

# The Overton Oracle



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October 2009

Overton's Free Newspaper - issued monthly

## TRAFFIC CALMING IN OVERTON

Overton Community Council are holding a **PUBLIC MEETING** on  
**Tuesday 6th October 7pm**  
at the **Overton Village Hall**

**Invited guests include Wrexham County Borough Councillors & Police and Traffic Representatives**  
**Come along and give YOUR views. Become involved & help make the changes that residents want.**



## THE OVERTON LAND GIRLS

The recent BBC TV series "Land Girls" reminds us that Overton had its own stories of the Land Army and the important part the girls played in WWII. The annual Overton Produce Show provides an excuse every year for a reunion of some of those ladies who met at Queensbridge. Some girls "lived in" at farms where they worked but many lived in hostels and worked at many farms in the surrounding areas. Such a hostel from 1941 was at Queensbridge, just outside Overton where over 50 girls were

billeted.

This September Barbara Thelwell, Cynthia Scott, Mary Peterson, Marjorie Kidd and Betty Heath met up to remember those days in the Land Army. Their uniform in the 1940s consisted of brown breeches, green jersey, pale brown aertex shirt, fawn overcoat and hat, often worn at a jaunty angle. Along with hob-nailed boots, there were brown shoes. The girls were expected to look after animals, plough the fields,

dig up potatoes, harvest the crops, kill the rats, dig and hoe for 48 hours a week in the winter and 50 hours a week in the summer. The girls were told at breakfast each morning where work was and if the place of work they were allocated was less than three miles away they had to cycle or walk. The cycles were in a cycle shed but no-one looked after the bikes so they were in an awful state of repair.



*From left: Barbara Thelwell, Cynthia Scott, Mary Peterson, Marjorie Kidd & Betty Heath*



*The Queensbridge Land Army girls. Back Row 1st left Marjorie; 3rd from right Barbara; 2nd Row from Back - from left 1st Mary; 2nd Cynthia; 4th Betty.*

The Produce Show in Overton Village Hall provides an opportunity for the ladies to see where the dances were held twice a week with Dick Cross and his band. The band knew when the land girls had to leave and they would play 'Give Us Five Minutes More' by Jimmy Young. Girls had to be back at Queensbridge hostel by 10.30pm or else they were locked out - the warden rang a bell three times and that was it: door shut. Wardens were Mrs Watson, (very strict), then Miss Owen who was one of us, and then Mrs. Barmforth who was a cross between Margaret Rutherford and Hattie Jacques. When boyfriends called at Queensbridge, they were allowed only at the bottom of the stairs where they would call your name, or they could wait in the lounge which consisted of lots of chairs, a couple of tables and a piano, which a few of the girls used to play. Social life was very mundane; groups of girls, with or without boyfriends, would gather at the Overton Cocoa Rooms in front of a blazing fire in winter eating sandwiches (beetroot or jam) and drinking tea and just sitting.

## Ramblings From the Rectory by David Lewis



Dear Friends,  
A New York lawyer drove around the court building for nearly twenty minutes looking for a place to park. Finally he decided he could wait no longer and so he parked in a 'no waiting area'. He left a note on the windscreen saying: *'Drove around for twenty minutes, please forgive our trespass.'* He put a five dollar bill in the note and left. A little later he came out and went to his car to find his note and the five dollar bill still on the windscreen, along with a parking ticket and another note saying: *"I have been a cop on this beat for twenty years. Lead us not into temptation!"*

Harvest and autumn are one of my favourite times of the year. I love the mellowness of the season. But I also love the message of Harvest that God gave us a wonderful world to live in. And yet so often we fall into temptation in abusing our world for our own gain and so often thinking only of ourselves, and not considering what impact our actions and attitudes will have on others.

I remember one interview on the radio involved a lady who did the school run every morning with her children in her people carrier, and yet lived within four minutes of the school. When challenged she said: *"I don't care what impact my actions have. I have a right to do this and I decide to use my car to take my children to school"*.

The Christian message reminds us that we are intrinsically linked to our world and to one another, and whatever we do will have an impact on our environment and on someone else. So often we forget that!

Albert Schweitzer, a German theologian and missionary, said this once, *"We are united with all life that is in nature. Man can no longer live his life for himself alone"*.

The tragedy is so often we human beings try to do exactly that.

Your Friend and Rector, David

## COUNTRY BEAT by Constable Luke Hughes



101 is the new, easy to remember, 24 hour police non emergency number for Wales and its introduction is the biggest change in the way people can contact the police since 999 was introduced in the 1940s.

