doesn't stop us loving and caring for our children - 'letting go' doesn't mean abandoning.

But there's another side of motherhood, just as real, just as recognizable. It's the path of shared suffering which all parents relate to. However old we get and however old our mothers get, they still suffer our hurts with us. Pain that hurts us hurts them as well. And there's another thing, on Good Friday we get a glimpse that tender reversal of roles that happens to many of us as we get older when we find that instead of us caring for our children, they have started to care for us. Jesus shows such loving care as he gives Mary and John one another to love and to look after.

One of the greatest gifts God gives us in this life is one another. Together we walk through the years, learn to listen, learn to scold, learn to encourage, learn to forgive, learn to give, learn to accept, learn to protect and learn to let go. We learn also the responsibility of helping those dependent on us and later we come to learn the humility of enforced and unwelcomed dependence on others. And through it all God gives us the companionship and the joy of human beings loving one another.

There is a place for mothering in all our relationships and that includes God's relationship with us. I look forward to welcoming you all to our Mothering Sunday Family Service and Communion on March 18th at 10 am. Posies of flowers will be given to children of all ages to give to their mothers.

With every blessing,
David.

ST MARY'S OVERTON HAS CHANGED
the times
of the Sunday Services.
Please note the changes in the
'WHAT'S ON SECTION'

COUNTRY BEAT **by PCSO Stephen O'Connell**



Hello Everyone,
By the time you read this it will hopefully be getting warmer and lighter at night! It's not been a terrible winter but the weather in February has reminded us how treacherous it can be on the roads. Therefore, I again ask you to please keep an eye on your vehicle and make sure that they are fully checked before you attempt any journey.

Spring is nearly upon us and the nights are getting shorter. Unfortunately, this may mean that criminals may take advantage of the better weather to commit crime. Over the past few months there have been several reports of farming equipment/vehicles being stolen. With this, I urge you to make sure that any equipment is kept locked away when not in use and vehicles are not left with keys left in them or by the road. You may think that a shed will be safe for your equipment with a strong lock on the front but criminals will just rip the roof off the shed and lift the item out! I suggest that any valuable items are not left in a shed. Instead keep them in the house.

I have had complaints of dog fouling in Overton. Environmental officers from Wrexham Council have been made aware and will be around the village over the next few weeks. Anybody caught letting their dog foul will be given a £75 ticket! Please clean up after your dog; do not let them spoil our beautiful village.

Kind regards
Stephen O'Connell
01978 348425 or 07854 352 601

Playgroup News

As a fundraising idea we are compiling a book on how to successfully run a busy household! It will include handy hints, tricks, recipes and much more. Do you have any tried and tested recipes or your tricks on how to get the kids to school on time!! All ideas welcome and the best will feature in the book to raise money for the Playcentre. Either drop your ideas off with us or email them to overtonplaygroup@yahoo.co.uk

Overton Playcentre is part of the early entitlement scheme, which means that from the term after your child's third birthday we can offer you 4 free sessions per week. Please call and speak to the staff for further details. We are open all year, including school holidays 8am – 6pm.

Come along to our Nearly New Sale on 17 March in the Village Hall. We need more people with things to SELL. You don't need to be there on the day to sell your stuff. Decide your prices, label your items and drop them off on the morning of the event. We will do ALL the hard work for you and the Playcentre takes a 30% commission.

Pets in Church



Rev'd David Childs welcomed pets and their owners to the Creation Service in St Mary's Church. This Jack Russell (*see left*) certainly seemed to enjoy the sermon.



Labradors greet each other



History Group

The January meeting of the History group produced many interesting pictures of transport in the village in days gone by, and these will soon appear in a summary on the History section of the website. The next meeting will be **Tuesday March 6th** at 7.30pm upstairs in the White Horse when John Davies will talk about on the War Graves Commission. All welcome.

Jubilee Update

This is the March update on what is planned in the Village for the Jubilee Bank Holidays 2nd to 5th June 2012.



So far there are plans for the British Legion to run a Jubilee Coffee Morning in the Village Hall on Saturday June 2nd. Other organisations are welcome to take a table, contact 710631 to book a place.

And there are rumours of a Village Beacon on the evening of Monday June 4th, keep reading the Oracle for more details. If your organisation or street has plans for Jubilee events that weekend, let the Oracle know to avoid clashes.



