

The Overton Oracle



Volume 13. Issue 5

May 2011



Overton's Free Newspaper - issued monthly

Overton Partied in the Park !



The Andrews family's winning picnic

Overton celebrated the Royal Wedding in style. The sun shone, the picnics were sumptuous and everyone had a wonderful time.



Fun!



Party!



And thanks to Alice Murray, Jo Hammond & their team who made it all possible.



A t t a c k o n C h u r c h

Just days before Easter St Mary's Church was broken into once again. A side door of the church was smashed to gain entry and the Easter flowers were trashed. The flower arrangements on the altar and window sills were ready for Easter Sunday and for a baptism. The incident happened just months after a similar break-in at St Mary's causing upsetting vandalism.

A spokesman for North Wales Police said "We can confirm that a side door of the church was smashed and a mess left inside the building. If anyone has information about the incident they should contact us on 101 or on 0845 607 1002 (English) or 0845 607 1001 (Welsh)"



Check out the new village website at www.overton-on-dee.co.uk
To add your group or business details e-mail webmaster@overton-on-dee.co.uk

School News

Easter arrived early for the children in the Foundation Phase Department at St. Mary's school. We were lucky to incubate, hatch and care for 14 new baby chickens - kindly on loan from the very kind family at Home Farm in Overton.

They were various breeds with eggs of many wonderful colours and we waited patiently for 21 days to see the very first chick chip his (or her!) way out! Our first baby wasn't alone for long and was promptly joined by many other fellow hatchlings, much to the staff and children's delight. It was a magical moment that we were privileged to share with the children and one that we will all remember for a lifetime.



Congratulations

Congratulations to Lance Corporal Stephen Reid of Parkside, for attaining Commendation and Soldier of the Year, awarded to 'Best Soldier in the Division' in recognition of the exceptional personal and professional contribution in 2010-11. Also congratulations on passing exams and becoming a Physical Training Instructor in the Adjutant General's Corp in Germany.

Congratulations and well done from a very proud Mum, from grandparents Dave & Stella Austin, and all the Brown family.



Cricket News

Overton on Dee Cricket Club starts the 2011 season on April 30th. Over the course of the summer they have 22 games that they will play in the Shropshire League.

If you fancy a game, you will be made more than welcome and even better is our after-match analysis when the team retire to the White Horse, where all are made to feel at home. For more details contact Club Secretary, Rob Lawrenson on 01978 710537



Kids Kolumn

by Alice Foster, Lydia Biggs and Lottie Blake

Hey everybody,
Easter is over.
Hope you enjoyed all your eggs -
we certainly did!



Jokes and Riddles.

There was a man who bought a hamster into the vets. He said to the vet "He won't move."

The vet replied "He's dead!"

The man said, "No, I don't believe you"

So the vet brought a Labrador dog in but it shook its head.

The man still didn't believe the vet, so he brought a cat in. The cat shook its head.

"See I told you" said the vet. "Well that's £1,250"

The man said "£1,250!"

The vet said "Yes, you had a lab report and a cat scan."

Why is the Beach Wet?

Because the sea weed!!

Birth Signs.

Taurus – April 20th till May 20th.

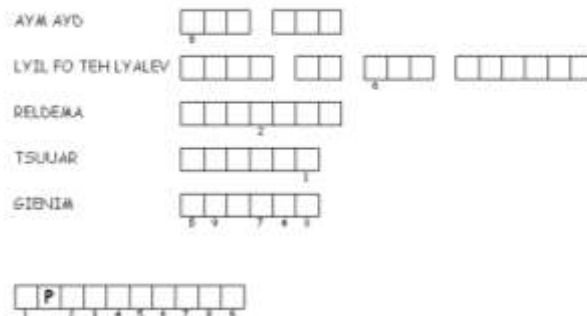
Gemini – May 21st till June 20th.

May Birth stone is emerald

May Birth flower is Lily of the Valley.



May Word Puzzle



Date for the diary



Put the date in your diary

OVERTON FETE

Saturday June 25th

on the playing fields

More details in the next edition of the Oracle



Ramblings From the Rectory

by David Lewis



Dear Friends,

An elderly man lay dying in his bed. In death's agony, he suddenly smelled the aroma of his favourite chocolate chip cookies wafting up the stairs. He gathered his remaining strength, and lifted himself from his bed. Leaning against the wall, he slowly made his way out of his bedroom, and with even greater effort forced himself down the stairs, gripping the railing with both hands. With laboured breath, he leaned against the door frame, gazing into the kitchen.

