

The Overton Oracle

Volume 23 Issue 11

November 2021

Overton's Free Newspaper - delivered to every household monthly for 22 years



Pudsey Day

Children in Need this year is on Friday 19th November. Look out for posters with details of a village fundraising on the day.



Festive Coffee Morning

at Church of Our Lady and The Welsh Martyrs, Overton, on Sat Nov 27th 10.30am to 12 noon. Tickets £1.50 to include Tea/Coffee and a Mince Pie. Christmas Raffle and Festive stalls.



School Open Morning

Please join us for our Open Morning at St Mary's CIW VA School, Overton for prospective Nursery and Reception parents and children on Wednesday 3rd November, to have a tour of our school and grounds (including our extensive forest school areas). To pre book your appointment slot, please phone 01978 710370 or contact the office at mailbox@stmarys-overton-pri.wrexham.sch.uk

Please note due to covid restrictions you must pre-book an appointment time. You can also check out information about our school at <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysCIWSchool/>

Ma Baker update

We are working as hard as we can to get the bakery ready, but it is now looking like we won't be able to get the ovens fired up until mid - November. If you keep an eye on my Instagram (@mabakerbakes) or wish to join my newsletter, (email me at mabakerbakes@gmail.com.) I will let you know when bread is ready for pre-order and pick up. It will be worth the wait. Looking forward to baking for you. Liz

Overton War Memorial is 100 years old!

On 10th November 1921 a ceremony was held to unveil and dedicate the Overton War Memorial. Public subscriptions had raised £170, and Ernest Jones whose premises were at the rear of the Cocoa and Reading Rooms, was commissioned to construct the memorial of red Runcorn stone. At the same time a footpath was constructed from the Rectory to the corner of Willow Street.

It was also in the same year that the British Legion was founded in London. In Overton the British Legion started on 21st March 1939, so has now been in existence in the village for 82 years. The "Royal" appellation was attached to the British Legion on 29th May 1971.

The Overton Branch Royal British Legion have a collection of photographs dating back to the unveiling ceremony in 1921 and also pictures of other events over the years. These photographs will be

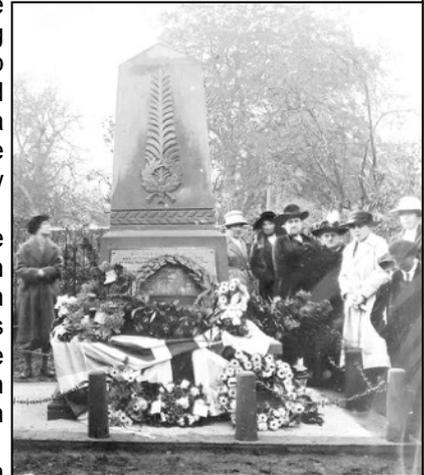


Photo by kind permission of Myra Worthington. Far R: Elizabeth Ellen Jones. 3rd from R: Ann Hughes, 5th from R: Mary Hughes, 6th from right: Susannah Jones.



of some of the people shown. We hope you will enjoy seeing this portion of village history.

Jean Williams

Branch Secretary, Royal British Legion – Overton on Dee Branch

Remembrance Sunday 14th November 2021

After not being able to commemorate Remembrance Sunday in the usual way for two years, this year there will be a service in St. Mary's Church following the 11am silence at the Cenotaph.

Due to Covid 19 regulations it will not be possible to accommodate as many people in the Church as pre Pandemic. Therefore if you would like to attend it would assist the Church to monitor numbers if you could contact Joanne Kember on 01978 710624 or email overton@maelormissionarea.uk before 14th November. Face coverings will need to be worn during the indoor service, and track and trace details will be required.

We do hope that as many as possible will attend which although not in the most perfect of circumstances, is a huge step forward from the situation last year. We look forward to seeing you there.

Musings from the Manse

.....
by Rev'd. Richard Parkes



Dear friends,
The murder of Sir David Amess was awful. When I heard the news, I was stunned and upset. We expect politicians to meet people, we expect them to be accessible, and when that accessibility is abused in this most awful way, it is shocking.

