

# The Overton Oracle

Volume 17 Issue 5

Overton's Free Newspaper - delivered to every household monthly

May 2015



## 'See How They Run'

Overton Am Dram's 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> May  
Postponed

## Don't forget

A great night can be had at Overton's 1st Blues, Roots and Real Ale Festival in Overton is on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May. There will be a BBQ organised by St Marys' PTA and all profits will be going to local organisations, and a full programme of 8 bands. On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> there's a hog roast hosted by the Cricket Club starting at 1.30 till 11.30pm. As well as 12 different real ales there will be a full bar plus tea, coffee and cake provided by the Twinning Association. Tickets from the Corner Shop £10 Friday. £25 Saturday a weekend ticket for £30

## Next OCC Drop-in

The next Overton Community Council drop-in will be at the Lunch Club at the White Horse on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May.

## Welshampton Plant Sale

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 12 -3pm at Welshampton Parish Hall. Special Plant Auction and Top Tips from Head Gardener at Eaton Hall

## Date for Diary

Coffee morning in aid of RNLI, Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup> 10am to 12 noon in the Scout Hut

## Spring cleaning Overton



Last month Overton on Dee Community Council held a Spring Community Litter Pick. Sixteen residents turned out on a lovely sunny Saturday to clear the streets of litter and to hopefully raise awareness of 'Keep Wales Tidy' and the 'Pride in Our Streets' initiative. Shane Hughes the local 'Keep Wales Tidy' co-ordinator was there to provide litter picking tools, high viz jackets and rubbish bags and to join in with the event.

After all their hard work the volunteers were treated to coffee and biscuits and this turned into a pleasant social gathering fuelled by plenty of community spirit and the satisfaction of a job well done. Twelve people signed up with Keep Wales Tidy to become Litter Champions and six of these people are members of Overton's Twinning Association whose community spirit knows no bounds.



## All change at the White Horse

Steve and Jane Dodwell have announced that they are leaving the White Horse. They are due to leave in July, subject to being able to hand over to new tenants. They are looking forward to taking time out to have a rest and re-charge the batteries after working 80/90 hours a week for the last 6 years! The high points include the knowledge that they leave the pub on a more sound footing than when they took it over. As well as developing a thriving food business they have generously provided support to many organisations and charities in the village. Jane and Steve have made a lot of friends and will be much missed.

## Musings from the Manse

by Rev'd Phillip Poole



Dear friends,

Have you ever had a really good look at the night sky? On a clear night there are thousands of stars to be seen, and constellations and planets too if you know where to look. And if you look for long enough you will see that everything is moving, silently rotating around the one fixed point in our night sky, the Pole Star.

In a similar way our world is always changing and moving onwards, seemingly faster and faster. Over the years what were once small, sleepy villages have changed into busy towns, and our towns have changed into what seem like small cities. Today's rapidly advancing technology means we can all access information more quickly than ever before, which is often a tremendous benefit - but it's hard to keep up and just when we think we've cracked it some new gadget comes out that baffles us all over again! Even our weather is changing, apparently as a result of global warming, disturbing the pattern of the seasons and sending some of us 'once in a lifetime' floods every few years.

And we are changing too. We used to look in the mirror and see a child, but now we see a grown up - perhaps even, if we're prepared to admit it, an elderly person.

The Bible encourages us to see all of these changes against the background of God's permanence and dependability. God himself is presented as the one fixed point in the universe, the one who never changes and can always be relied on. The Psalmist wrote, "In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain the same, and your years will never end." (Psalm 102), and Hebrews 13 reminds that "Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever."

Thomas Chisholm's wonderful hymn, "Great is thy Faithfulness" has more to say on this: "Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not, as thou hast been, thou forever shalt be - Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!"

Whilst everything else changes, God remains the same. He will always be the same faithful, reliable friend we have always known. We can depend on his love, and we can pray to him knowing that he will always hear us.

God bless you, Rev'd. Phil Poole

## Overton Cricket Fixtures in May

2nd - Trysull & Seisdon - away  
9th - Harcourt - home  
16th - Quatt - home  
23rd - Guilsfield - away  
30th - Acton Reynald - home



email: [overtonoracle@gmail.com](mailto:overtonoracle@gmail.com)

## Country Beat

by PCSO Lynne Maurice



The Eastern Community Safety Department of North Wales Police are at present trialling a TUP Scheme (Temporary Unoccupied Premises) in the Wrexham area. This scheme will allow members of the public to notify us when they are away from home, when they are going on holiday, having a short stay in hospital or working away on a temporary basis.

