

The Overton Oracle

Volume 16. Issue 5

May 2014

Overton's Free Newspaper - issued monthly



People planting planters



Overton has benefited from the Keep Wales Tidy's 'Have a Wild Weekend for Wales' scheme. Over 230 applicants from across Wales applied for free National Garden Centre vouchers. Funded by Welsh Government, Natural Resources Wales and the proceeds from the single use carrier bag charge, the aim of the campaign was to encourage people to improve food sources and natural

habitat for pollinators in Wales.

Children from St. Mary's School and After School club rolled up their sleeves, and gave bees and butterflies a helping hand in their developing forest school site and in the entrance to the school. They were successful in applying for £200 in National Garden Centre vouchers which they used to buy hedging, planting equipment and tools and a



whole array of Spring plants. Cynthia Davies said, "It was great to see so many children get involved in this project. 'Wild Weekend' has enabled us to make a huge improvement to the pollen and nectar that's on offer in the Overton area and hopefully this will benefit our local environment and wildlife."



Overton Community Council received £150 as part of their Wild-Flower Project and Overton Beavers and Cubs helped with planters by the pumps in Turning Street and by the Old Police Station. Thanks to Clive Hellingman for building the trough in Turning Street. The money has also paid for wild flower seed to sow in the cemetery and other areas of the village. Thanks to Claire of Wildbanks Conservation for her help and advice.

Thank you for the support

The show "Thank You for the Music", which celebrated 20th century popular music, was held in the Village Hall on Friday, 28th March. We are happy to report that the evening was a resounding success. The two singers Keith and Russ were fantastic, with great voices and engaging personalities. Everyone joined into the spirit of the evening and we all enjoyed hearing the big hits of Elvis, Everly brothers, Cliff and Status Quo, to name but a few - it certainly brought back memories. The music from the shows, including "Chicago" and "Les Miserables" was also hugely enjoyable. Possibly, the act that brought most lumps to the throat was Overton school choir, who enthusiastically sang some Beatles and Abba songs - the kids were great. By the end of the evening people were "rocking in the aisles" - a truly memorable evening.

St Mary's church made a profit of £830 on the night and the Overton Social club also made a healthy amount on bar receipts, a big help to two of our important village institutions. It only remains to say a big thank you to all who helped to make this a very successful event - thanks to our singers Keith and Russ, thanks to all the children & staff of Overton school, especially Dylan and Sandra and thank you to the good people of Overton for your enthusiastic support.



Ramblings From the Reverend by Rev'd Canon David Child



As most of you know, I'm a Wrexham football fan.

This season has been pretty dismal and most of us can't wait for it to end. Last season around this time I had a dilemma. Should I go to the special inauguration service at the Cathedral for the Diocesan Year of Pilgrimage or should I go to the play-off finals at Wembley. I wrote apologizing to the Archdeacon explaining that I would be going to an event in London which thousands of people from both the diocese of St Asaph and diocese of Monmouth would be attending and that there would be singing and fervent prayer throughout the event. She wrote back the next day - explaining that I'd missed a most joyous occasion at the Cathedral and how happy everyone was who attended and ended with words 'Sorry about Wrexham!'

When you think of it there are lots of parallels between faith and football. Most of all there's the singing. People who are totally unmusical leap to their feet at matches and sing lustily in front of others. Then there are the times when the match is so absorbing that there's almost a communal stillness in which both sets of fans are united in appreciation of the moment. So too with worship when a shared silence is introduced after a moving prayer to allow for a period of personal reflection.

Then there are the same highs and lows. A win against all odds leads to indescribable exuberance, as at a service when you really have a good experience and leave with a bounce in your step. The opposite can also be the case; a desperately boring game or a loss can send you home disgruntled – just like a service that does nothing for you and you feel like a stranger when you walk out.

So what can the church learn from football clubs, how can we transform the passion and commitment of those attending football matches to those attending services.

Well first of all we as churchgoers can greet even those who we hardly know but who are sitting around us – not letting them go home un-noticed but engaging with them. This is happening far more often now in St Mary's and the coffee time after our 10 am Family Services is a great time to get to know people. After all it's the presence or absence of human warmth that determines whether people come back or not.

We also try to choose familiar hymns at our Family Services to encourage everyone to join in with the songs because getting stuck in creates a surge of feeling which engulfs the others. Children are also taking a more active part in these services and this provides a more relaxed atmosphere so that the next time people come they can feel thoroughly at home and part of the 'supporters' club.

Liverpool fans know they will never walk alone.
I hope those who enter St. Mary's feel the same.
With every blessing,
David.