Temporary Assistant Chief Constable, Gareth Pritchard, said: "Many people dial 999 when their call isn't an emergency simply because they don't know how else to contact the police. 101 is an easy number to remember and it gives people access to all areas of the force. The response from the public locally has been excellent, with 101 helping to reduce the number of unnecessary or inappropriate 999 calls."

The figures for North Wales show that since 101 came on line, 999 calls have dropped on average by 8% each month. The number is being advertised widely across Wales, and should be used to speak to the police about a general enquiry or to report a non emergency crime such as anti social behaviour, harassment or intimidation, drunken or rowdy behaviour, and dangerous driving.

Andy Edwards, Deputy Chief Constable for the All Wales Team, said: "Each police force in Wales is working hard to ensure the public can access their services in the way they want. Having just two phone numbers for the police in Wales makes calling the police a lot easier, 999 for an emergency, 101 when you need to speak to the police and don't need a blue light response."

"This project has been made possible as the four forces in Wales recognised an opportunity to provide a single service that would improve customer service and hopefully increase the confidence of the public that they can contact the police whenever they need them."

999 should still be used if there is a crime in progress; violence is being used or threatened; an offender has been recently disturbed or made off; there has been a road accident where people are injured or the road is blocked.

PC 1842 Luke Hughes  
Bronington & Overton Community Beat Manager  
Telephone: 0845 607 1002 ext: 48425

## OVERTON MEDICAL PRACTICE

The first Flu clinics are due to be held Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October and there will be scheduled clinics in both Overton and Bangor-on-Dee throughout October and into November. When we know more about swine flu vaccinations we will pass the details on to you, they should be available (in 2 doses) from Oct/Nov. The normal criteria applies for the regular Flu Injections, i.e. over 65 years of age or in the 'at risk categories'. You will need to either book an appointment at the desk or over the telephone, they cannot be done on line.

We have a Triage system run by one of the doctors each morning. If you cannot be offered a routine appointment for several days and you are really feeling unwell or anxious about your condition, please tell the receptionist and she will put you onto the triage list to be called back by the doctor. The only criteria for this service is that you are contactable by telephone and able to come into the surgery if the doctor feels you should be seen sooner rather than later.

Any doubts just ask, we do not want any of our patients suffering unnecessarily.

## A "Golden" Day Out by Harry Evison

Reading in the Shropshire Star an invitation to 50 couples celebrating their Golden wedding this year to apply to be guests of theirs at the show, my wife Margaret agreed to apply. We were surprised when we learned that we had been successful and tickets would be forthcoming.

We were one of 25 couples attending on the Friday and a further 25 on the Saturday. All done up in our Sunday best we were not sure what to expect. We were delighted to meet the Shropshire Star's staff and James Martin, celebrity chef who found it amazing that we had all been married for 50 years! We enjoyed strawberries and bubbly while chatting with other couples including Shrewsbury's Lord Mayor also celebrating his Golden Wedding.

The Flower Show was marvellous with such a lot to see and do. Having a shuttle bus to transport the disabled from the town car parks was very much appreciated. I had not attended the Show for more than 20 years but will certainly make the effort to again if fit enough. We thank both the Shropshire Star and the organisers of the Shrewsbury Flower Show for providing us with such a memorable day.

## OVERTON PLAY CENTRE

If you are new to the area or aren't quite sure of the services we offer at The Play Centre I am listing them below. Our members of staff are dedicated professionals, with up to date qualifications and they provide a stimulating and interesting day for the children in their care.

We provide:

- Care for children from 2 years old to pre-school age.
- **New EXTENDED HOURS:** Care from Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm in 5 separate sessions. These can be booked separately or as a block for the day.
- **FREE PLACES FOR CHILDREN WHO TURN 3:** Children who turn 3 between 1.9.09 and 31.12.09 can access a funded place at our Centre from January 2010 for 4 sessions a week for the spring and summer terms **for free**. For children who are 3 between 1.1.10 and 31.3.10, a place can be accessed from April for the summer term.
- A family session is held every Tuesday morning from 9am to 11am. Come and meet others for a morning of chat and relaxation, with coffee/tea and refreshments provided while your child plays with others in a friendly environment. The cost for this is £2 for the first child and 50p for each additional child. All new faces very welcome!!

Hiring of the hall for your children's party or family event can be arranged by prior agreement.