The scheme will not be available to temporary void properties, businesses, public buildings, schools, houses of multi occupancy, long term unoccupied properties or empty properties that are being refurbished.

The local PCSO's usually get this information from residents when they are out and about but this is a bit more formal. It is a good scheme, so please take the opportunity to use it. You can notify us via email

- at [easterncommsafety@nthwales.pnn.police.uk](mailto:easterncommsafety@nthwales.pnn.police.uk)
- or by writing into the **Community Safety Department, Bodhyfryd, Wrexham, LL12 7BW**
- or by contacting us by phone on **01978 348697 / 348840**.

You can also visit the front desk at Wrexham Police Station, or simply speaking to your local PCSO. Please **do not** call the 101 or 999 to inform us of a TUP.

Lynne Maurice

**PCSO 0151 North Wales Police**

**Overton Police Station Mobile 07854 352 815**

**Phone 01978 348425 / extn. 48425**

email: [lynne.maurice@nthwales.pnn.police.uk](mailto:lynne.maurice@nthwales.pnn.police.uk)

## Community Gardeners required

The Rainbow Centre last year had a wonderful new garden made at the back of the centre. The garden is available to the local community and the service users at the centre. Now we need to maintain it and help it grow. Could you become part of our gardening gang? Do you have time to help us on a monthly basis to clear the weeds away and tie the flowers up etc.? Or/and would you like to look after your own raised planter at the centre? Free coffee and cake will be provided. All help is warmly appreciated. If you would like more information please call us on 01948 830730

## Legion Coffee Morning

Overton British Legion's coffee morning will take place on Saturday 13th June from 10.00am to 12 noon. Tables for the sale of your goods will cost £5. Phone Jean Williams on 710423 to book now!

On **Whit Sunday May 24th** the combined Churches in Overton (Cytun) will hold their annual Whit Walk (not a long walk), starting from the Surgery car park at 2.30pm and finishing with a cup of tea at the Catholic Church.

# Kids Kolumn



This month's contributions are from Frank Macdonald Brown, and James and Luke Reardon

**Are you all ready for the General Election? Here's a giant word search to get you in the mood!**

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

and the words to find -  
 BENNETT, CAMERON, CLEGG, COALITION,  
 CONSERVATIVE, GOVERNMENT, GREEN, LABOUR,  
 LIB DEMS, MILLIBAND, PARLIAMENT,  
 PLAID CYMRU, SNP, STURGEON, WOOD

**Match the Leaders to the parties**

Nick Clegg	Conservatives
Nigel Farage	Liberal Democrats
Plaid Cymru	Green party
Natalie Bennett	Labour
Scottish National Party	
David Cameron	Ed Miliband
UKIP	
Nicola Sturgeon	27 June 2015 - 2pm

## St Mary's April Messy Church

For our Easter themed Messy Church Rev'd David told the tale of Doubting Thomas. 10 candles were lit to represent the 10 disciples who first saw the risen Jesus, one was then added to include Thomas and at the end of the story the children were able to blow the candles out. A marvellous number of people of all ages attended and enjoyed a tea of soup and salad following the messy crafts. We made Easter craft items and went hunting for treasure in the field and had fun with playdoh and colouring. Some of our crafts will soon be on display in St Mary's church. Our next Messy Church is on Sunday May 10<sup>th</sup> 3-5 pm in the Scout Hut *Angharad*

email: [overtonoracle@gmail.com](mailto:overtonoracle@gmail.com)

## Overton to Snowdon and back!

Gary Wyn-Jones Headteacher of St Marys School will be cycling from Overton to Snowdon - and back - on Saturday June 6th to raise money for a defibrillator - a life saving piece of equipment which will hopefully never have to be used, but would be available for the children and adults in school as well as the local community.

Any parent who would like to accompany him for all or some of the 140 miles is welcome as is sponsorship for the trip.