FREE to anyone who would like or could use an Electric Organ. If interested please ring **710672**

Country Beat by PCSO Phil Jones



Unfortunately there has been 2 recent burglaries in Overton, at the Village Hall and at a house on Salop Road. Please make sure that all your windows are secure, with the nice weather it's easy to leave windows open which are a magnet for the opportunist criminal. Do not leave keys anywhere near the front door and make sure doors are locked. Police patrols will commence and stop checks will be conducted if the officer feels there's a need. Sheds and outhouses also need to be secure including garages and please don't leave the garage door open.

Unfortunately Dog Fouling in the village has increased. It is most important that you pick up the mess your dog leaves; PCSO's and Council enforcement officers will issue a fixed penalty of £75. No warnings will be given. It is also noted that there are dog fouling bags being left in fields, trees and bushes. There is no excuse, there is a new bin at the Millennium Meadow, please use it. There has also been an increase in litter, this also carries a spot fine of £75 which PCSO's and Council enforcement officers can issue, again no warnings will be given. There has been an incident where a disposable BBQ has been used in the Children's Play park causing damage. If officers see anyone using these they will be confiscated, any signs of persons committing criminal damage will be processed accordingly. Anti Social behaviour in the village will not be tolerated, Officers will be out and about and random checks will be conducted.

You may have seen an increase in PCSO presence by St Mary's School in Overton, the reason for this is that some parents are still parking on the yellow zig zag lines. This is very dangerous as a child can run into the road without being seen due to a parked car. Parking dangerously near the junction is also an offence. If officers see anyone parking within 30' of the junction of School Lane & Turning St, their numbers and a photograph will be taken as evidence. A notice will be placed on the screen advising that an offence has been committed. Please avoid parking outside someone's house as they need to get out with their car or on foot. There is a car park available so please use it and walk with your child like the good old days.

On a lighter note, I am planning on having a Police Surgery during the daytime, a good way of speaking face to face to your local PCSO. I will advertise these are through Twitter. I'm aware that a lot of people are not on twitter but many are and can spread the word locally to people they know. You can follow me on twitter by searching for PCSO Phil Jones or @NWPPhilJones.

I look forward to seeing you whilst I'm out and about during this lovely weather.

Thanks, **Phil Jones 2858**

Tel: 01978 348425 or 07854 389056

Summertime Blues

Overton Village Hall will be the venue for "Summertime Blues" on Friday June 27th, featuring the band Moreland and Arbuckle (actually a trio) from Wichita Kansas. They are currently one of the most sought after bands in the American live blues scene and encompass, blues and rocking R'n'B and we have been very fortunate to book them on what will be their last show of a 2 week UK tour.

They will be supported by local favourites Tommy Allen (from Ellesmere) and Johnny Hewitt aka The Blues Duo who are now very much in demand on the UK and European festival circuit playing their up temp urban Chicago style blues



Wanted

A part-time caretaker required for the Village Hall, approx 30 hrs per month, flexible to cover each week's bookings. Job includes cleaning, setting up, opening up and closing and preparing the venue for events. Because of the unusual times of bookings the role would best suit a local person. A Job Description can be requested on line by leaving details on 01978 710413 or on www.overtonvillagehall.co.uk.

Now filled

Lunch Club

The Overton Lunch Club is on **Wednesday 14th May** at 12.30pm at the White Horse. Everyone is welcome. Enjoy delicious food and friendly company. The menu this month will be Somerset Pork with roast potatoes and vegetables followed by pineapple upside down sponge and custard. To book please ring Gwynneth Austin on 710672.



Kids Kolumn

Hey guys, did you all enjoy the Easter holidays?



Here's some Sudoku puzzles. The first one is easier, the second one is harder!

	2		1
4			2
	3		4
1			3

				6			3	
2	4						1	
		7			2			8
		1	4				3	9
7			3	1	9			2
3	6				7	5		
5			7				9	
	8						1	3
	7			2				

May Day celebrates the upcoming summer and the flowers and trees starting to blossom. It is said to be associated with romance and love. One of the celebrations that take place on May Day is may pole dancing. This came to be when in the olden days, they used to cut down big thick sticks and dance around them to mark the end of winter.

Here is a word search with a few spring themed words for you to find!

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

WORDS TO FIND:
MAY DAY, SPRING TIME, FLOWERS, BLOOM, WARM, PEACEFUL, SUNSHINE, LAMBS

Happy 5th birthday



Celebrations were the order of the day at The White Horse, as Steve and Jane Dodwell celebrated 5 years of their tenancy and the reopening of Overton's village pub.

