

The Overton Oracle

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September 2014

Overton's Free Newspaper - issued monthly



Cheers to the Overton Beer Festival

Preparations are well under way for Overton's Inaugural Beer Festival due to be held in The Village Hall from 7.30pm until midnight on Friday October 3rd. A variety of delicious beers with superb malt and hop characters have been ordered and tickets are on sale for £6 each in The Corner Shop, Woodland's Café and from Peter Lynch on 710556 and Pene Coles on 710598. The ticket price includes the first half pint of beer and an artisan sausage in a bread roll. The sausages are being supplied by Overton butcher Mike Evans. All the money raised will be used for new equipment on the village playground.



Meeting the community



Clwyd South politicians Ken Skates AM and Susan Elan Jones MP held their last surgery of the summer in Overton. The drop-in session for constituents to seek help and raise concerns about issues affecting them, was held at the Cocoa Rooms was very well attended.

Assembly Member Mr Skates said: "The Cocoa Rooms is an ideal venue for us, being right in the centre of the community. The surgery was really well attended and I was able to help people with a wide range of issues on both a local and national level."

MP Ms Jones added: "It is always a real pleasure to come to Overton and the Cocoa Rooms is a lovely venue to visit. Since becoming an MP I have helped more than 3,000 local families. Surgeries like this one are one of the best ways to speak with people who may need my help, and I was pleased that so many chose to join us on this occasion in Overton."

To contact Mr Skates, call 01978 869058 or email

ken.skates@wales.gov.uk

For Ms Jones, call 01978 824288 or email

susan.jones.mp@parliament.uk

*Ken & Susan are pictured with Katrina Chalk
Clerk to Overton Community Council*

Good reports for school & playgroup

Estyn has published the latest inspection report on St Mary's School, Overton. Clwyd South Assembly Member Ken Skates said: "This is a very positive report and one that pupils and members of staff can be rightly proud of, as I'm sure the parents and the wider community in Overton are. Of the many aspects highlighted as good, it was particularly pleasing to see pupils' behaviour described as 'first-class' and the quality of teaching noted as 'consistently of a high standard'. It is fantastic to see the majority of children making good progress and it reflects extremely well on the staff that the excellent care, support and guidance the pupils receive is not lost on the inspectors. I congratulate Mr Wyn-Jones and his team and would like to thank them for their continuing hard work and dedication to providing such a positive learning environment for children in Overton."

Earlier in the month Estyn also published the report on Overton Pre-School Playgroup and its current performance and prospects for future improvement were rated as 'good'. Mr Skates said: "The staff, and parents should be proud of the report. The Estyn inspectors highlighted many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement, with several areas rated 'excellent'. It's very positive and very pleasing. The report praises the standard of teaching, the learning environment provided, the care, support and guidance the children receive and the group's leadership, so it is really a tribute to manager Margaret Davies and her staff."

Ramblings From the Reverend by Rev'd Canon David Child



There's this story about Albert Einstein the famous physicist. He was travelling on a train when the conductor came down the carriage to check the tickets. When he came to Einstein the great man couldn't find his ticket. He tried every pocket, his briefcase and the seat, but there was no sign of it.

The conductor recognised him and reassured him, "Dr. Einstein I know who you are. I'm sure you bought a ticket. Don't worry about it." He then moved on but just as he was about to enter the next carriage he turned round only to see Einstein was scrabbling on the floor still looking for his ticket. He rushed back and said again, "Please don't worry Dr. Einstein,. It's not a problem. I know who you are." Einstein looked at him. "Young man" he said "Like you I know who I am. What I want to know is where I am going" Don't we all !!

This leads me to tell you about our new Christian Course "Living and Believing". See below for details. We'll certainly ponder that question which Einstein asked himself on the train and try also to answer at least some of those other faith questions that you've always wanted to ask. It should be 'fun'. 'Fun' by the way nowadays doesn't just mean something humorous. It also means 'I was really engaged with that'.