For more information contact the school on 01978 710370 or email [mailbox@stmarys-overton-pri.wrexham.sch.uk](mailto:mailbox@stmarys-overton-pri.wrexham.sch.uk)

## Twinning Supper with Wine Tasting at the Pop-Up Bistro

In the rafters fairy lights twinkled, on the tables tealights glowed, and on the walls pictures of France reminded us of holidays past, was this really Overton's Scout Hut?! The scene was set in our very own on-trend pop-up Bistro for an evening of feasting, tasting and animated chat! The copious quantities of delicious home-made dishes were very well received by all and the positive feedback at the end of the evening left the organisers happy and satisfied that everyone had had an excellent time. And that was hardly surprising. Where else could you feast on such quality, taste 6 French wines, drink several glasses of your choice and finish up with cheese, crackers, chocolate and coffee, and all for a tenner! Oh, and with an ice-breaker Quiz to test your knowledge of France thrown in.

Thanks very much to everyone who came along on and supported the Twinning. We raised over £500 clear profit, every penny of which will go towards welcoming our twinning friends from La Murette in August. As always, the organising team worked willingly and long. Dishes, including quiches of all sorts, and pates, too, a variety of salads surpassing any salad bar ever seen, home-made bread and much more were all churned out in a most professional manner. What talent and skills were on display that evening.

But I think we all agreed that the star of show, its light long hidden under a bushel, was the Scout Hut itself! Who knew it could brush up so well? The perfect cosy venue for those occasions when numbers fall short to fill our excellent village hall. Finally thanks to David and Rachel at the Scout Hut, to Katrina for the extra chairs and to the whole team for their dedication and hard work. It couldn't be done without you.



## In memory of Stanley Haynes 1895 - 1915

May is the centenary of the death of Stanley Haynes whose name is on the Overton War Memorial. Stanley was killed at Gallipoli on 28<sup>th</sup> May 1915. He was 19 years old.

The family were from Dudleston and when Stanley was born they lived at Deeside, Sodyllt. His father George was a timber feller/woodman and his mother was Sarah. There were 4 rooms in the cottage (2 up, 2 down). Stanley's brothers and sisters were Ann b1879, Henry b1882, Elizabeth b1884, Florence b1885, Julia b1887, George b1888, Mary b1889, Edward b1891, then Stanley on 6<sup>th</sup> July 1895, twins John and Harriet b1896, and finally Ernest b1898. That is 12 children in all, although they did not all live at home at the same time; the older ones would have left for employment before the younger ones were born.

By 1911 the family were living at Lilac Cottage, Bangor Road, Overton, George was employed as a labourer on the farm and woods (presumably on the Bryn y Pys estate). Of the children only John and Harriet the twins and Ernest who was at school, were still at home. John age 17 was an usher/footman at Bryn y Pys Hall. Ernest in later life was to run a shoe shop in the High St where Overton Antiques is now. But Stanley age 15 had already left home and was living at Gwalia Farm, Knolton where he was a pig feeder.

The outbreak of World War I provided Stanley, as it did for many lads, an opportunity to see the world. Stanley enlisted in Liverpool on 9<sup>th</sup> November 1914 and joined the Royal Marine Light Infantry. He was a Private in the Plymouth Division /Short Service, No. PLY/597/S. In 1915 they were sent to Gallipoli. The 8 month campaign in Gallipoli was fought by Commonwealth and French forces in an attempt to force Turkey out of the war, to relieve the deadlock of the Western Front in France and Belgium, and to open a supply route to Russia through the Dardanelles and the Black Sea.

The Allies landed on the peninsula from 25 April 1915; the 29th Division at Cape Helles in the south at 'S,' 'V,' 'W,' 'X' and 'Y' beaches, 5 small coves near the southern end of the peninsula. The landing at 'Y' Beach was carried out by the 1st King's Own Scottish Borderers and the Plymouth Battalion of the Royal Naval Division of which Stanley was a part.

At some time after this Stanley was wounded. He was taken to the 11<sup>th</sup> Casualty Clearing Station where he died of his wounds on 28<sup>th</sup> May 1915. Stanley Haynes is buried in Grave B4 at the Lancashire Landing Cemetery near Helles in Turkey and is remembered on Overton War Memorial.