On the night Steve said "The worry is that no-one will turn up; that will be the sign to pack our bags and hand back the keys". But his fears were put aside as the pub was packed, everyone enjoying the live music from Johnny Bell and Roger Glover, the delicious hot pork baps and the well-stocked bar at 2009 prices.

The past 5 years have left Steve and Jane many memories, good ones like the Jubilee Party with horrendous weather when everyone pulled together providing marquees to cover the yard so that the party could go on, and less good ones when Jane rang Steve in A& E to tell him the Pub (in fact only the dustbins) was on fire. Over the 5 years Steve and Jane have developed the Function Room plus the popular dining area and have generously welcomed so many meetings for village organisations and fundraising. Overton is fortunate to have at its heart a true community pub.

Overton War Memorial



At the start of Overton's commemoration of the beginning of World War One, repairs are being carried out to Overton's War Memorial. The Memorial was erected in 1921 to commemorate the sacrifice of residents of Overton who fell in WW1. The Memorial is 93 years old and is showing its age. The apron surrounding it has cracked and become uneven and the kerbstones have broken down. The Memorial itself also needs repointing.

Responsibility for the care and maintenance of the Memorial lies with Overton Community Council, who after discussions with the Overton Branch of the Royal British Legion, put out the restoration work to tender, which was awarded to WD Stant. Work started in April, subject to the weather and is expected to be completed by the end of June. The cost of the restoration has been funded by two grants from The War Memorials Trust (£1277) and a Heritage and Cultural Grant, through Northern Marches Cymru (£3833) at a total cost of £5110.

Playgroup News

With the overwhelming support of all the parents, kind donation from a local resident and the fantastic team work of the whole committee we are well on our way to raising the money to fund the back garden project. Our bingo night was a huge success. Thanks to Barry and to Nicola - and the parents and local shops who donated for our fantastic prize hampers, we raised £177. Our Nearly New Sale, yet another success raised nearly £600 and the Easter raffle £65. Thank you so much to everyone involved.

We have had our well attended AGM. I am continuing as Chair for another year with Sarah Evans as Vice Chair, Claire Jowitt as Treasurer & Louise Skillicorn as her Vice, Sarah Carpenter as Secretary & Natalie Edwards as Vice. Thank you to the incoming and outgoing committee members and to all the parents and staff at the Playcentre.

Angie Atkins

Any spare beds?

Carol Dykes, Overton's coordinator for hospitality for the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod, is looking for extra hosts in the village for this year. The dates are July 8th to 12th. Hosts will receive £10 per night and are asked to provide Bed & Breakfast only. If you can help please contact Carol on 01978 710794 or 07947 747530.

St Marys School annual Eisteddfod culminated in the Chairing of the Bard which this year was awarded to David for his poem:

I asked My Mum for a Dragon one day

I asked My Mum for a Dragon one day
And she shouted "No!"
When I said "why?" with a puzzled kind of look
She replied.....

"It's because Dragons have:
Teeth sharper than
one hundred chainsaws
Eyes as keen as ten Owls.

Ears like radars searching for prey.
Oh and the fire I don't have to say."
"WHY DON'T YOU JUST HAVE A PUPPY
TODAY?"

I asked my Mum for a Dragon one Day and
She SHOUTED "NO NO! I thought you asked me
this yesterday."
"They have:

Scaly Armour which swords bounce off.
Wings that can cause the biggest trees to fall.
A tail which leaves destruction in its path.
You just can't have one" Mum said.

"WHY DON'T YOU HAVE A KITTEN
INSTEAD?"

I asked my Mum for a Dragon one day.
If only she knew I got one yesterday.



Hilarious Tragedies - Confused ?

Overton Am. Drams are to be congratulated on an excellent production of the Alan Ayckbourn play "Confusions". The play is composed of 4 one act plays, dealing with potentially sad situations which are rendered comical by the daft but very human ways the characters deal with their situations. In the first play, a house-bound wife spends so much time dealing with her children that she treats her well meaning neighbours like children, letting them leave only after they've drunk their milk. The second play features a middle aged salesman trying to pick up a girl in a hotel bar and getting slowly drunk in the process. Two couples in the middle of marriage breakdown are dining together, in the third play, with two of them unaware that their partners are being unfaithful, and the fourth play is the most disastrous and hilariously funny village fete you've ever seen.

The comedy relies on really funny dialogue which has to be delivered with sharp timing - quite a challenge. Overton Am.drams managed to pull it off and provide an evening of fun and laughter. All the performances were excellent, and although it is unfair to single any actor out, what really will remain in the memory is Mervyn Haynes as the amorous salesman, getting drunker and drunker while his pathetic attempts to get a younger girl into his bedroom are being laughed at not only by the girl but by the audience.