Since 1979, 6 MPs have been murdered. Airey Neave escaped from Colditz during the war, only to have his car bombed in 1979 by the INLA (a splinter Irish Republican group). Then there were Rev. Robert Bradford (a Methodist Minister), Sir Anthony Berry and Ian Gow, all murdered by the IRA. Jo Cox was killed, like Sir David Amess and Robert Bradford, whilst attending a constituency surgery. She was murdered by a white supremacist. Sir David Amess's killing is under investigation by the police counter-terrorism unit.

To put this into perspective, it makes being an MP one of the most dangerous jobs in the country. Two deaths in 5 years from a pool of 650 people means a death rate of twice the next most dangerous profession, which makes you think.

We need politicians, and we need good people to be politicians, not necessarily people we're going to agree with, but people whose aim is the welfare of the people. We need our politicians to be accessible – they need to hear the stories of ordinary people, who they represent. You can't represent what you don't know. You can't govern what you don't understand.

Our politicians need to be safe, and need to feel safe. One local MP dropped into an Autumn Fayre in one of our Wrexham churches this month – completely without security. I didn't think it odd, and I was glad to see her. If she came next month, would she feel the need for a security detail? I would hope not, but maybe.

When I was ten, my dad took me to London for the day. We stood right outside Number 10 Downing Street (but Harold Wilson wasn't in). Now? The entrance to Downing Street is protected by gates and bollards, with armed police.

So, please pray for your politicians, for their safety and wellbeing, and that we may be guided by wisdom and compassion as we go through these hard times. We generally know who our local MP is – but please remember your local Councillors as well. Politicians may not always be popular, but is there a better way? Let them know your views, especially on matters where you feel strongly – but always remember that you are dealing with human beings who are fallible, and who may be feeling very vulnerable at the moment.

Peace,
Rev'd. Richard Parkes

email: overtonoracle@gmail.com

Congratulations on a Quarter Peel

We were successful on Saturday 16th October to ring a Quarter Peel, especially arranged and rung as a compliment to Keith Overthrow, Tower Captain at St Mary's church from 1978 to 2020.

Here is a picture – from left to right – Keith Overthrow, , Annette Broughton, Greg Morris, Clare Morris, Tom Miles, Peter Furniss and Steve Broughton.



The White Horse Inn

Bookings now being taken for Christmas

Pizza and Prosecco nights

3rd, 10th and 17th December

Christmas Party nights 4th, 11th and 18th December

Family Christmas afternoon 19th December

Karaoke night 24th December

Christmas Dinner served on 25th December

Telephone 01978 784727 for bookings and information



Thank you

Thank you to the Friends of St Mary's church (FOSM) who have very kindly funded the purchase of new bell ropes. I thought I would share some pictures of them being made as we are expecting delivery in a couple of weeks.

Photo 1 is of the machine splice before laying up the rope, photo 2 is of the wool in the sally before laying up and



photo 3 is of the rope laid up and awaiting trimming and finishing of the tail end. The new ropes will prevent shrinkage in the winter damp months and expansion in the summer. We currently have red, white and blue sallys, but we have gone for Welsh colours this time! I hope you find them interesting.

Clare Morris

The Bowling Club 2021 season

In spite of COVID, Overton Bowling Club had an enjoyable season of Crown Green Bowls. The season started badly when Chairman Steve Ketelle announced that he was moving out of Overton to live in Suffolk. Steve had been our main organiser and green keeper for the last couple of years, so the outlook was gloomy. Fortunately, Walwyn Edwards stepped into the breach to be "acting chairman" and Dave Edwards took over as greenkeeper.



The club is very indebted to "Wally" and Dave, who have kept the club going and indeed improved the green. In addition, Val Stevenson did an admirable job as Club Treasurer.

Better news came for the club when a group of previous younger players returned to the club, to form a new first team, managed by Mark Whittall. The "new" first team performed spectacularly, winning every match convincingly and were runaway winners of their league, being the highest scorers in all 6 divisions of the Oswestry and District league --- "some achievement". In the triumphant first team, every player won more than 90% of their matches and we have to mention Dan Williams who won every match.