### Dear Editor,

I have been somewhat chary of introducing a note of dissension on the subject of the constantly advertised 'Twinning Nonsense'. The whole ethos of twinning, introduced after World War II was to foster reconciliation. As the French were on our side I fail to see what we are doing getting involved in a twinning arrangement with them. After the war there was considerable goodwill towards Germany. I remember the Oberkirchen Kinder choir coming to Llangollen to sing. I joined the army soon after and marched at my "pass out parade" to the band playing the same tune. On posting to Germany I arrived at Oberkirchen and those years were the happiest of my life. I was there a total of about 6 years. They could not have been a kinder friendlier people.

*John Littleton*

### Plea for Talent

Overton Amateur Dramatics are producing a musical evening later this year and although we have had some fantastic talent in our society, we are in search of much more for our next project. This musical evening will go ahead if enough volunteers come forward. We are in need of -

- Singers of all ages from the young to the much more mature, men, women, teenagers. We know it will be difficult to find singers in the more mature bracket because well, they will be too shy or feel they are not good enough. But if you can hold a tune then give it a go, this could be your 15 mins of local fame.
- Teenagers are needed for a singing/dancing routine.
- Musicians also, for the musical section of the evening, mainly flutes/clarinets, concertina/piano accordion, violins, xylophones, musical bells etc. Sorry but large instruments like the piano would be impractical.

Each section will only last for 10-15mins, so nothing will be too challenging. You don't have to be a professional to take part, although that would be great. If the men can hold a tune then give it a go; there is a place for you. Don't let your hidden talent go to waste. Although the programme is subject to change, the first draft is ready now.

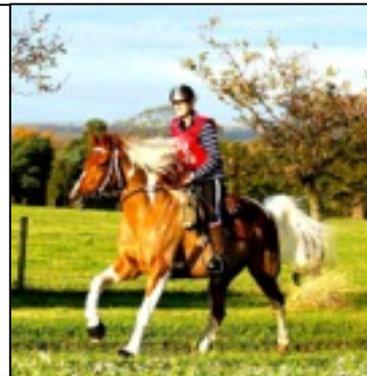
If interested please drop a note with your contact details through my door or email

[haynes1954@hotmail.com](mailto:haynes1954@hotmail.com) or ring me early evening on 01978 710740. This will be a time to remember.

*Mervyn Haynes, 5 Turning Street, Overton*

## Congratulations

Big congratulations to Alix Natrass and her horse Tigga of Maelor Court here in Overton in achieving second place in the National Sport Endurance Horse riding competition for 2014, pipped by only 20 points by Julie Griffiths who lives in the Birmingham area and became national champion. This was achieved over 15 weekends in various locations around the country, riding up to 30 miles on each ride, passing 2 or sometimes 3 vet checks which are very vigorous due to the distances and the welfare of the horses, and also completing the distance within a set time.



## Going up in the world



When Alan Edwards was asked if he would like to fetch one of his bosses from Hawarden Airport he couldn't believe his luck when he had the chance to fly by helicopter. Alan loved it.

## Snooker Finals

The Whitchurch Snooker and Billiards League Finals took place in Overton Recreational Club on the last week in March. It was an excellent week of snooker and billiards and was enjoyed by everyone who attend.

The winner of the Snooker Final was Chris Chapman of Malpas Sports and the Billiards winner was Mike Dorey also from Malpas Sports.

## St Mary's School News

It was with great anticipation that children from the Early Years department awaited the solar eclipse on 20th March. By pure coincidence our topic of 'Light and Dark' has taken us to explore deepest, darkest space and all its wonders, including the way our Earth is warmed by the sun and the beauty in our moon and stars in the night sky.

We donned our special eclipse glasses and took shelter in our outdoor classroom as the eclipse began at the start of our school day; the children were amazed at the shape that the moon was creating over the path of the sun and we saw the sky darken and felt a chill in the air. We also had been given a 'Solar Scope' by the Leigh family, where we saw a reflection of the sun safely projected on a special screen ~ it was a magnificent experience to share with our friends and family members, one that we were glad to have experienced together and one that we will remember for a very long time!



## The Church and Same Sex Marriage meeting

Some of the issues that we face as a Church can seem quite daunting. They are difficult because there are widely held different views and all the people involved hold those opinions in good faith. One such issue is that of 'Same Sex Marriage'. The Bishops of the church in Wales have asked for information from the parishes as to how people feel about the various options facing us as a Church before they plan the way forward. We have three options: to remain as we are, to allow the blessing of same sex partnerships in church, or to allow people of the same sex to marry in church as they already can in civil ceremonies.