Were it not for death's agony, he would have thought himself already in Heaven: there, spread out on newspapers on the kitchen table were literally hundreds of his favourite chocolate chip cookies. Was it Heaven? Or, was it one final act of heroic love from his devoted wife, seeing to it that he left this world a happy man? Mustering one great final effort, he threw himself toward the table, landing on his knees in a rumped posture. His parched lips parted; the wondrous taste of the cookie was already in his mouth, seemingly bringing him back to life. The aged, withered and shaking hand made its way to a cookie at the edge of the table, when it was suddenly smacked with a spatula by his wife. "Stay out of those", she said, "they're for the funeral." Talk about taking away one's hope!

For me we are now in one of my favourite periods of the church year. Easter is a season full of hope and light. Not only has nature burst into an array of wondrous new life, but the whole theme of Easter speaks of new beginning and new hope.

On Good Friday all hope seemed to have gone. Like the man in our story who had his cookies snatched away, the disciples had seen their hope seemingly ripped from them. They had seen Jesus crucified on a cross. But out of that darkness and despair comes the hope of the resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Jesus came into a world of darkness and often despair. People erred and had strayed like lost sheep. There were those who had got themselves trapped by life problems and could not free themselves. There were those who lived in constant fear. And Jesus came and offered them new hope and new life.

Jesus knows what it is like to feel rejected alone and afraid, because he faced the darkness and despair of the cross. But on Easter Sunday Christians believe Jesus rose from the dead. And because Jesus rose we all have the promise of new life, not only after we die, but right here and now!

Because even in the darkest of situations, Jesus will come and offers us all the hope of the resurrection. If we just let him into our hearts, our lives will be filled with new hope and new joy.

There are times when we all feel alone and overwhelmed and doubts creep in and our heart gives way and we feel like we can't go on. Then Jesus comes to us and says,

"You are not alone. You never were alone.
Even when you thought were alone,
I was with you every step of the way."

And to me that is the wonderful message that Easter brings.

Your friend and Rector,
David

Overton Twinning Association

I've just received some sad news from La Murette. Those of you who were part of the Twinning in the early days may remember Pascal and Pascaline. They were a delightful couple originally from San Marino. Pascaline had a great voice and very movingly sang Edith Piaf songs from the stage in The Village hall on at least two occasions. She wrote to say that her husband Pascal died on the 28th November 2010. He'd been in hospital since July. On behalf of the Twinning and the village we have sent Pascaline our condolences.

And now, on a positive note, we've already started planning our next visit to La Murette. As usual this will be in the first week of August. Everyone in the whole parish (not just the village) is automatically a member of the organisation and is eligible to take part. The trips are great fun. Old established friendships are renewed and new friendships made. Some people like to email on a regular basis, some send each other cards at Christmas while others just wait for the next visit to re-connect. You don't have to have a French person to stay in your house in order to join the visit to France, but when the time comes for the French to visit Overton we hope you will and feel sure you'll want to. Someone who went to La Murette in 2009 said it was "the best holiday ever".

The more observant among us will have noticed the weather vane on the roof of the Village Hall. A big thank you to Jim Glover and Rob Lawrenson who risked life and limb recently to put it in place. It was a gift from our La Murette friends, the cockerel being the symbol of France. On comical note, they carried it all the way from La Murette but guess where it was made? Oswestry!

If you'd like to be put on the mailing list, email me Georgina Mason, at gmemcloy@yahoo.co.uk



RAINBOW FUN

QUIZ NIGHT

20TH May 2011 - STARTING 7.00pm

TICKETS £5.00 - TASTY SUPPER INCLUDED

TEAMS OF 4

B. Y. O. ALCOHOL

SOFT DRINKS, TEA AND COFFEE AVAILABLE

CONTACT: PENLEY RAINBOW CENTRE,

WHITCHURCH ROAD,

PENLEY, LL13 0GB. TEL: 01948 830730,

info@penleyrainbowcentre.co.uk

**PLEASE BOOK YOUR TICKETS A.S.A.P.
TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT**

Two Comedies - twice the fun



Overton Amateur Dramatic Society presents 'Last Tango in Little Grimley' and 'Last Panto in Little Grimley' by David Tristram from **Thursday 19th to Saturday 21st May**. Two one-act comedies - double the laughs, double the fun, one hilarious evening! What a great way to unwind at the end of the week. Directed by Alan Edwards with regular cast members, this side splitting double bill will be showing nightly at 7.30pm. There will be an interval between the plays when you can meet the actors.