The second team did reasonably well, finishing in mid-table, while the two "vets" teams, while not winning too much, did provide excellent sport for our senior members. Duncan Rennie and Roger Bailey also deserve a mention for winning 90% of their matches for the 2nd team.

The club also ran some introductory training sessions for new members. Hopefully next year will be back to normality and we are looking forward to an enjoyable and successful season in 2022.

Anyone who has a sporting inclination and enjoys competitive sport in a pleasant outdoor environment will be made very welcome in Overton Bowling Club.

Euan Stevenson

Overton on Dee W.I. News

At the October meeting the members enjoyed a fun evening with Malcolm Whittall, cartoonist, teaching everyone how to draw cartoon animals and characters. In 2020 Malcolm had been our first Zoom speaker and it was good to meet him in person and to try out all the techniques he demonstrated. We are delighted to welcome new members. We have all appreciated the connection and support of our WI during the last difficult months so it's extra special to see our numbers growing.



Members have also been knitting scarves as part of the Shropshire Way Scarf Challenge 2021 (190 miles of scarves!) which will go to the homeless and good causes.

On November 13th Overton on Dee WI will celebrate World Kindness Day. Keep your eyes open around the village for little pots of kindness to take home and to cheer everyone up.

Margaret O'Neill



Get your Real Advent Calendar

The Real Advent Calendar is the only one with Fairtrade chocolate, a copy of the Christmas story and which supports charitable projects.

The Real Advent Calendar is a fun way for parents, grandparents and Godparents to share the Christmas story. The 2021 design calendar comes with a free 24-page Christmas story activity book designed to be used every day in Advent. This year, the book is illustrated by award winning artist, Martina Peluso.

The Real Advent Calendar costs £4.50.

Order yours by November 14th

by email to

overton@maelormissionarea.uk

or phone

01978 710294



1st Marchwiel Rainbows

Thursdays 6.00pm - 7.15pm

at Marchwiel Scout Hut

For girls aged 4 – 7

Contact Anwen Davies at

anwen5459@gmail.com

Make new friends,

learn new skills and earn badges while doing crafts,
playing games and having mini adventures.

Learn more about what we do at www.girlguiding.org.uk
or contact us directly.



1st Overton-on-Dee Brownies

Mondays 5.45pm - 7.00pm

at Overton Scout Hut

For girls aged 7 – 10

Contact Melissa Haynes at

melissahaynes1991@outlook.com

Hazards, History and Harvest - A Busy Month at St Mary's

Year 6 have been on an exciting educational trip to Dangerpoint in Talacre to learn about hazards in the environment and staying safe. Set up like a film set, the interactive tour covers many different areas including home hazards, road safety, electrical awareness, and beach safety. The class scored so highly in an interactive test of learning at the end of the tour that they were awarded a special certificate!

In Year 6, we have also been looking at the history of Overton and we were thrilled when Jill Burton, our very own Editor and local history expert, agreed to give a talk on Overton and then take the class on a history walk around the village. Pupils were fascinated by comparing old photos of Overton to modern day sites and spotting the



history clues all around the village. Hari told us: "It was interesting to find out that the names of many buildings in Overton give us a clue to their use in the past, such as Machine House being the building which operated the machinery for weighing carriages as part of the toll road." We also enjoyed hearing the story of the Cocoa Rooms and workers being paid in 'cocoa pennies' so they would spend their time there instead of the pubs, as part of the Temperance Movement at that time. Thanks for dedicating your time to us, Mrs Burton!



Each class visited St Mary's

Church this month to meet Reverend Peter as part of our Harvest celebrations. Food donations were kind and plentiful and, this year, have been donated to 'Yellow and Blue' - a social enterprise project based in Wrexham which supports those in need and many other organisations in the area, including Refugee Kindness. *(photo right)* Year 1 and 2 have been taking part in our well-being days where they are accessing 'Fun Friends', a school-based resource where children learn new skills. Play-focused activities help the children to build skills in resilience which they are then able to use in everyday life and has supported our theme of 'Being me in our World'.