With every blessing
David

'LIVING & BELIEVING'

This new course begins Tues Sept 16th upstairs in the White Horse 7.30 for 8pm

It's both an Introduction and a Refresher course in the Christian faith. We'll try and answer questions about God, Jesus, Prayer and the Bible, including perhaps some of those questions that you've always wanted to ask but never had the chance. There should also be time at the end of each session to discuss the Church's teaching on a present day moral or ethical problem.

All are welcome!

Merchant Navy Day

The 3rd day of September each year is recognised as Merchant Navy Day to commemorate the thousands of British and Allied Seamen lost in the two World Wars and other conflicts occurring around the world using marine personnel. This is why the Red Ensign is flown on Parish Church flag poles on this day. On Sunday 7th September there is a service in St Mary's Church at 10am to commemorate those men lost at sea during these conflicts

Country Beat

by PCSO Phil Jones



Its again been a quiet month. Patrols have been conducted to prevent any problems in the area, but there have been some burglaries in Bangor On Dee so please keep your eyes open. Any suspicious people please report to us on 101. You will all be aware of the recent fire on a telecoms post near to the Costcutter garage on Salop Rd, this was attended very quickly by the fire service and there was a short disruption with traffic. There's been communications problems that are being fixed.

There have been no incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour during the school holidays, so this is very positive.

You may have seen myself and PCSO Lynne Maurice riding around the village on bikes, guess what we were doing our Cycling proficiency test, so expect us to be out and about on the Police bikes at some point, we are just waiting for our biking kit to be delivered.

I have had no reports of dog fouling so hopefully the message is getting out to dog owners.

There has been some issues with vehicle owners parking too near junctions, the legal distance is 15mtrs, parking too close to junctions makes it very difficult for vehicle drivers to see if the road is clear.

Thank you,

PCSO Phil Jones 2858

Tel: 01978 348425 or 07854 389056

philip.w.jones@nthwales.pnn.police.uk

Top notes



Congratulations to Helen Belton who has received the John Evans Award for best performer in the Llangollen Operatic Society's production of 'The Mikado' in which she played the role of Yum Yum. Helen is also busy studying for her Masters degree in music performance and teaching at Bangor University.

Repeat Prescriptions

Overton Medical Practice is having a new computer system installed 15th to 17th September. If your prescription is due at any time during week commencing 15th Sept please place your order by **10th September**.

Online access will also be unavailable from 6pm on Monday 15th September until 6pm on Wednesday 17th September.

Playgroup News

Welcome back after the summer holidays! We have had a great summer and hope you have too!

We are very excited and proud to share the fact that after our Estyn inspection we have achieved an overall Good performance grading, which also included two sectors which were given the grading of Excellence! Our Play centre was deemed to have an excellent learning environment and an excellent range of interesting learning experiences inside and out! This news made the local press and shows that credit has been given where it is certainly deserved, congratulations to the Play Centre team, Margaret, Angela, Nicole and Charlotte and to Angie the Chair of the committee.

We have also been making progress with the back garden, Margaret along with a couple of other volunteers have begun work, so fingers crossed there shall be a new revamped outdoor area that the children can benefit from very soon.

Finally, we are back to usual after the holidays and therefore our Toddler session is back on, running every Tuesday from 9am until 11am. This is a great session held in the main Play centre room, allowing the toddlers to interact with one another and make use of the permanent layout, which includes a home, reading, and painting areas. Plus there is a sing along session and snack. From a parents perspective it is a great opportunity to have a sit down, with a cup of tea and a piece of cake and enjoy chatting while your little ones have lots of fun, and it's all for just £2, you can't go wrong!

Thank you

Sarah Evans (Vice Chair)

NEW St MARY'S MESSY CHURCH
 Our new Messy Church starts on Sunday September 14th at 3pm in the Scout Hut.
 Messy Church is designed for children 0-11yrs and their parents.
 It includes Craft, Refreshments and a short Service.
 Future sessions will be held 2nd Sunday of the month, same time & place

Lunch Club



The Overton Lunch Club is on **Wednesday September 10th** at 12.30pm at the White Horse. The menu will be Beef Stew and Dumplings followed by Apple Crumble and Custard. To book please ring Gwynneth Austin on 710672.

Kids Kolumn

by **Kate Jenkinson, Robyn Rehbock and Charley Middleton**



Lateral Thinking Puzzles!