The Overton WI
COFFEE MORNING
will be held
in the Village Hall
on
Saturday March 3rd, 10.30am



Kids Kolumn

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



Hey Guys,
Remember to get your Mum her special gifts.

It's Mother's Day on the 18th March!!!

Puzzle

Ben is hiding under the table at a birthday party. He sees 8 pairs of legs but then everyone goes to have some food in the kitchen. However, there are still 6 legs in the room. Whose are they?

Mother's Day Crossword

Across

1. It's their special day
2. What your Mum gives you
4. Gift
5. It beats
6. Say this for all she's done
9. Something tasty
11. I've been good and got a
12. The day of Mothers Day
13. Give your Mum lots of these



Down

1. The month of this day
3. Take this up on a tray
7. A bunch of these for Mum
8. Rhymes with Mrs
9. Moonpig.com
10. Every Mum is this

Here are some ideas for your Mum's pressies!



*table legs!
Puzzle answer: There are Ben's legs plus the*

Lunch Club



The Overton Lunch Club is on Wednesday 14th March at 12.30pm at the White Horse. The menu will be Beef Stew and Herby Dumplings followed by Apple and Rhubarb and Custard.

To book please ring Gwynneth Austin on 710672.

Your Letters...

Dear Editor,

Following the obituary for Graham Watts in last month's Oracle can I add that Graham was chair of Governors at the Maelor School for many years and was instrumental in helping the school gain grant maintained status in 1993. He was very pro-active as a governor and always had the interest of the school at heart. Graham recognised the importance of good relationships within a school and due to his background in education, always took a keen interest in all the students. Both Staff and Governors, past and present, who knew Graham at the school were saddened to hear of his death and have very fond memories of working alongside him.

Sue England

Dear Editor,

I am now living in Wem but my home was at Knolton and I am a former pupil of Overton School (left 1963), former player at the cricket club and have relatives still in the village.

Have you come across this website set up by Nth Wales newspapers? If you search within the site for Overton it brings up a series of old photos ranging from the 1950s to 1980s with many old memories

<http://www.localbygones.co.uk>

Dennis Jones

Walking The Great Wall

Gerry Owen's daughters, Jan Tinsley and Jill Pugh and granddaughter Claire Courtman



are all set to hike a section of The Great Wall of China this coming September. They are aiming to raise £10,000 for Macmillan Cancer Care in support of their friend Di Griffiths.

They intend to ask 1,000 people to donate £10 each to MacMillan. By cheque, cash or their "just giving" link <http://www.justgiving.com/jill-pugh> you can be one of the 1,000 people to help them raise a staggering £10,000 by September 2012. Cheques should be made payable to MacMillan Cancer Support and then please post to Mrs. Jill Pugh, 21 Murrays Lake Drive, Mount Murray, Santon, Isle of Man IM4 2GZ with details of your name, address and if Gift Aid applies.

Each £10 donation will be numbered and one lucky number will be chosen at random to received a two week stay in a beautiful 4 bed roomed villa in Florida, situated 10 mins from the Gulf Coast

Medical Practice

It is with great pleasure that we announce a really happy event. Dr Fallows is expecting a baby early in May. Dr Elinor Cooper is going to be standing in for Dr Fallows during her maternity leave. She has done locum work with us, so may not be an altogether new face when she joins in mid April.

There has been an increase in the number of cases of Mumps. This can be a particularly nasty illness as you get older. If you are under 25 years of age and have not had 2 doses of the MMR vaccine, please book an appointment with a Nurse.

We have been requested by the local health board that for problems which do not require long term treatment and for which recommended treatment is available to purchase over the counter, that Doctors ask patients to purchase this medication from the chemist, e.g. Ibuprofen. Please do not be offended. By doing this we help NHS Wales reduce spiralling costs and the savings can be redirected to other areas of care. Check out the new look surgery website at www.overtonsurgery.wales.nhs.uk

Twinning News

The recent Beetle Drive was an evening of pleasure of the simplest kind. No cruelty to beetles or other animals took place! Groups of people, some young, some not so young, spent a couple of hours together just having fun. The noise level was high with plenty of shouting. The winners needed luck but also needed to be able to throw the dice as quickly as possible. The technique got better as we made our way through the 12 games, none lasting more than a frenetic 4 minutes. Sophisticated it may not have been but great fun was had by all. Before the excitement started we all had a delicious two course supper, home-made by the fine band of twinning caterers. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed in any way.