To this end we will be holding an open meeting in St Mary's on Wednesday May 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. We will listen to all viewpoints including those people most personally affected. It won't be a debate as such; it will be a listening process, a process known as 'Indaba' and used to good effect in the last Bishop's Lambeth Conference. The idea being not to change the mind of another and to get them to agree, but to help the other to understand why I think as I do, and in turn for me to understand why they think as they do.

We will need to be aware that we will be talking about issues that affect people if not in our own family, then in the families of friends and neighbours in the church and village. I'll be there to facilitate the process and to try and answer any questions you may have. I will be prepared to state my view at the end of the process if asked to do so.

## Tapestry unveiled

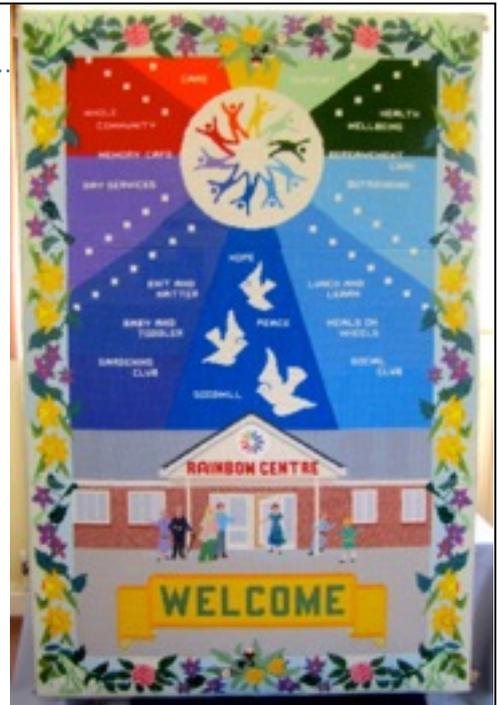
The official unveiling of the Rainbow Tapestry took place on 17th April at the Penley Rainbow Centre. The event began with an enjoyable concert with classical baritone Peter Edge singing an array of music from Handel's Messiah to the musical hit show, Showboat.

After the performance, the magnificent new Rainbow Tapestry designed by Marjory Armitage, assisted by Wendy Crutchley and executed by Mrs Corinne Forbes Evans was unveiled. The tapestry demonstrates great skill and has been warmly welcomed by the centre and all who come to the centre.

The tapestry demonstrates very effectively the work the Rainbow Centre performs and clearly illustrates how Rainbow is a buzzing community hub for people of all ages. The Rainbow Centre would like to thank everyone involved in making and designing the tapestry and for all the community for supporting us.

The Tapestry is a wonderful new addition to the Rainbow Centre.

See colour photo on [www.overtonoracle.com](http://www.overtonoracle.com)



## Playcentre News

Here at the Playcentre we thank those who supported our 3 Easter fundraisers. We are proud to announce that an Easter raffle, Bingo and children's party raised a total of £540. This money as always is essential to the Playcentre and very much appreciated. We wish to thank all those who very kindly donated Easter Eggs, Raffle prizes, (including, Home Farm, Simon Everett Photography) & cakes, (M.Evans Butchers & the Woodlands Deli), a special thank you goes to the Overton Club for arranging the venue and loan of the bingo machine and to the school for the loan of the microphone, without which our bingo caller would have lost their voice! Finally the biggest thank you goes to all those who brought the raffle tickets, or attended the bingo or the party. Without you nothing would have been successful.

The Playcentre has had a busy time with lots of excitement, as our eggs have been hatching! The children have had great delight in watching them hatch, having a hold and of course making the big decision of naming them! We have a Frank, Batman, Superwoman, Robyn, Isabella and Wilma so far! The children do well to recognise each of them as to me they all look the same!! Now that the sun is starting to shine the staff and children are having lots of fun playing outside for longer and enjoying the new outdoor slide and other equipment which we were able to buy last year after improving the back garden. They too like the now completed painted wall which features all the village shops.

*Sarah Evans*

More photos from the Overton Litter pick, and refreshments for volunteers in the Scout Hut after a good mornings work.



Adverts are not included in the on-line archived edition of the Oracle.

This is because the archive of the Oracle is available on-line going back many years and the adverts and contact details would be out of date