And finally, to contribute to our World and the environment, we have been supported by our friends from Overton Growers and Overton Wildlife Group to plant over 500 bluebell bulbs around the school field. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped pupils in planting the bulbs. There are more bulbs to be planted soon and we look forward to a beautiful springtime display!

by Year 6 Reporters Nyree Jones and Arthur Ware, and Mrs Williams (Year 6 Teacher)

more photos on page 6

Planning for the future

The Overton Community Council held a Strategic Planning Consultation Workshop in October. Discussions led by Cllr Paul Whittaker asked those members of the community attending, questions such as what is good about our village, what is missing, what is bad, and what they would like to see introduced if resources were available.

Cllr Charlotte Copeman shared the results of the same exercise that the councillors had undertaken earlier and it was interesting to see that the results were remarkably similar. Options for a Trim Trail in the park were looked at. Early ideas were also shared for what is planned for the village to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee June 2nd - 5th. It is proposed to move the date of the 2022 Village Fete to coincide with the Jubilee celebrations, i.e. to Saturday June 4th 2022.

Thank you

David and Jean Hughes wish to thank all those who have been leaving gifts of food and flowers over the past weeks. It is very much appreciated during these strange times.

It's a Knockout at the Rec Club

Our Autumn Knockouts are now underway - so if you fancy putting your sporting skills to the test you could win £50! Dates as follows:

- Sat 13th Nov = Dominoes Doubles,
- Sat 20th Nov = Darts Doubles,
- Sat 27th Nov = Darts Singles,
- Sat 4th Dec = Pool Singles.

£2 per person entry. (Members Only). £50 prize split in doubles games. Sign up now by calling the club 710454 or message our Facebook page.

Date for the Diary - 'Peaky Blinders Revisited' New Year's Eve Party at the Recreational Club.

What's On at the White Horse

We have lots planned for November here at the White Horse and of course we're also planning for the festive season! We have live music from Willow Station on 13th November and from the Droogs on 27th November. Saturday Brunch Club returns on 6th November and our themed restaurant night will be a Mexican Buffet on 20th November.

Our November quiz nights will take place on 8th and 22nd of the month. We are taking bookings for all our Christmas events - see details on page 2 in the Oracle or check out our Facebook page for regular updates.

The Rainbow Centre becomes The Rainbow Foundation

A lot has changed since 1994 when the Rainbow Centre first opened its doors and since then, the service has grown beyond what can be delivered by a single centre. Therefore, the charity has changed its name from the Rainbow Centre to The Rainbow Foundation.

Chief Officer Caroline Tudor-James says: "it is important to us that as our services continue to grow, our name grows with us. With our community outreach work continuing to expand across Wrexham, we are now more than a centre.

We provide a range of services and support which is tailored to our client's needs, both within the community and within our wellbeing hubs, currently at the Rainbow Centre in Penley and at Marchwiell Village Hall.' Both will continue to play key role in the delivery of our award-winning care service as the locations from which The Rainbow Foundation is based. Our name may be changing to better reflect the range of health, wellbeing, and active ageing services we provide, but the same great standards we pride ourselves in remain." You can contact The Rainbow Foundation on 01948 830 730 and find out more on their website at www.therainbowfoundation.org.uk.



The Rainbow Foundation

Thank you from the volunteers

Early this year Katie Piercy of the Overton Wildlife Group obtained a very generous grant funded by Welsh Government's Landfill Disposals Tax Communities Scheme, administered by WCVA. This grant has been used to run a community project to improve the local environment. The grant made it possible to bring more than 20 asylum seekers out of Wrexham once a month for 6 months, and provide them with boots, gloves, spades, trowels, and lots of refreshments. In return, they have assisted the Overton Community Growers to plant over 5,000 wild flowers around Overton, in the car park, the church yard, the cemetery, the Millennium Meadow and other suitable areas. The last visit was planned for 23rd October.