Our next event is a Wine Tasting on Saturday 3rd March 2012 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Tickets are great value at £10 and include a good variety of wines, cheeses and home-made pates and quiches. We look forward to seeing you there. Tickets 710322 or 710486

Calling all Aspiring Overtonian Performers

'Overton's Got More Talent!'

Following the success of Overton's Got Talent, St Mary's Church is organising a follow up evening for anyone wishing to perform a musical piece or short acting / poetry recital.

All ages, skills and types of performance welcome
You need to live in or around Overton, Penley and Erbistock or have a link (however tenuous) with the area.

The event will be held in St Mary's Church on

Friday 11th May

and will be fundraising for the Church as well as a social evening. For more information and an application form, contact overtontalent@hotmail.co.uk or 07956 527309

Community Pub Month



During the month of April Jane and Steve at the White Horse Inn in Overton, have arranged a programme of events as part of "Community Pub Month". This is part of a nationwide initiative organised by CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale) to champion the importance of local pubs. With 16 pubs closing every week across Britain the future of the Great British Pub is at stake.

"Community Pubs Month" is a new campaign to help raise the profile of pub going and increase the awareness of pubs as an invaluable community asset. Jane and Steve have arranged a program of events at the White Horse Inn for all to take part in from, local charity fundraising events, music nights, and traditional pub games to an evening with the brewer from Joules Brewery, Adam Goodall.

The first events will be a skittles evening and race night for local charities and organisations. Also planned are a tour of other local community pubs, a darts domino and shove Ha'penny challenge and some music nights. The 4th April will see the launch of a mid week Carvery on a Wednesday from 6.00pm until it's all gone or 9.00pm whichever comes first.

Throughout April the Sunday Carvery will be available at a special price for a table of four. Come and try it lots of people do. Look out on our notice boards for an up to date list of events and come along and join us. For further information see www.communitypubsmonth.org.uk

Another Singing Workshop

After the success of last years evening Another fun way of raising money for Nightingale House



A Singing Workshop

Wednesday April 25th

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.

Last year this was a very popular night, so put the
date in your diaries and buy your tickets early
when they go on sale in the Corner Shop !

Nearly New Sale

BABY AND CHILDREN NEARLY NEW SALE

Overton Village Hall, Overton.

Saturday 17th March, 1pm - 3pm

Admission £1.00 (in aid of Overton
Playcentre) For more details contact:

OvertonNNS@hotmail.co.uk

or call 01978 710688



Neville William Victor Scott



Last month's Oracle carried a short report on the death of Overton British Legion Vice-President Neville Scott of Sodyllt Hall. Thank you to Mrs Scott for giving us a fuller picture of his service.

Neville was born on 1st September 1923, his father had died 3 months before his birth, of wounds sustained in the Royal Flying Corps during WW1. His mother brought him up alone in their Sutton Coldfield home. At the outbreak of WW2 he joined the Merchant Navy as a midshipman with the Liverpool based Blue Funnel Line and following training college, joined his first ship the SS Lycaon as a junior officer. Over the next 6 years he saw much of the world on board an armed merchantman which offered some limited protection to the convoys with which they sailed. The threat from enemy forces was ever present and took a heavy toll on the merchant fleet. However, fortune smiled on Neville throughout his naval career and even one evening when on leave, he was riding his motorbike returning to Liverpool Docks, when he had to swerve to avoid revellers outside a pub, hit the tram lines and fell off breaking his arm. He was unable to rejoin his ship on convoy

to Malta which was torpedoed en route sinking with all hands. Such are the vagaries of war.

