

# The Overton Oracle



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November 2010

Overton's Free Newspaper - issued monthly

## Lest we forget



This year is the 90th anniversary of the unveiling of the memorial tablet in St Mary's Church for the "Men of the Parish who fell in the War 1914 - 1918". (see left) The Memorial Tablet was unveiled in 1920 by Brig-General Lloyd with the words, "We people of Overton are gathered here as one family to remember those whom we have known and loved in this place, and who, by sea and land, have in this war given their lives for their country and for us. May we never forget what we owe them, and try always to follow their example of love and sacrifice".



Ninety years later villagers will gather at the Cenotaph on Sunday November 14th 10.50pm to remember those who fell in war. The sale of poppies in the village is organised by Overton British Legion. Their membership is now down to 16 (from 90 in the 1920s). So this year don't just buy a poppy but think about giving your support by joining the Legion to help safeguard the welfare, interests and memory of those who are serving or who have served in the Armed Forces. Today there is even more need to support our young soldiers and their families. The Legion welcomes men and women of all ages, whether they have served in the Armed Forces or not. Contact Gerry Owen on 710792 for more details.

## Royal visit to the Maelor School

The Maelor School, Penley was recently honoured to receive a visit from the Queen of Lesotho during her tour of the Wrexham area. The queen attended a short assembly in the school hall when the school choir sang a traditional Lesotho song, followed by a tour of the school.

The queen thanked the students and staff for their support of St Saviour's School in Leribe, Lesotho. Students and teachers have visited each other regularly backed by Dolen Cymru, and a close partnership has evolved between the two schools.



## Review of the Overton Conservation Area

Everyone is welcome to come along to Overton Parish Room on Thursday 4th November between 3.30pm and 7.00pm to see the Draft Character and Management Plan of the Overton Conservation Area prepared by the Planning Department of Wrexham County Borough Council. An officer of the council will be present to answer any queries.

The Overton Conservation Area was first designated in 1971. A review of the existing protection measures has been undertaken and it is proposed that additional measures be introduced to safeguard the historic features and fabric of the entire area. The plan seeks to ensure that the special character and appearance of the Conservation Area is preserved or enhanced for future generations.

The proposals will also be displayed in the reception area of the Lampit Street Offices in Wrexham from Monday 1st November until Friday 12th November. The council will be grateful to receive views or suggestions on any aspect of these proposals by Friday 12th November.

## Ramblings From the Rectory

by David Lewis



Dear Friends,

Lieutenant Stefan Weismann was a German medical officer serving on the Somme in 1916. Here is his description of that unimaginable hell that cost so many lives.

*"For a full week we were under incessant bombardment. Day and night, the shells came upon us. Our dugouts crumbled. They would fall on top of us and we'd have to dig ourselves and our comrades out. Sometimes we would find them suffocated or smashed to pulp. Soldiers in the bunkers became hysterical - they wanted to run out, and fights developed to keep them in the comparative safety of our deep bunkers. Even the rats became hysterical and came into our flimsy shelters to seek refuge from this terrific artillery fire. For 7 days and 7 nights we had nothing to eat and nothing to drink while shell after shell burst upon us."* (from 'Lest We Forget' by Max Arthur)

That brief description by a German medical officer to me illustrates vividly why it is so important that we keep the tradition of Remembrance alive on the Second Sunday of November. Because we should never forget the terrible cost of life that war brings.

As I write this in mid October, we have been celebrating National Poetry Day. To me there is no more vivid poetry than those which came out of the First World War. And one of the saddest poems comes from Rudyard Kipling. **'My Boy Jack'** is a 1915 poem which Kipling wrote after his beloved son, went missing in the battle of Loos during World War I. It was years before Kipling and his family had Jack's death confirmed. They had to endure long years of uncertainty. The grief that Kipling felt was channeled into this poem.

'Have you news of my boy Jack?'

*Not this tide.*

'When d'you think that he'll come back?'

*Not with this wind blowing, and this tide.*

'Has anyone else had word of him?'

*Not this tide.*

*For what is sunk will hardly swim,  
not with this wind blowing, and this tide.*

'Oh, dear, what comfort can I find?'