A woman gave natural birth to two sons who were born on the same hour of the same day of the same month of the same year. But they were not twins and she had no access to a time machine. How could this be?

A police officer saw a truck driver clearly going the wrong way down a one-way street, but did not try to stop him. Why not?

You climb onto a bus where there are no more seats vacant for any other passenger. However you enter and get the seat, after which the bus starts moving. How did you get the seat without disturbing any of the passengers?

B	O	O	K	S	A	H	K	L	Z
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BOOKS

LEARN

PENS

FRIENDS

RUBBER

PLAY

PENCIL

PENCIL-CASE

TEACHERS

September facts!

1. There are at least six films called September.
2. The birthstone for September is sapphire.
3. Before Julius Caesar it was the 7th month
4. The weather in September in the northern hemisphere is similar to the weather in March in the southern hemisphere.
5. In 1752 in Britain, September had only 19 days because we changed calendar.



*Lateral thinking puzzles answers:
 They were two of three triplets.
 The truck driver was walking.
 He was the driver.*

Your Letters...

Dear Editor,

I read with interest the objections to the proposed expansion of the Knolton Cheese farm, close to my home at Knolton Bryn, and noticed the "protest poster" which suddenly appeared, then promptly disappeared, on the road out of the village.

As a relatively recent arrival to the village (I have been here just seven years) I suppose I am not qualified to say whether the character of the village is changing nor am I "in touch" with the various camps. There are two dairy farms between me and the village centre and just occasionally as I hurtle on my bike to practice the organ at St Mary's I end up being caught up in cow chaos on the lane. This is part of living in a rural area. Whether its tractors, muck on the road or hurtling cyclists, these are the hazards of living in such a beautiful part of the countryside. I doubt if a small expansion of the cheese farm is going to make much of a difference. There is however one thing which so far doesn't appear to have been raised in the debate. At the Ellesmere Food Festival last month I managed to eat my own body weight in free food samples from various stalls. The smoked Knolton cheese was the only one I dug deep in my pocket to buy and take home with me. Its absolutely delicious. I vote for expansion as soon as possible. Why has nobody raised the taste of the stuff with the planning department?

John Buttress

Dear Editor,

We LOVE eggs from Overton Corner Shop and buy them every week, we go there especially to get them. One of the reasons is the frequency with which we get double-yokers – very often – and frequently a whole box of 6 are double yokers.

Absentmindedly today I popped 2 eggs in a pan – I knew they were doubles before I opened them and as its now so common paid little attention. I then noticed one was actually a quadruple yoker, 2 normal sized yolks, 2 a bit smaller. I wondered how rare this was and so I 'googled it' and I found, its apparently 11 billion to 1! I'm not sure who supplies the corner shop with eggs, but they appear to have very special hens!

Nik



20th Anniversary Twinning visit to La Murette



A lively group of Overton's twinning members, including 3 children, have just returned from the biennial visit to S.W. France. They spent a culturally-packed and convivial week with their counterparts in the village of La Murette. Some people drove but most went by plane from Birmingham to Lyon. As usual, they were met by a welcoming party who took them back to their hosts in La Murette where they were going to spend the next 7 days.

It is always a delight reconnecting with old friends, catching up with all the news and trying out our rusty French. The children tried their newly-learnt phrases, starting of course, with "Bonjour". There was lots of air kissing too! Our French friends

mostly speak English as well so communication was never a problem. It was lovely to see houses decorated with Welsh bunting and on the village roundabout, a banner welcoming us all. The gift we took to La Murette to celebrate our 20 years of friendship was a Welsh dragon weathervane soon to be presiding above their village streets and reminding everyone of the links between our communities.

During the week we were treated to a varied programme of outings and events with a wonderfully authentic medieval fair being a highlight for many. Up to a 100 people, colourfully dressed in medieval costume added a wonderfully authentic feel to the whole event. Every day we all spent time with our hosts exchanging ideas and telling each other about ourselves and our respective countries. And many cultural differences, we have very much more in common than we have that's different. By the end of the week, we felt we'd learnt a lot more about France and the French way of life.