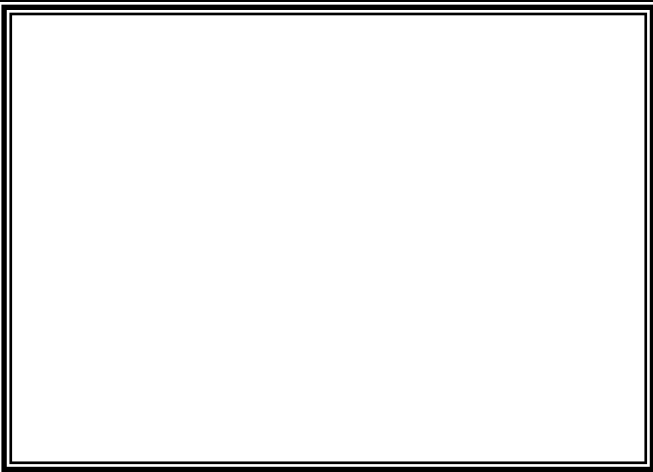
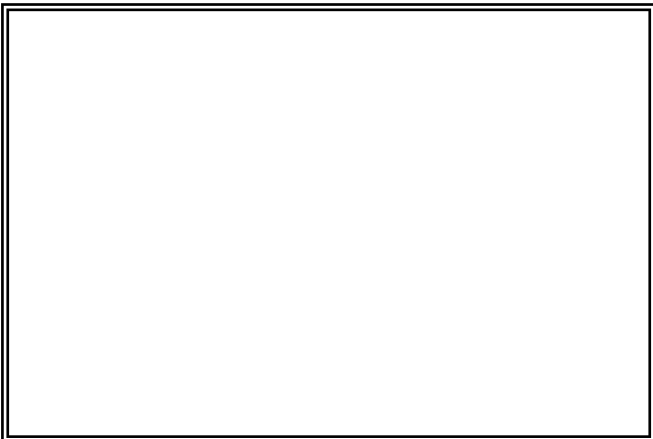
Despite his young age he rose rapidly to become acting second watch keeping officer responsible for the ship's navigation and saw action against U-boats on the Atlantic convoys. He was present at the invasion of Sicily where his ship SS Diamed was the sole vessel tasked with landing troops to stop the Germans using Sicily as a supply route. In the closing stages of the Pacific war, he saw first hand the devastation caused by the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, arriving 3 months after it was dropped. He was also on the first ship into China after the liberation of Shanghai.

Neville was always modest and reticent about his time in the Merchant Navy but was awarded the following decorations: the Burma Star, the Atlantic Star, Africa Star and Italy Star, two of which had bars. He always wore these with pride on Remembrance Sunday's at the service in Overton, to remember all those who had lost their lives in the service of their country. In 1998 he was invited to become a Vice-President of the Overton branch of the Royal British Legion a position he held until his death on November 24th 2011.

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

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



Recipe of the Month

“Recipe of the Month” aims to offer a recipe suggestion that can be made from ingredients that can be bought in the village.

Mushroom & Haricot bean enchiladas

- 1 Onion (chopped) Olive oil
- 200g mushrooms (chopped)
- 2tsp smoked paprika & 1 tsp mild chilli powder (mix with water to make a paste)
- 4 tomatoes chopped 400g haricot beans
- 4 flour tortillas 100g crème fraîche
- 75g mature cheddar green salad to serve

Cook onion in olive oil, add mushrooms. Cook. Add paste, cook for 1 minute. Add tomatoes season & cook down. Stir in beans & take off heat. Heat oven to 200C/fan 180C/gas 6. Divide mixture between tortillas, roll up. Put in oiled baking dish, join side down, cover with crème fraîche. Scatter over cheese then cook for 25-30 mins until golden. Serves two.

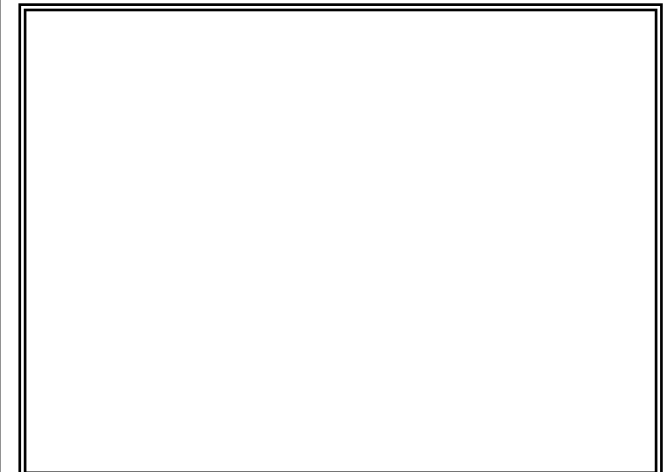
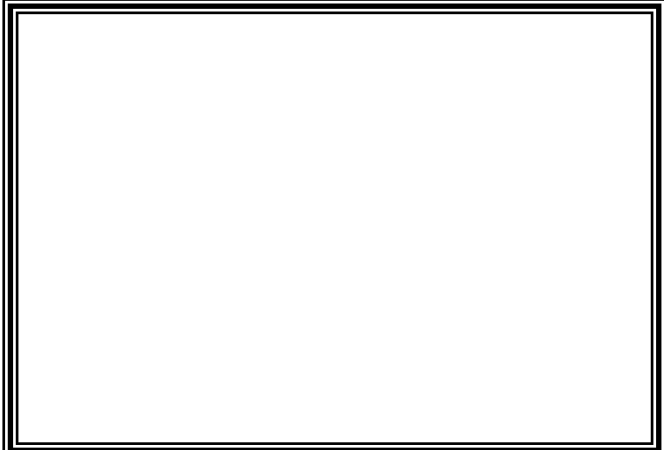
Thanks to Julie Done of Woodlands Deli