Playwright David Tristram has become one of Britain's most popular and admired comedy writers. According to Tristram himself, he writes only comedy because he can't take himself too seriously. His plays have been translated into many languages and have been performed all over the world.

Little Grimley Amateur Dramatic Society is in trouble. The membership has dwindled to 4 - the audiences aren't much bigger - and if they don't come up with some rent money soon, they're going to be thrown out. "There's only one thing that sells tickets these days," argues Gordon the Chairman, "Sex!" Thus begins the chaotic and hilarious build-up to an evening of extraordinary home-grown drama - an evening the locals of Little Grimley would never forget!

After the success of their previous show, the Little Grimley Amateur Dramatic Society move to a new level with "Last Panto in Little Grimley" which sees Gordon, Margaret, Joyce and Bernard tackle the Christmas pantomime with predictable hilarious results.

School Reunion

Following the successful Overton School reunion last December it was unanimously decided to organise another one. So if you attended Overton School between 1960 and 1980ish then please dig out those old photographs and memories and get yourself ready to come along to a reunion on Saturday 10th September.

The venue and times are currently being arranged and will be published nearer the date. But for more details or if you'd like to help, then please contact Gordon Whitfield on 07971805066 or email whitfieldgh@yahoo.com

Playgroup News

Hello from Playgroup! We have lots of thankyous this month. Prontaprint have very kindly given us one of their computers so a BIG thank you for such a kind donation! On top of this Paul from the Plassey who was cleaning and sorted out the computer has donated his time totally free of charge! So a Huge thank you to Paul as well.

The Bags4school raised a staggering £290 for playgroup. So thank you so much to everybody who donated their unwanted clothes etc. We raised nearly £500 bag packing at Stans so a big thank you to everybody who helped especially to Sue Glover who gave two hours of her time despite having no connection with playgroup anymore! We are still running the Sutton seeds catalogue, so if you want to order please do get in touch. We are still collecting unwanted phones and used printer cartridges, either through the library or hand them in at playgroup. Our Easter colouring competition had 3 winners, Lucas Pimperel 0-4yrs, Caitlin Baker 5-8yrs, Amy Williams 9-11yrs. Well done to everyone for taking part. Thanks to everyone for making the Easter Party such a success! We had over 30 children there including babies! Lots of fun, making craft, dancing and looking for Easter eggs, was had by all. Finally what to look out for in May! There will be a Craft Fair run in the Village Hall in May along the same lines as the Christmas Fair so do look out for posters for more details.

Deanery Mission Festival

Saturday & Sunday May 21st & 22nd

We are holding a special festival in the grounds of the home of Lord and Lady Kenyon, at Gredington, Hanmer.

Saturday 11:00am: Children's Magician, John Bonner & Deanery Church Schools Festival

Saturday 5:30pm: Hog roast to live music. Bring your own drinks, hampers, picnic furniture

7:00pm: An evening with Paul and Fiona Jones. Paul was lead singer with Manfred Mann and has a weekly Blues program on Radio 2. Fiona is a respected West End and TV actress

Sunday 10:30am Eucharist and Confirmation in the marquee.

Tickets on sale from YOUR CHURCH

History Group

The next History Group meeting will be Tuesday May 17th and will be collecting memories and information about the local railway.

So if you have memories, photos or stories about the Overton station and the Wrexham to Ellesmere railway line, do come along to the White Horse (upstairs) at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Thank you

Overton Community Council and residents of School Lane would like to thank Mr and Mrs Allen of Ty Newydd for their support and patience in allowing the street light to be reinstated on one of their barn walls.

The reinstatement of the street light will provide light to the road in the area of Poethlyn Terrace.

Overton British Legion

The Overton branch of the Royal British Legion held its AGM on Monday 21st March at which longstanding Chairman, Gerry Owen retired after 25 years as chairman. His place as Chairman has been taken by Group Scout Leader David Burton, who never a member of the armed services, was honoured to accept. His first task was to thank Gerry for his excellent contribution and to hope that he would continue to carry the Standard on all occasions for many years to come. The new Vice Chairman is Harold Toone.