Also, look out for raffle tickets for our fabulous hamper donated by Cadburys. Tickets £1 each and all proceeds to the Play Centre Outdoor Improvement Fund, to be drawn on 16<sup>th</sup> Oct.

Contact Andrea on 710246 or Margaret on 710688

# Kids Kolumn

by Alice Foster, Lydia Biggs and Lottie Blake

Hi everybody, are you enjoying your new term? We have because we've just started High School

## Factamania

- 1.The device that is used to measure feet is called brannock.
- 2.Speleology is the study of exploring caves.
- 3.One oz of gold can be stretched out to 45miles.
- 4.**Dragonfly's can fly up to 45 kilometre per hr**
- 5.The moon weighs 81 billion tons.

## Laugh with Lydia

Two crisps were walking along the road a car pulled up and said would you like a lift they replied "No thank you we're walkers".

Why do computers squeak?

*Somebody stepped on the mouse!*

Why was Elle exams rubbish?

*They were all below "c" level!*

Why did John walk to school backwards?

*It was back to school day!*

## Review - Song - JLS, Everybody in Love

JLS's new song "Everybody in Love" is a really catchy and great song, it's definitely going to hit the charts soon. It will be released on November 2nd with a sound that combines old-school R&B with today's hottest pop production- and it's a song that shows the band's fantastic vocals. This Autumn JLS will be flying over to Los Angeles to film the video.

## Lottie's Pet of the Month

Animal: Snake

Snake skin is scaled, and remarkably elastic, allowing the snake to eat very large prey. Snakes do not have moveable eyelids or external ears either. There are about 2,400 species of snakes in the world. They live almost everywhere, in deserts, forests, oceans, streams, and lakes. Some are ground dwellers, others live in trees, and other snakes spend most of their lives in water.

## IQ Test Answers from last months Oracle

- 1.Novel, A novel is not a reference book
- 2.E,E is the only one made of four lines.
- 3.AABBABAB, substitute the numbers for the letters: 1 for A and 2 for B

Scores: *If you got all 3 right your score is 84*

*If you only got 2 right your score is 82*

*If you only got 1 right your score is 80*



## Happy School Days



*Presentation to Miss Pearce by Bill Warrel-  
low & Dorcas Jarvis nee Haynes*

*Dear Editor,* Please would you allow me to express my deep gratitude to the ex-pupils who gathered at the White Horse on September 11th, to give me a magical evening of love and fond memories? A chance visit some months ago by Carl & Jenny Knight was the cause of this celebration. My most sincere thanks go to David Austin and Carl and Jenny, who must have worked very hard to collect together so many ex-pupils. Luckily for this "recycled teenager" - they had their name labels, but as I chatted to them, the years rolled back as I recalled them in the classroom. As I heard of their achievements, I felt proud to think that in some small way, I had helped them on their journey through life, and sympathised with those who were not as fit as this 81 year old. The evening was full of happiness and love, and one that will stay in my memory for many years to come. My heartfelt thanks once again, and best wishes that God may be with you all, to bless you with His love.

*Joan Vernon (nee Pearce).*

Many many thanks to everyone who took time out to attend the Overton V. P. School Reunion and in doing so making it such a wonderful success, an absolute incredible night of rekindled friendship, also many thanks to Carl and Jenny and everyone who helped in anyway, Keith, Pam, Wenda, The White Horse, also to everyone for sending in the 160+ photographs which made for a very interesting display. My sincere thanks for the generous collection presented to me, which I will donate to the Wrexham Stroke Association Support Group.

*Dave Austin*



*Class mates of 57 yrs ago -LtoR: Keith Fowles, David Austin, Myra Hughes, Peter Lloyd, Morag Gunn & Jeanette Davies.*

## Overton History

The next event of the Overton Local History group will be a talk by Ken Farrell upstairs at the White Horse 7.30pm on 8th October entitled "*Finders Keepers*", on a remarkable event that meant that the name Overton has gone into legal history. Everyone is very welcome.

The group feel it is important to collect the memories of life in our village, and to record them while it is still possible. This also includes images/photos of people and places around Overton.

On **Saturday October 24th** anytime between **11.00 and 2pm** you are invited to bring your old photos of Overton or Overton people to the White Horse upstairs room to be scanned (while you wait). These can then be saved on the new Overton website and on the Wrexham Community website.



*Date ?  
Note the  
thatched roof !*

## Keep Overton Tidy

St Mary's School Overton have taken part in Tidy Wales Week 2009 by helping PCSO Jemma White with a litter pick in the village. Tidy Wales Week sponsored by the Welsh Assembly Government took



place in September and aimed to get as many people as possible to lend a hand to tidy up their communities.