Thank you for a great evening's entertainment -- well done to the whole company. Only one very minor suggestion - some appropriate light music during scene changes, would perhaps avoid the pregnant silences.

Brownie Update



Continuing our centenary celebrations, Overton Brownies attended the Star Quest event at Techniquet, along with other Brownie packs. During the day, the girls had to collect stars, by completing a number of different challenges. They spent time in a planetarium, made their own rockets & launched them. The rockets flew well, with a number of them landing on the roof! At the end of the day, the girls received a special Big Brownie Birthday Star Quest badge.

As part of our ongoing fundraising efforts, a family quiz night was held at The Buck Hotel in Bangor-on-Dee. Good fun was had by all who attended & many thanks go to Karen & all the staff at The Buck for their continuing support of our Brownie pack.

Your Letters...



Dear Editor,

I just wanted to say thank you for the story on Tom and Noreen Haynes in last month's Oracle. My family and I lived in Overton in the mid 50's to 1960 when we emigrated to Canada. I so appreciate being able to read this paper on line, it is always good to still see familiar names, Trena Haynes and I were school mates. I remember going to those dances, the young kids got to go for the early part of the evening, so much fun !!! My Dad was the village constable, Harold Parry, and my Mom Irene spoke fondly of her friends Betty Owen & Joan Edwards. I had the privilege of visiting with Gerry Owen when I was there in 2003. The village is still so quaint and I was able to go in the Church, still very beautiful. Overton will always remain special to me as my last memories of home were there. You can all be proud of the village you live in. *Elaine Mitchell (Parry)*

Edmonton, Alberta Canada

Many thanks to Den Owen who pointed out that Tom Haynes served during WW2 in the Kings Shropshire Light Infantry, not the Royal Welsh Fusiliers as stated in the April edition. Dave Austin

Overton Recreational Club
present
Denny Waters World Famous Liverpool Comedian,
Winner of both Opportunity Knocks & New Faces plus several "Comedians" appearances.
Saturday 10th May 9pm

Coffee Morning & Stalls

Saturday May 10th 10.30am
in the Village Hall
In aid of the Senior Citizens Christmas Party.
Admission 50p on the door incl. coffee & biscuits

Free swimming for the over 50s during Summer school term time. Every Wednesday 11.30am-12.30pm at the Maelor School Penley. Funded by the Penley Rainbow Centre Befriending Service. Book your place on 01948 830730

Overton May Cricket Fixtures

- 3rd - Harpers - Home
- 10th - Hodnet & Peplow - Away
- 17th - Hinstock - Home
- 24th - Trysull & Seisdon - Away
- 31st - Whittington - Home

Overton Outdoors

A quick note to update on the proposed additional pieces of equipment in the Playingfield/Park. As you may have seen in posters around the village - the three pieces of equipment chosen are a nesting swing, a 4 metre activity net and a wooden train (engine and 2 carriages). The funding application has gone in and the final decision will be made on 26 July 2014 and we will know a fortnight following if we have been successful -so keep your fingers crossed. In the meantime, we are planning some fundraising events, these will be advertised in the Oracle, on the village website and posters around the village. Please support us to support this project.

Bullseye Winners

The Darts quiz game (Bullseye) had been played over several weekends at the Overton Recreational Club and resulted in a dramatic final contested by Cynthia Davies & Thomas Dorey and Lisa Owen & Chris Probert who were the eventual winners.



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

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

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

Your community

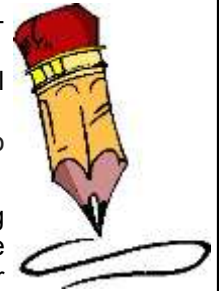


Overton Community Council invites you to 'drop in' on Saturday 17th May, 10.00am to 11.00am in the Parish Room for coffee/tea and chat - an opportunity to come along and speak directly to Councillors and PCSOs about any issues or concerns you may have about your village.

The theme for the May drop-in is 'Community Amenities', the library, medical practise, school, playgroup, local businesses, the Oracle and website etc. Come in and meet the people who are your voice.

Drawing for Beginners

Local artist Leo Donaghy will be running a 2 day course "Drawing for Beginners" at Overton Village Hall on Saturday June 7th & Sunday June 8th 10.00am to 4.00pm



This two day course is fast moving and fun. It is designed for those starting drawing from scratch, or for those who would like to brush up their drawing skills. The aim of the 2 days is to acquire the basic skill to allow one to draw independently.