*None this tide, Nor any tide,*

*except he did not shame his kind -*

*Not even with that wind blowing, and that tide.*

*Then hold your head up all the more,*

*this tide, and every tide;*

*because he was the son you bore,  
and gave to that wind blowing and that tide!*

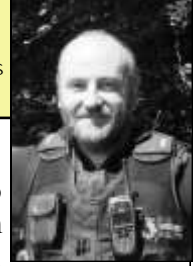
For me those words by Kipling really do convey the sense of loss and despair that must have hit so many families. There can be no better testament to the despair and hopelessness that war brings. Remembrance Sunday reminds us all that

**WE SHOULD NEVER FORGET!**

Every blessing, David

## COUNTRY BEAT

by Constable Stephen Evans



Hello everybody,

Yet again Overton has been subject to acts of vandalism. The Overton map in the park, glass in the telephone kiosk, paint thrown at the public conveniences and the glass of the two ornamental lights to the entrance of the church have all suffered damage. If anybody can offer any evidence or information please get in touch.

Government spending cuts are now in the open and we will now have to wait to see what impact this will have on the police service. I do however have it on good authority that neighbourhood policing will remain in one form or another.

The role of the CBM is already changing from what has previously been seen as the public face of North Wales police, into a more dynamic role, having more scope to deal with the criminal activity that unfortunately continues around us. This may mean you will see less of me (we don't see him now I hear you shout). Only joking, this just means I'm being pulled away from the village fetes and the traditional role of community policing etc so that I can concentrate on tackling the criminals out there.

I will still have overall responsibility for the Overton and surrounding area and please don't think I am disappearing. You will continue to see Beth and Jemma as you do now and if you have a problem that you would like to discuss with me then please don't hesitate to get in touch.

As ever thank you for your continuing support.

Steve

Bronington & Overton Community Beat Manager.  
Overton Police Station,  
Station Road,  
Overton LL13 0EF

Tel: 0845 6071002 ext:48425

Mobile: 07966 086868

E-Mail: [Stephen.Evans@nthwales.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Stephen.Evans@nthwales.pnn.police.uk)

## Traffic Calming Meeting

The next meeting of the Traffic Calming Group will be on Monday November 15th at 7.00pm in the Overton Parish Room

## HELLO

Millie Hinsley wishes to be remembered to anyone who knew her during her Overton days. She now lives in Pennsylvania USA but unfortunately is in hospital at present with a balance problem.

## Gold medal for local girl

Congratulations to Overton gymnast Dani Jones who won a Gold Medal with the winning team in Grade 2 Trio floor exercise at the competition hosted by Wigan Seagulls Acro Clubs from all over England Scotland and Wales were competing.

Olivia Dodwell Clee from Asney, was in the Grade 1 Trio team that was placed 6th in the competition. Both girls belong to the Abbey Road Acro Club of Wrexham.



Olivia on L. and Dani on R.

## Overton Medical Practice

The next 'Flu Vaccination' Clinics are in November Those patients in the At Risk category, over 65 or pregnant should make an appointment.

Jackie Egerton, receptionist is leaving to join a practice in Whitchurch which is nearer for her to get to. Recruitment for her replacement is underway. Anwen Jones is joining us as a student Practice Nurse. The one year full-time Postgraduate Course is run by Glyndwr Uni. Anwen has a First Class Degree in Nursing and previously worked as a Surgical Nurse in Yale Hospital.

There is rather a nuisance issue which we would like to ask parents to help with. Children are using the Practice car park as a cyclo-cross course. Could we ask that those concerned are spoken to as they are marking the pavement and becoming a problem.

## Playgroup News

**Turkey raffle update.** If you still wish to win a Turkey you will be able to buy your quiz for only £1. Keep an eye open, as these will be available to purchase from various outlets within the village or from Overton playgroup.

**Wondering what to buy for Christmas?** You need wonder no more! Come and buy your Christmas presents at a fantastic Christmas Fair which will be held at Overton village hall on Friday 3rd December at 7pm.

Stalls include Jamie Oliver at home, Barefoot Books, Phoenix, Mexican Jewellery, Manicures, Cake Stalls and much much more.

There will be refreshments and cakes available and the bar will also be open.

Tickets will be on sale at Overton Playgroup or on the door. Watch out for posters for further details. Christmas present buying couldn't be simpler.

**A big thank you** to all those involved in organising the Christmas Fair, especially Danielle Baker and Nicola.

# Kids Kolumn

by Alice Foster, Lydia Biggs and Lottie Blake



*Hi guys, It's November.*

*It's nearly bonfire night*

*Are you ready for the fireworks?*

November Birthstone: Topaz

November star signs: Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)  
Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

November fact: November was called "Blood Month" by the ancient Saxons because that was the month they sacrificed animals to their gods.