The meeting decided to start regular meetings for the benefit of members, once a month on Mondays in the Recreational Club, where members can meet for a chin-wag, have a game of snooker, pool or darts in congenial surroundings. The first meeting will be held on May 23rd at 7.30pm. All members are welcome as is anyone wishing to join.

St. Mary's Coffee Morning

St. Mary's Church annual coffee morning to raise funds for the Overton senior citizens Christmas Party, Village Hall on Sat May 7th, 10.30am.

Tickets 50p at the door, incl. coffee & biscuits

If you can help in any way, bake a cake, or make a contribution to any of the stalls, that would be much appreciated.

Contact June Owen 710944)

SPARE BEDS?

Accommodation is being urgently sought in Overton for the week of the Llangollen International Eisteddfod. The village has for many years provided hospitality for one of the groups of performers.

Can you help? Do you have a spare bed or two or more? All you have to provide is bed and breakfast and the maximum number of nights would be Monday 4th July to Sunday 10th July. Hosts receive £10 per person per night to help cover expenses. If you can help please contact Carol Dyke, Overton's coordinator, on 01978 710794

Medical Practice

From Friday 1st April the out of hours care system has changed from Newdoc to North Wales GP Out of Hours Service. The quality of care and response will be just the same but the new telephone number to note is **0300 123 55 66**. This service will cover the surgery whenever we are closed just as the Newdoc system did.

Dr Stevenson started back to work on in April. She is joining the Practice as a salaried GP and will be working in both the Overton and Bangor-on-Dee surgeries. We now have over 700 patients using EMIS ACCESS for online booking of Doctor appointments and ordering repeat prescriptions, if you want to partake of this facility just call into one of the surgeries and ask the receptionist to issue a PIN number.

Lunch Club



The May Overton Lunch Club is on Wednesday May 11th at 12.30pm at the White Horse.

The menu will be Bangers and Mash with onion gravy followed by Fruit Crumble and Custard.

For the May lunch please book by ringing Steve or Jane at the White Horse on 710111



All change at the butchers

After 44 years Howard Jones, our Overton butcher, is hanging up his apron and knives to take a well earned retirement, three years beyond the age that most of us would hope to retire!

“I bought a wood lathe some years ago and I’m hoping to do some wood turning in my retirement” said Howard, “I would like to thank all my customers over the years for their loyalty and custom, thank you very much”.

Howard was hoping to retire by March 31st and to sell the business as a going concern. In

that he has been successful. The new owners ‘Mike E Evans’, is the second oldest business in Wrexham, established in 1911 and based in the Butchers Market. The butchers who will be based in Overton are Nigel Jones and Ben Roberts, pictured either side of Mike Evans, whose great great grandmother started the business. The Overton shop that Howard started will carry on as a traditional butchers & delicatessen & open Mon - Fri, closing at 2pm on Saturday.



Satire Strikes

Following its success at the Edinburgh Fringe and Chicago Sketch Festival, and as part of a UK tour sponsored by the Arts Council, the quick-fire satirical sketch show **From Here to Absurdity** is heading for Overton and will perform at the Village Hall on Saturday 7th May. Written and performed by *Private Eye* contributor Richard Kelly, **From Here To Absurdity** comprises 90 minutes of original comedy sketches and has already performed at innumerable clubs, pubs and theatres across the country. A series with Radio 4 is currently being negotiated.



Kelly will be joined on stage by Ashley Hern, formerly of the Oxford University Revue, and Lucy Simons, a Flintshire-born actress who has just completed a successful stand-up comedy tour in the North West. In the course of their set, the *Absurdity* trio will skewer the assorted idiocies of everyday life, including (according to Kelly) “death, divorce, dysentery, dementia and devolution”. Those with a hatred of political correctness are also likely to find something amusing.

So if you fancy live comedy that’s a bit different to stand-up, and a revue that recalls the spirit of Peter Cook and *Beyond The Fringe*, Overton’s Village Hall is the place to be on 7th May. The show starts at 7.30pm, tickets are just £5 and can be booked via 07786 280778. Further details of the show can be found on www.2absurdity.co.uk.

Snooker success

The Overton Recreational Club "B" team have won the 4th division of the Whitchurch & District snooker league by a clear 20 points. The captain Roy Richards collected the trophy, sharing the prize for the most numbers of wins. Bob Davies collecting the trophy for the highest break.