## Cub Scout Leader Wanted

Sadly Bangor on Dee Cubs has closed with little warning leaving cub scouts with no Pack to join. Overton used to have a Cub Pack, but that closed a few years ago. We now need to recruit a leader for a new Pack in Overton to provide Cub Scouts for both Overton and Bangor.

If you would like to work with 8 to 10½ year olds please contact David Burton on 710631. No experience necessary and full training given. The Scout Association will need to carry out CRB checks. We have a thriving Beaver colony of 5-8yr olds and they will in time need a Pack to join, and Scouts and Explorers need Cubs to feed into their Troop and Unit.

## OVERTON 2009 PRODUCE SHOW - THE TROPHIES

CUP/TROPHY	AWARDED TO	CATEGORY
British Legion Cup	Victor Roberts	Exhibitor with Most Points
Tradesmen's Cup	Josie Ralphs	Runner-up
Lowther Cup	Josie Ralphs	Overton WI Member with most points
Fitzhugh Goblet	Victor Roberts	Best in class 9 - 3 leeks
Trotting Mare Cup	Den Owen	Best in class 17 - 4 cut herbs
Farmers Cup	Alison Drake	Best in Veg Section 1 -17
W I Cup	Francis Glynne Jones	Best in Fruit section 18 - 23
Healey Salver	Jim Parry	Best in Blooms Section 24 - 35
Pam Upton Memorial Bowl	Phil Edwards	Best in Class 33 - Specimen Rose
Rosselli Cup	Peter Ralphs	Best in Pot Plant Section 36 - 38
Kath Hamlington Memorial	Josie Ralphs	Best in Flower Arranging 39 - 44
Mrs Wrights Cup	Josie Ralphs	Best in class 45 Flower Arrangement
Mrs Sumsions' Tray	Susan Thomas	Best in Cookery Section 47 - 54
Mrs Woodhouses's Bowl	Rona Williams	Best in Preserves Section 55 - 61
Haynes Wine Cooler	Beaty Roberts	Best in Wine Section 62 - 68
Mrs Robert's Shield	Heath Rosselli	Best in Class 69 (5yrs & under)
Mrs Watt's Shield	Eliza Rosselli	Best in Class 70 - 76 (6-9yrs)
Mrs Price Jones's Shield	Eliza Rosselli	Best in Class 71 - 76 (6-9yrs)
Mrs Wason's Shield	Georgia Webb	Best in Class 72 - 79 (9 - 12 yrs)



**AGE** North East Wales  
*Concern*

### LUNCH CLUB NEWS

It's not much fun eating alone is it? Age Concern North East Wales is working to establish and develop new lunch clubs for older people to enjoy throughout the borough of Wrexham. Currently there are 19 established lunch clubs hosted in the borough, held mostly in church or village halls. These are run by volunteers and enable older people and their carers to enjoy a reasonably priced, good 2 course meal and a chat on a regular basis, followed in some cases by a social activity or guest speakers.

**These clubs give a great service to current members and would welcome new faces.**

To extend and develop the lunch clubs further, we are looking to bring older people together in other venues such as local clubs, pubs and cafes. This we hope will offer more opportunity for groups of people to get together to enjoy meals in social surroundings as well as perhaps enjoying a game of pool or snooker etc. We would welcome the opportunity to talk to anyone with a venue who would be interested in hosting a lunch club along with older people who would like to enjoy this social event on a weekly basis.

Please contact us for an informal chat or come to the Thursday Club on 8th October.

Age Concern Lunch Club Development Officer. Phone 08450 549822 or email [cbrownridge@acnew.org.uk](mailto:cbrownridge@acnew.org.uk)

## Your Letters...

Dear Editor,

Can you include a mention of Fridays firework display in the park to celebrate the Scouts centenary year. It was a fantastic display, lasting around 20 minutes, and was probably the best display I've ever seen - much better than many "professional" displays we've been to. Given that the Scouts have worked hard over the past year to raise funds for the display (which was available free of charge to anyone) I think they definitely deserve a mention. We are very lucky to have such a great Scout group in the village.

Alison

## SCOUTS 100th GOES WITH A BANG

On Friday September 18<sup>th</sup> 2009 Overton Scouts celebrated 100 years of Scouting in Overton with a spectacular firework display at Overton Playing Fields. The display, attended by over 200 villagers from Overton, marked 100 years since the scouts put on their first display at Overton Flower Show in September 1909.