This year 12 of us represented Overton in La Murette. We don't yet know how many French will be coming over here next August but if you like the sound of all of this and want to get involved, do get in touch. Everyone in the village and parish of Overton is automatically a member. Come and support our events throughout the year. Look on the website or in the Oracle or get in touch with the secretary Georgina Mason by email at gmemcloy@yahoo.co.uk.

More photos of the trip are on Page 7.

We wish to thank the Community Council for their continued support.

Two new Art Courses



This Autumn artist Leo Donaghy is running more two day art courses in Overton Village Hall. The **classical drawing for beginners course** is on Saturday and Sunday September 20th & 21st and will be fast moving and fun. It is designed for those starting Drawing from scratch or for those wanting to brush up on their drawing skills. The aim is to acquire the skills to allow one to draw with confidence and work independently. Please bring a sandwich for lunch, all other refreshments will be provided; tea, coffee, biscuits, afternoon tea, scones and cakes. Times are 10.00 am to 4.30 pm, Price is: £85.00 for the two days (if more than 5 students £75)

The **Portrait course** will also be at the Village Hall. This two day course will look at several methods of portraiture including the sight size method. This course is aimed at those who are new to portrait painting and those who wish to improve their skills. Dates are Saturday and Sunday October 11th and 12th. Times: 10.00 am to 4.30 pm. Price: £85 for two days (if more than 5 students £75)

Leo works from his studio in Shropshire, painting in many media and designing for clients. He collaborates with interior designers on projects ranging from small trompe l'oeil to large scale murals. His painting is informed by everything that in some way provokes the senses.

To book a place on either of the courses please contact Leo on; 01691 691803 or book via the contact page on his website, www.leoaugustinedonaghy.com
A list of what to bring will be forwarded on booking.

Toddlers say goodbye



Wednesday Methodist Toddler Group have said good bye to Reverend Una!

Toddlers and parents gave Una a lovely send off as she prepares for moving to her new church.

The group hand printed a T-shirt and Angie (from Cakery Bakery) made a fabulous cake.

We look forward to welcoming Una's replacement and all new and current babies, toddlers and parents this September – every Wednesday after 9am till 11am during term time.

Larry McCray plays Overton

We have arranged another great night in our series of top blues gigs at Overton Village Hall on **Saturday October 4th** featuring the Larry McCray Band from Michigan and Chicago.

Many of you will remember the fantastic 2 nights that we had with the sadly missed Michael Burks from Arkansas. Larry McCray and Michael were in fact cousins with Larry being probably the better known in the USA having been a regular on the American blues circuit for over 25 years. He headlined last year's Bangor on Dee Blues festival and was truly amazing so when the opportunity came to put him on at Over-



ton on Dee, we readily agreed. His guitar playing has the same power as Michael Burks but his music leans noticeably towards the soul and funk side of the genre and he will be accompanied by his full American band.

Tickets at £15 will be available at The Corner Shop. Check out the link to see Larry & his band on [youtube/WOYqfYnkMg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WOYqfYnkMg)

Overton Crafters

Overton Crafters will be opening the doors at the Scout Hut from 11am–5pm on Sat 28th & Sun 29th Sept. Come and enjoy a friendly chat with artists/crafters at work, take part in workshops throughout the two days, search out unique presents or be tempted by our range of delicious cakes with tea or coffee. We are looking forward to seeing you!

Workshops on both days. Come and have a go! (Please note children must be accompanied by an adult) Look us up on www.helfagelf.co.uk (we're no 179!) . We look forward to seeing you!

P o e m s from the R i v e r b a n k

A Spider's Veil

*I run path robed
Gathering threads of silk
Unseen except for a gentle kiss
they land,
caressing my cheek.
On this morning
I wear my veil
Proudly in the early morning sun
Like the emperor,
Only I can see.*

As 2014 is the centenary of Dylan Thomas' birth you are asked to send in your poems c/o the Oracle and each month a poem will be published. (Please include your name and contact details and whether you wish to have them included at the end of the poem) At the end of the year it is aimed to produce a booklet with as many of the poems sent in as possible.