### Jokes

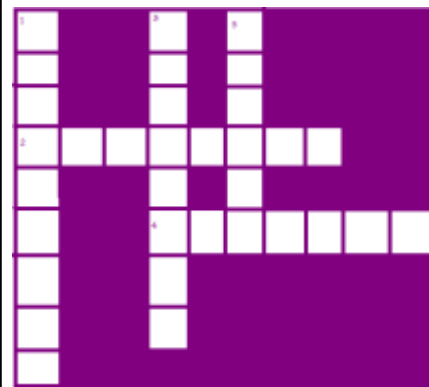
Mother: How was your first day at school?

Son: *I t was all right except for some man called "Teacher" who kept spoiling all our fun !*

If athletes get athlete's foot, what do astronauts get ? *Missile toe !*

Father: Why did you get such a low score in that test ? *Son: Absence*

Father: You were absent on the day of the test ?



*Son: No but the boy who sits next to me was !*

### Down.

- 1) A straw man usually burnt on bonfires
- 3) The 11<sup>th</sup> month
- 5) One of the cooler seasons

## Lunch Club

The next Overton Lunch Club is on Wednesday November 10th at 12.30pm at the White Horse. The menu will be Cottage Pie followed by Apple Crumble.

The December Overton Lunch Club is on Wednesday December 8th at 12.30pm at the White Horse. The menu will be Traditional Christmas Lunch and will be followed by musical entertainment.

To book for either please ring Gwynneth Austin on 710672.

## My trip to Uganda Pt 2 by Carol Dykes

Here is the second part of Carol's experiences of her recent trip to

*Uganda with the Groundlevel Foundation Trust.*

When Richard our founder went to Uganda at the beginning of last year, he went to see the displacement camp on the border. There he found the mass graves of mutilated bodies. He obtained a piece of ground from the Governor to give them a proper Christian burial and also bought beds for the clinic.

While we were out in Uganda we also visited the camp. It took a 6 hour drive. There is so much poverty and disease; the smell was horrendous. You see it on TV but you don't realise how bad it is until you are there. I held a baby that was so tiny, her mum was crying, her other daughter aged about 8 years was holding another baby who I thought was about 9 or 10 months old until one of the health workers explained to me that it was the twin of the tiny baby that I had in my arms! The mother had had to choose as she didn't have enough milk to feed them both. We returned 1 hour later after a walk and a prayer at the graves. I picked the tiny baby back up from her mother but she was dead. I lost it, it was heart breaking. I never want to see or experience anything like that again. I cried for 2 days. I will never forget how useless I felt.

The only consolation is that we are helping in other ways by building schools and giving some children a chance to have some education, and to teach some of the parents health issues. Where we are working is in the bush, a very rural area, and although they have their own language they do also speak English. This did help!

If anyone would like to know more or see some photographs please contact me on 710794. And thank you once again to all who sponsored me, your support and generosity really helped. If you would like to sponsor me or donate any money, every penny counts. I will carry on fundraising and we still have a lot of work to do. If anyone would like to be involved please let me know.

## A history walk on the Bryn y Pys Estate

On a sunny afternoon in September Overton and Lyneal WI members, along with a sprinkling of husbands, were taken on a most enjoyable and informative walk around the Bryn y Pys estate led by Tim Rosselli. As we strolled through the grounds we learnt about some of the history of the original hall and it's surroundings, about what happened during the war as well as before and after, and why the house was, unfortunately, eventually demolished. We saw the remains and the converted stables, which is now the Rosselli's home and enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea in the barn courtesy of Claire and our WI members who kindly provided sandwiches and cakes.

Thank you to Tim and Claire for inviting us, and showing us some great photos of an important part of our local history.



*WI members at Bryn y Pys*

## Overton Cubs and Scouts reach the top

Cubs and scouts from Overton Scout Group recently had an

enjoyable visit to St Mary's Church, culminating in a climb up the church tower and on to the roof! A lovely evening provided wonderful views over the village. Many thanks to Church Warden Euan Stevenson who showed everyone around and climbed the tower twice!

This autumn has seen a rapid growth in numbers particularly in the Beaver colony which has seen the numbers shoot up to 20. The Scout troop is delighted to

welcome new members and now has as many girls in the troop as boys.

There are now over 40 members in the 4 sections of the Overton Scout Group and we look forward to seeing many of them on parade at the Overton Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday on November 14th.