A group of the asylum seekers, from El Salvador, Afghanistan and Russia, joined in the fun of the apple pressing day on Sunday 3 October, following which Marcos, a regular volunteer, wrote me the following letter;

"My name is Marcos and since I've moved to Wrexham it's has been nothing but blessings for me and my family, especially when we've got invited to Overton to volunteer for wildlife, planting flowers, cutting grass, etc etc. My wife loves to come as well, with all the other families. The people in Overton are really kind. We enjoy helping provide food for wildlife, and we also thank Katie and everybody in Overton and Wrexham that always treat us with kindness and patience.

Truly yours, Marcos, Claribel and Arline (my family)"

It has been such a successful venture that Katie is hoping she can repeat the project and would love to hear from anyone with suggestions for suitable locations.

Sheila Miller



Photo: Marcos is in the middle with his arm around Oscar

Best of luck for the Finals, Ben

Congratulations to Ben Roberts from M. E. Evans traditional butchers of Overton Ben is among 7 butchers shortlisted for the top industry award - the WorldSkills UK butchery competition, with the final to be held November 11th & 12th at Reeseheath College.

Ben said, "I have wanted to compete at WorldSkills for several years but, until this year, have always struggled to dedicate the time needed to the competition to make it possible. I have also been selected to represent Craft Butchery Team Wales at the World Butchers Challenge next September 2022 and the WorldSkills competition will allow me to develop key skills and experience to take forward to this global stage. Hopefully the skills and experience I gain from both competitions can be brought back into the business and one day allow me to run my own shop."

St Mary's CIW VA School

CARETAKER – COMBINED ROLE

Caretaker - L4 for 10 HRS A WEEK / Cleaner - L2 15 HRS A WEEK
TERM TIME PLUS TRAINING DAYS / ADDITIONAL DAYS
DURING THE HOLIDAYS TO BE NEGOTIATED
To start November 2021

We are looking for a friendly, flexible person, who is able to use initiative in caring for our school. The successful applicant will be required to:

- be responsible for school security
- possess ability to undertake minor maintenance
- check/maintain operational systems, carry out safety checks as required, ensuring adequate records maintained.
- be responsible for daily unlocking/locking of school as main keyholder.
- Undertake and organise high standard of cleaning.
- maintain stock levels.
- remove waste/recycling, clearing of leaves/weeds/litter/debris.

An Enhanced DBS is required for this position.

RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS BY **EMAIL**
DIRECTLY TO THE HEADTEACHER

headteacher@stmarys-overton-pri.wrexham.sch.uk

Wrexham Council welcomes applications from suitably qualified candidates regardless of race, gender, disability, sexuality, religious belief or age

CLOSING DATE : Wednesday 10th November

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.

More photos from St Mary's School, report on page 4



On a local history walk



On an educational trip to Dangerpoint in Talacre to learn about hazards in the environment and staying safe.

Planting bluebell bulbs



Overton Royal British Legion 120 Club

Results of the "120 Club" Draw for October 2021. 119 members entered and the draw was made on Thursday 14th October 2021. Winning numbers were selected by Mr Peter Rosselli.

Winners -

1st Prize	£238.00	No 61	Geoff Hodgson
2nd Prize	£119.00	No 16	Gwynneth Austin
3rd Prize	£ 59.50	No 47	Angela Cave

Legion Fund: £178.50

CONGRATULATIONS

Next Draw will be on Thursday 11th November 2021
 If you wish to join please ring DAVE AUSTIN 01978 710678.
ALL NEW MEMBERS MUST PAY BY STANDING ORDER.
"IF YOU DON'T PAY - - - YOU DON'T PLAY"
 Thank you for your Loyal Support

Macmillan Charity a Winner!!

Congratulations and many thanks to the residents of Springfield Park, friends and family members. Their support and very generous contributions to the Macmillan Coffee Morning, organised and hosted by Sharman Parry in September, raised a magnificent total of just over £700 for the Charity.

Thank you very much and congratulations once again to everyone involved.