OVERTON RECREATIONAL FOOTBALL CLUB PRESENTATION EVENING



presents
An Evening with
Kevin Ratcliffe
(Everton & Wales)
Plus Comedian
at Overton Village Hall
on Friday 10th June
7.30pm - late

Tickets £20 including Hotpot supper
Dress Code - smart/casual (no jeans)
Tickets from Overton Recreational Club
Lucy Edwards 01978 710649
Everyone Welcome

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

- Sunday May 1st** 11:30am Holy Eucharist
Sunday May 8th 10am Sunday Praise and Coffee
Sunday May 15th 11:30am Holy Eucharist
Sunday May 22nd 10.30am Deanery Festival & Confirmation in the marquee at Gredington
Sunday May 29th 10.30am Group Service in Erbistock
Thursday June 2nd 7.30pm Ascension Day Eucharist in Bettisfield

Methodist Chapel Services, Sunday evenings 6.30pm
Every Saturday 10.30am till 12.00pm Coffee mornings at the Methodist Chapel

Saturday May 7th 10.30am. St. Mary's Church Annual Coffee Morning in the Village Hall, to raise funds for the Overton Senior Citizens Christmas Party. Admission is 50p on door, incl coffee & biscuits.

Saturday May 7th 7.30pm **'From Here to Absurdity'** 90 mins of original comedy sketches at Overton Village Hall. Tickets £5 & can be booked on 07786 280778

Tuesday May 10th 7.30pm Annual General Meeting of Overton Community Council in the Parish Room. All members of the public are welcome to attend.

Wednesday May 11th 12.30pm Overton Lunch Club at the White Horse. Booking required.

Tuesday May 17th 7.30pm Overton History Group meeting upstairs at the White Horse. "Memories of the Overton railway and station" All welcome

Wednesday May 18th 10:30am Christian Aid Coffee Morning in the Methodist school room

Thursday May 19th 6.30 pm Overton WI outing to Plas Newydd, Llangollen. Comp: A Brooch to be worn

May 19th, 20th, 21st Overton Am Drams 'Last Tango in Little Grimley' & 'Last Panto in Little Grimley' at the Village Hall. Two one-act plays.

Friday May 20th 7.00pm Rainbow Centre Fun Quiz Night Tickets £5 includes supper. Tel: 01948 830730

Saturday & Sunday May 21st & 22nd Deanery Mission Festival, Gredington, Hanmer.

Monday May 23rd 7.30pm Overton Twinning Association AGM in the Parish Rooms. All inhabitants of Overton are members & entitled to attend and will be very welcome. Light refreshments.

Tuesday May 24th 7.00pm Maelor Music Society AGM at the Hanmer Arms

Tuesday May 24th 7.30pm Overton Oracle AGM at the White Horse

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Josef and Clare Henstock on the birth of their daughter Evie Min in Yorkshire on March 10th, a granddaughter for Bridget.

Congratulations to Adam McLoughlin and Louisa Roberts who will be married on Friday 20th May in St Mary's Church at 12:30pm

Happy May Birthdays to Grace Sidwell, David Evison, Jenny Bellis, Jade Lyndsey Hayward, Jayne Cornes, Maddie Rouse, Henry Buttress, Eleanor McCusker, Luke Haynes, Olivia Dodwell, Peter Grindley, Chris Worthington, John Dodd, Gail Coupland, Mrs Pat Clarke, Mrs J Dodwell & Janine Austin.

Happy 97th Birthday

Happy Birthday to Alice Park of Bryn-y-Pys Court who will be 97 on May 13th.

Lots of love from all her family.

**Vacancies**

Wanted. Experienced Bookkeeper for Overton Recreational Club. Must be computer literate. Approx 10 hrs per month flexible. Please contact Bill 01978 710444 or John 01978 710875

Job vacancy for qualified playworker (level 2/3 or equivalent) at Bangor-on-Dee After School Club, starting May 2011. From 3 to 9 hours per week, to suit individual. Possibility of promotion to Lead Playworker at a future date. For more details contact Bethan James 01978 781358 or 07902 638410

ONE vacancy exists for a Co-opted Councillor for the Community of Overton. If you are interested in applying for this voluntary position, please send a short CV and a brief covering letter with your interests, hobbies, qualities etc. to Clerk of OCC, the Village Hall by 30th May or ring Katrina on 01978710055 with any queries.

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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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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