## Organ Recital



A date to put in your diary will be Saturday 11th December. Dr Anthony Hammond will be giving an organ recital in St Mary's Church, Overton. Dr Hammond was born in Shrewsbury, and began to study the

organ when he was a pupil at Oswestry School. He is now Organist & Director of Music at Cirencester Parish Church.

The evening is to raise funds for the Friends of St. Mary's which helps to raise funds for the maintenance, care and improvement of the historic building that is our parish church. Tickets are available from the Corner Shop, the Chemist or 01978 710219

## "On Monday next"

The Overton Amateur Dramatic Society's next play will be "On Monday Next" by Philip King. Performances will be at the Village Hall on the 25th, 26th and 27th November.

"On Monday next" was previously produced by the society in the Village Hall over 40 years ago. The photo below is from the first performance.

How many actors in the 1968/69 production can you recognise in this photo taken at the time?



## W. I. Handicraft Results

At the September W I Handicrafts Show the joint winners were Mrs Jean Hughes and Mrs Beaty Roberts who won the Mrs Wright's Cup for the most points. The runner-up cup was won by Mrs Josie Ralphs. Mrs Dilys Parkinson won the salver for best sewing item and Mrs Beaty Roberts won the salver for the best craft item and also the Art Cup for the best painting. Mrs Sue Foulkes won the cup for best photo.

A big thank you to all who helped and entered.

## Come dine in Overton

The long awaited locally filmed episodes of Channel 4s programme "Come Dine with me" are to be broadcast in November. The contestants are Nadine Leese of Overton, Maria Wynne from Penley, James Stevens from Penycrae and Stephen Housego from Chirk.

Viewers will see the four contestants take turns to prepare for and host a dinner party in their homes for the other three competitors. Each host is then given a score out of 10, the winner receiving a prize of £1,000. The shows were originally filmed in December 2008 but are now scheduled to be broadcast on Channel 4 TV in the last week of November but the final dates won't be confirmed till the beginning of November. So keep an eye on your TV times.

## School Reunion

There will be a 60s and 70s Overton School reunion on 27th November from 7pm at the White Horse, High Street, Overton.

The buffet will be £10 a head and the closing date for tickets is 18th November.

For more information or tickets please contact Gordon Whitfield 07971 805066 or email whitfieldgh@yahoo.com or

Steve Andrews on 01978 710369

or email stephenandrews100@btinternet.com

## History Group



Another mystery to solve. This gentleman looks like another picture of 'Harry the pig man' whose picture was in an earlier Oracle but no one can remember his name. The picture was taken in the backyard of Coracle Terrace with Deva Terrace in the background. But what is he so proudly showing off? A carved corner cupboard? and did he make it? Let us know if you recognise it.

The next meeting of the History Group will be November 16th 7.30pm upstairs in the White Horse.

### Michael Burks at Village Hall



Following the success of the 3 previous gigs presented at Overton Village Hall, the next is to be on November 12th.

It is in fact a coup as it will be the first ever appearance in this country of one of the biggest current acts in the USA, Michael Burks and his full American band. For a taster of what to expect see

Youtube clips such as the instrumental version of "House of the Rising Sun" and the Free classic "Fire and Water".

There is already much interest in this gig as apart from Overton, he is only performing in London and at the Carlisle Blues Festival. Local fans can buy tickets from Wason's and The Corner Shop. It is anticipated that the gig will sell out. Tickets cost £15 and for further information ring 01948 770215.

### Thank you

Neil, Debbie & Sophie Edwards would like to thank Margaret Matthews for organising a car boot sale & prize draw in aid of Sophie's trust fund. Thanks also to all who baked or donated prizes for the draw held in Overton Rec. Club. Also thanks to the White Horse for their donation after the skittle night. It is all much appreciated.

### Senior Citizens Christmas Party

This always enjoyable annual event will take place in the village hall on Tuesday 7th Dec at 3.30 pm. Invitations will be going out soon. If there are any senior citizens in the village who would like to go to the party but have not received an invitation by mid-November, they should contact Keith Overthrow on 710544 or June Owen on 710944.

### Overton Website

Just a reminder that if your organisation is not featured on the Overton village website then contact Jacky Maskall on 710328 or e-mail [info@overton-on-dee.co.uk](mailto:info@overton-on-dee.co.uk) to have your details added.

If you are a commercial organisation and you want to advertise on the village website, then e-mail [advert@overton-on-dee.co.uk](mailto:advert@overton-on-dee.co.uk) (**NOT** [ads@overton-on-dee.co.uk](mailto:ads@overton-on-dee.co.uk) as advertised last month).