The cost is £85.00 for the two days, more than 5 people £75 (to include refreshments). If you are interested or would like more details then contact Leo on 01691 691803

The international Oracle

For the first time this edition of the Overton Oracle has been compiled from the USA!

This is because the editor is in California visiting the grandchildren. It has been made possible by the wonder of the internet allowing the editorial committee to keep in touch with each other and check the draft edition by email. Thanks to all of them and the printers who have made this possible.



The Editor

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

Sunday May 4th 10.00am Family Village Praise
Sunday May 11th 11:30am Holy Communion
Sunday May 18th 10.00am Family Communion
Sunday May 25th 11.30am Holy Communion
Thursday May 29th Ascension Day TBA

May Diary for Methodist Chapel Services

Sunday May 4th 6.30pm Evening Service, Rev R Sharples
Sunday May 11th 6.30pm Evening Service David Pickstone
Sunday May 18th 6.30pm Evening Service
Sunday May 25th 11am All Age Worship. No evening service
Every Tuesday 7.30pm Bible Class

Every Saturday 10.30am -12 noon Weekly Coffee
 Mornings at the Methodist Chapel

Thursday May 1st 10.30 - 2.30pm Penley Rainbow Lunch & Learn - Activity: Collage

Thursday May 1st 7.30pm Overton Film Club presents
 "Inside Llewyn Davies" at the Village Hall

Saturday May 10th 10.30am Coffee Morning at the Village Hall
 in aid of the Senior Citizens Christmas Party

Saturday May 10th 9pm Overton Recreational Club present
 Denny Waters World Famous Liverpool Comedian,
 Free to Members. £4 to join

Monday May 12th 10.30am Overton British Legion
 meeting for coffee at Woodlands Deli

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

Wednesday May 14th 12.30pm Overton Lunch Club at
 The White Horse. Booking required.

Thursday May 15th 7.30pm Overton WI Meeting in the
 Parish Room. Speaker: John Parkin on 'An Amazing
 Woman'. Competition: An Animal Ornament.

Saturday May 17th 10 to 11am Overton Community Council
 Drop-In in the Parish Room re 'Community Amenities'

Saturday May 17th 10.30am Cytun (Churches Together)
 Coffee Morning + Bring & Buy at the Methodist Chapel

Tuesday May 20th 7.30pm Overton Twinning AGM upstairs at
 the White Horse

Thursday May 22nd 7am - 10pm European Parliament
 Election in the Parish Room

May we request that any relatives of Mr Albert Edward Evans (passed away Nov. 1951) contact the Clerk to Overton Community Council to discuss the maintenance work which is required, as the headstone in Overton Cemetery appears to be unsafe. Please contact Katrina Chalk, Clerk to OCC on 01978 710055 or email occ.clerk@btinternet.com

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Roy and Ellen Hoare on their Diamond (60th) Wedding Anniversary on May 29th.



Congratulations to Ashley Simon and Rachel Griffiths who were married on 12th April

Congratulations to Mark Whittall and Kate Best on the birth of Ruby Grace, a sister for Harry,

Happy May Birthdays to Grace Sidwell, David Evison, Jenny Bellis, Jade Lyndsey Hayward, Jayne Cornes, Maddie Rouse, Henry Buttress, Eleanor McCusker, Luke Haynes, Andrew Aaron Liu, Elis Per-rin, Olivia Dodwell, Peter Grindley, Chris Worthington, John Dodd, Gail Coupland, John McCusker, Steve Dodwell, Mrs J Dodwell & Janine Austin. Belated Happy Birthday to Molly Roberts

Book a stall

The Overton British Legion branch will be holding their annual Coffee Morning at the Village Hall on Saturday June 14th from 10.30am to 12 noon. Entrance 50p. Stalls £5. To book a stall, please contact Jean Williams on 710423.

**Coffee Morning**

in the Methodist Chapel School Room
on May 17th 10:30am - 12:00pm
 in aid of Cytun (Churches Together). Bring and Buy Stall.
 Everyone Welcome.

Date for the diary Garden Fair at Sansaw Hall near Clive on June 14th in aid of the Shropshire branch of the British Red Cross. More details next month

Overton Oracle AGM Tuesday May 27th 7.30pm at the White Horse. All welcome. Come and join the team.

PLEASE REMEMBER

Copy deadline 20th of the previous month. Get your events & news to us early to avoid disappointment

THIS INCLUDES ADVERTISEMENTS

Leave your contributions, & announcements at the Corner Shop.

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

**Editor - Jill Burton.
 Tel 710631 or e-mail overtonoracle@gmail.com**

All articles and advertisements in the Overton Oracle are published in good faith and without prejudice.

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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