The Scouts have been raising funds over the last year to put on the 15 minute firework spectacular. This has been achieved by selling commemorative badges, contributions from many of the businesses in Overton and other fundraising activities. Many thanks to all those of you who have contributed to such a successful celebration, an especially to Mike Lawrenson and John who organised the display.

Overton Scout group was set up in July 1909 after Lord Baden Powell's visit to Wrexham to promote scouting and it's first leader was Mr Harry Richards. Overton Scouts is one of the oldest groups in Wales and has been in continuous existence with only two brief gaps during the two world wars.



### Mamma Mia – here we go again!

Clear the diary! Cancel all engagements! Friday evening, **23<sup>rd</sup> October**, 'Mamma Mia' is coming to the Village Hall! And that's not all.....

Details of Overton Film Club's 1st season of films can at last be revealed, starting on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct. with the fabulous Abba-themed blockbuster. Also

*Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October Mamma Mia*

*Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November Looking For Eric*

*Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December North By North West*

Members FREE (can also bring a guest for £2.50). Entry to non-members is £4.50 (£2.50 for under-18s). Or become a member for the season (£20/£15 for O.AP.s). **Doors open 7 pm. Film at 8 pm**



## WHAT'S ON

### October Diary for St Mary's Services

- Sunday October 4th** 11:30am Holy Eucharist  
**Sunday October 11th** 5.00pm Evensong & Licensing of Rev David Lewis as Area Dean of Bangor is y Coed Deanery. Preacher: Archdeacon Malcolm Squires  
**Sunday October 18th** 11.30am Holy Eucharist  
**Sunday October 25th** 11:30am Family Eucharist  
**Methodist Chapel Services Sunday evenings** 6.30pm  
**Tuesday October 6th** 7.00pm Council Open Public Meeting in the Village Hall regarding Traffic Calming in Overton  
**Thursday October 8th** 7.30pm Overton History Group upstairs at White Horse. Speaker Ken Farrell on "Finders Keepers" All Welcome  
**Tuesday October 13th** Overton Community Council meeting in the Parish Room. Members of the public wishing to speak can do so between 7.20 – 7.30pm.  
**Wednesday October 14th** 7.30pm Maelor Music Society Concert in Maelor School Hall. "Ann Atkinson & Kevin Sharp". Accom: Christopher Frost. Tickets £10 on door; Annual Memb £33  
**Thursday October 15th** Overton WI Evening Out to Lewis' Farm Shop. Meet in carpark.  
**Wednesday October 21st** 2.00pm - 4.00pm Indoor Bowls start in Overton Village Hall  
**Friday October 23rd** Doors open 7pm Film for 8pm Overton Film Club in Village Hall "Mamma Mia"  
**Friday October 23rd** 5 - 7pm Halloween Party at Overton Play Centre. £3 per child includes tea, fun & games. Prize for best pumpkin.  
**Saturday October 24th** 11-2pm Overton History Group copying old photos, collecting memories. Upstairs at the White Horse.

### Calling all painters & artists

We are starting a self-help group on a Tuesday or Wednesday p.m. mid October in the Chapel School room. All interested please phone 01978 710493

## THANK YOU

St. Mary's Summer Coffee Mornings have been successful in spite of the poor weather. They raised £350 for Nightingale House. Thanks to everyone who helped, served, provided cakes and home produce for sale. Also thanks to those who came along on Wednesday mornings for a coffee, a chat and contributed to the happy atmosphere.

## OVERTON HAS GOT TALENT!

Dancing, singing, magic, music, top bands and more  
 Put November 13<sup>th</sup> in your diary  
 and watch this space ....  
 Promises to be a fun and social evening ...

## FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Happy October Birthdays** to Flora Williams, Kathleen Dorey, Thomas Dorey, Charlotte Clarke and Barbara Watin, Noreen Haynes, Clare Edwards, Stephen Sorfleet, Mary Perrin, Mark Whittall, Rebecca Overthrow, and Jean Edwards.

**Congratulations** to Jackie and Pete Grindley on their Silver Wedding Anniversary and **Congratulations** to Sean Clarke on gaining a Masters Degree in Business.

**Condolences** to the family of Ray Kelly who passed away 21st Sept. Many will remember that Ray & Lynne Kelly ran the Overton Fish & Chip Shop for many years.

## FOR SALE

## WANTED

### 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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**Useful telephone numbers;**

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**LITTER CLEARANCE: 01978 298989**