The current Overton village website [www.overton-on-dee.co.uk](http://www.overton-on-dee.co.uk) will have a new look in January 2011.

### Bishop's Visit to Overton

The Bishop of St Asaph's visitation will be on Sunday December 5th. The Deanery Eucharist will be at St Mary's Church, Overton at 11.00am.

There will be Fish and Chip lunch in the Village Hall at 12.30pm. Tickets are £2 from the Church wardens. The Visitation is at 1.45pm. Everyone who holds a license in the Deanery is asked to attend.

Everyone is welcome. Please join us to celebrate Bishop Gregory's visit to our deanery.

## WHAT'S ON

### November Diary for St Mary's Services

- Sunday November 7th** 11:30am Holy Eucharist  
**Sunday November 14th** 10.50am Act of Remembrance  
 11.00am Remembrance Service  
**Sunday November 21st** 11.30am Holy Eucharist  
**Advent Sunday November 28th**  
 10.00am Family Eucharist & coffee  
 5.00pm Deanery Advent Service in Hanmer
- Methodist Chapel Services Sunday evenings** 6.30pm
- Tuesday November 2nd** 2.30pm St Mary's School  
 Remembrance Service in St Mary's Church  
 All are welcome.
- Monday November 8th** 7.30pm The Churches Together  
 AGM in the Roman Catholic Hall.
- Tuesday November 9th** Overton Community Council  
 meeting in the Parish Room. Members of the  
 public may speak between 7.20 – 7.30pm.
- Wednesday November 10th** 12.30pm Lunch Club at the  
 White Horse. Booking required
- Friday November 12th** Michael Burks and his full  
 American band at Overton Village Hall. Tickets  
 £15 from 01948 770215, Wason's and The  
 Corner Shop.
- Monday November 15th** 7.00pm The next Traffic  
 Calming meeting in the Parish Room
- Tuesday November 16th** 7.30pm Overton History  
 Group meeting upstairs at the White Horse.
- Wednesday November 17th 7.30pm** Maelor Music  
 Society – Ardeo String Quartet in the Maelor  
 School Hall, Penley. For membership or tickets  
 contact Bob Evers 01948 770633
- Thursday November 18<sup>th</sup>** 7.30pm WI meeting in the  
 Parish Room. Speaker: Mrs F Robinson on  
 "Marie Curie Nursing". Comp: 'A Paperweight'.
- November 25th 26th and 27th** Overton Am Dram  
 production of "On Monday Next", a comedy by  
 Phillip King in the Village Hall
- Saturday November 27th** 7pm 1960s and 70s  
 Overton School reunion at the White Horse
- Tuesday November 30<sup>th</sup>** 7pm Film for 8pm Overton  
 Film Club in Village Hall 'Greenberg'.
- Friday December 3rd** 7pm. Playgroup Christmas Fayre  
 at Overton Village Hall
- Friday December 3rd** 7.30pm Maelor Music Society  
 Christmas Supper Evening.
- Tuesday 7th December** 3.30 pm Overton Senior  
 Citizens Christmas Party at the Village Hall.

## FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Congratulations** to Jane Williams on the birth of a son, a brother for Amy and Sophie and a grandson for Stephen & Linda Andrews.

**Happy November Birthdays** to George Buttress, Anita Brown, Lydia Evison, Pearl Edwards, Hugo Hunter, Edward Pugh, Pauline Dodd, Andrew Maskall, Mike Done, Rob Piggott, Phil Edwards and Jacky Maskall.

**Happy Birthday** to Nick Russell whose 30th birthday is on December 1st.

**Belated congratulations** to Rob Piggott & Nicole Netzband on their engagement.

**Sincere condolences** to the family and friends of Mair Edge.

**Sincere condolences** to the family and friends of Mrs Elsie Thomas formerly of Quinta Cottage, Overton. She lived for many years in Erbistock before moving to Quinta Cottage and then, in 2001, to Pembrokeshire to live with her son and daughter-in-law.

### 'Christmas Flower Arrangements'

Demonstration by Laura Evison  
 on Thursday 9th December at 7.30pm in the Village Hall  
 Seasonal refreshments including mince pies  
 Everyone Welcome

## FOR SALE

Come along to the  
 Carers & Toddler Group  
 10am to 12 noon  
 Every Wednesday  
 in the Methodist Chapel Schoolroom

### 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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