Village Apple Pressing Day

What's On

November Diary for St Mary's & St Hilary's

Sun. Nov 7th 10am All Age Worship 11.00am Holy Communion
 Sun. Nov 14th 10.45am Remembrance Sunday Service 9.45am
 Sun. Nov 21st 11am Holy Communion 9.45am Holy Communion
 Sun. Nov 28th 11am Holy Communion 9.45am Morning Prayer
 Every week: Wednesdays 9.15 am Holy Communion
 Join us by Zoom for Evening Prayer 5pm on Mondays
 & Morning Prayer 8.30am on Thursdays.

For all service details see

<https://www.stmarysoverton-on-dee.org/worship>

November Diary for Overton Methodist Chapel

Sunday Nov 7th 2.30pm Rev Neville Pugh
 Sunday Nov 14th 2.30pm Mr Tim Guy
 Sunday Nov 21st 2.30pm Local arrangements
 Sunday Nov 28th 2.30pm Rev Phillip Poole

Services at Our Lady And The Welsh Martyrs

Every Saturday 5.00pm Mass

Wednesday November 3rd Open Morning at St Mary's CIW VA School, Overton for prospective Nursery and Reception parents.

Thursday November 4th 12.00pm-2.00pm Rainbow Lunch Club. Meet - Eat - Socialise - Enjoy. £7.50 for a freshly cooked 2 course meal. To book Tel: 01948 830730

Friday November 5th 11am-12pm PCSO Dean Sawyer's next Police Surgery at the Two Doves. If you have any policing issues/concerns please come and see him.

November 7th-21st Overton branch Royal British Legion display in St Mary's Church

Monday November 8th 9.30am-1.00pm Craft & Create "Festive Paper Crafts" and lunch at Penley Rainbow Centre. Booking essential 01948 830730

Tuesday November 9th 6.50pm Overton Community Council meeting held remotely via 'GoToMeeting'. If members of the public would like to "attend" they should contact Katrina Chalk on clerk@overtonoracle.com for log in details. Members of the public wishing to speak can do so 6.50pm-7.00pm.

Thursday November 11th 7.00pm Royal British Legion Meeting at the Village Hall

Saturday November 13th 10.00am Village Litter pick, meet outside the Village Hall.

Thursday November 18th 7.00pm Overton on Dee WI Annual Meeting in the Village Hall followed by a Beetle Drive.

Saturday November 20th Rock 'n' Roll Night at the Village Hall in aid of Nightingale House Hospice, Tickets £5 from Corner Shop.

Saturday November 27th 10.30am-12pm Festive Coffee Morning at Church of Our Lady and The Welsh Martyrs

Thank you to everyone who has been in touch about my fall which ended up with 5 days in hospital. I was overwhelmed by all the kindness shown to me.

Alan Mawdsley.

Family Announcements



Congratulations to Amy and Adam on the birth of their first baby son Finlay, a grandson for Tracey & Tony Leech and a great grandson for Mary Perrin.

Happy November Birthdays

to Lydia Evison, Pearl Edwards, Hugo Hunter, Pauline Dodd, Phil Edwards, Dave Smith, Mike Done Heather Davies, Lucy Roberts, Rob Netzband-Piggott, Gerald Williams, Belinda Sampson, Peter Rosselli, Laura Edwards, Honor Grigg, Ruth Hamer, Nigel Williams and Evelyn Williamson.



Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Margaret Myers who passed away in October.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Craig Williams who passed away on October 20th.

For Sale

Vacancy

Standby cleaner required for Holiday Cottages. Good rates of pay. Flexible hours

Tel 07564 449724

Dustbin Days

Thurs Nov 4th General Waste & Recycling/food
 Thurs Nov 11th Garden Waste & Recycling/food
 Thurs Nov 18th General Waste & Recycling/food
 Thurs Nov 25th Garden Waste & Recycling/food

PLEASE REMEMBER

Copy deadline is 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 or email overtonoracle@gmail.com

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Advertising & Editor - Jill Burton.

Tel 710631 or e-mail overtonoracle@gmail.com

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