Overton Bowling Club

Overton & District Bowling Club announce the opening of the Green to take place on **Sunday 25 March 2012** at 2.00 pm (weather permitting).



Visitors will be very welcome.



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

Sunday March 4th 10:00am Family Village Praise & Coffee
Sunday March 11th 11:30am Holy Communion
Sunday March 18th 10.00am Mothering Sunday Family Communion & Coffee
Sunday March 25th 11:30am Holy Communion

Methodist Chapel Services, Sunday evenings 6.30pm

Saturday March 3rd 10.30am Overton WI Coffee Morning at Overton Village Hall

Saturday March 3rd Twinning Wine Tasting Evening in the Village Hall. Good quality wines with cheese and pate light supper.

Tuesday March 6th 7.30pm History Group upstairs in the White Horse. Subject 'War Graves' All welcome

Monday March 12th 10.30am Overton British Legion will be meeting for coffee at Woodlands Deli

Tuesday March 13th Overton Community Council meeting in the Parish Room. Members of the public wishing to speak can do so between 7.20 – 7.30pm.

Wednesday March 14th 12.30pm Overton Lunch Club at the White Horse. Booking required

Thursday March 15th 7.30 pm Overton WI meeting at the Parish Room. Speaker: Joy Blizzard on "Love food, hate waste" Competition: A Kitchen Utensil

Saturday March 17th 1-3pm Overton Playcentre Nearly New Sale, Overton Village Hall

Saturday March 17th 8.00pm Overton Recreational Club St Patricks Day Race Night at the Club

Sat & Sun March 17th & 18th Spring Wedding Event at the Plassey in aid of Nightingale House

Wednesday March 21st 7.30pm The Maelor Music Society presents The Royal Northern College of Music at the Maelor School Penley

Friday March 23rd 7pm Am Drams Spring Production

Saturday March 24th 2.30 & 7pm Am Drams Spring Production (see page 1)

Tuesday April 3rd 7.30pm Overton Film Club at the Village Hall. Film to be confirmed.


Thank you

The purchases of the video "Our Beautiful Dee" raised £288 for the BBC Children in Need Appeal. Can I say 'thank you' note via the Oracle to all those who kindly contributed.

Many thanks, *Roy Henry*.

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy March birthdays to Jack Edwards, Anne Clarke, Grace Haynes, David Burton, Finlay Clarke, Janet Reid, Janene Davies, Freda Thompson, Barbara Griffiths, Kate Jenkinson, Joanne Kember, Liam and Matt Grindley, Roxanne Haynes, Imogen Jones and Cynthia Davies. Happy 16th Birthday (on Feb 29th) to Georgie Davies Hunter from Nannie, Mum, Jonny & Hugo.

Special birthday greetings to Gwynneth Austin on her 80th birthday 

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of ex village resident Jackie Cunniffe nee Arrowsmith, to the family and friends of Heather Stewart, and to the family and friends of Muriel Dimelow of Cloy Lane.

Special Birthday Wishes

Special birthday wishes to Miss Owen who celebrated her 90th birthday with



friends at the White Horse.

Belated birthday wishes to Mrs Lyn Evans from former players and members of The Overton Athletic Football Club during the 1970's and early 80's. Throughout that time she was the backbone of the club doing all the washing of the kit mostly by hand, every home game she was there to make teas, sell refreshments and draw tickets to raise funds for the club and the same again at the numerous dances and pram races etc. She continually excelled to emphasise the camaraderie that was held within the club during those very successful years and she really was indeed a Mum to us all.

For Sale**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.

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