Ellesmere Festival

The Canal & River Trust will once again open the historic Waterway Yard at Ellesmere as part of Ellesmere Festival 2014. Much of the Waterway Yard site is listed Grade II*, including the blacksmiths' and joiners' shop, dry dock and Beech House, the former head office of the Ellesmere Canal Company.

Ellesmere Yard is an important part of our waterway heritage. Once typical, it is now a rare example of an unspoilt and cherished canal scene. The Yard will be open on Saturday September 13 from 10am to 3pm and Sunday September 14 from 11am to 3pm. There will be plenty to see and do during the weekend. Resident blacksmith Rowan Taylor will be giving demonstrations at the recently refurbished forge using traditional techniques and producing bespoke items for sale. Boat trips will be running between Ellesmere Wharf (near Tesco) and the Waterway Yard (please note the water taxi is not accessible by wheelchair).

There will be activities for children, displays, exhibitions, the opportunity to comment on initial ideas for the future of the Waterway Yard and guided tours of some of the buildings will be available (need to prebooked). Come and see Saturn – a unique canal narrowboat. She is the last horse-drawn Shropshire Union Canal fly-boat, originally built to travel non-stop, day and night, carrying perishable goods. Over 100 years old, she has been fully restored to her former glory, not only to preserve her for posterity, but also to educate present and future generations about our waterways, narrowboats and horse-boat. Saturn is run and managed by the Shropshire Union Fly-Boat Restoration Society – a voluntary charitable group.



Other attractions at this year's Ellesmere Festival will include the annual art exhibition, a model exhibition featuring props from famous TV shows such as Dr Who and Thunderbirds, a Last Night of the Proms concert at St Mary's Church, a ride-on steam railway, craft and charity markets and street entertainment.



Overton Bowling Club

Coffee Morning

at Overton Village Hall on

Saturday 13th September

at 10.30am—12 noon



Volunteers wanted

Radio Maelor is Wrexham Maelor Hospital's very own radio station which was founded in 1979 and is part of the Wrexham Hospital League of Friends. The station has 12 volunteers who dedicate their time to broadcasting playing a diverse kind of music, entertaining patients, helping them on the road to recovery.

Jimmy Smith and Catherine Ollier present a variety of programmes every week playing music from the 1950s to the present day, as well as patients requests.

But at the moment Radio Maelor are looking for new presenters. If you are aged over 18 years and are interested, please send an email to

wrexhamradiomaelor@hotmail.co.uk

Radio Maelor also give presentations to clubs and charities. If anyone is interested in them coming along to give a talk please email to the above address.

The eagle has landed



Congratulations to Dani Jones who works at the White Horse on achieving her goal. Most will remember Dani's Nanny Pam, who along with Eric ran a local taxi firm for many years. Pam has been diagnosed

with Parkinson's disease and relies on a lot of support. In August Dani completed her charity sky dive in aid of Parkinson's UK, jumping from 12,000 feet and raising in excess of £1,000. We would like to thank all customers and staff of the White Horse for raising over £700 from the pub.

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

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

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

What's on at Rainbow

Craft & Chat, a social craft group every Wednesday, 7pm – 9pm at Penley Rainbow Centre. Bring along your own project whether it be quilting, paper crafts, knitting, or anything else!

The Penley Rainbow Centre befriending project is funding another 6 weeks of **Nordic Walking**. Join us on Tuesday evenings 5.30-6.30pm. Nordic Walking sticks are included for your use on the day.

Annual Quiz Night, Saturday 20th September. doors open 7.30pm for 8pm. Booking essential

If you would like to book for any date please contact Rebecca or Jane on 01948 830730

20th Anniversary Twinning visit to La Murette



The Ancel family (who were in Overton last year) with Geoff & Georgina Mason



Welcome poster in La Murette



Cath Starkey, Poppy and Deon in Grenoble



Rebecca Cupit takes her chances at the Dinosaur exhibition



Sheila Miller on top of the world learning about the history of the Fort above Grenoble



The Hats group at :Lac Paladru



Right: Agnes and the "leper" at the medieval fair



All aboard for a couple of hours' sailing



Left: Onika Cupit and her French/Swedish partner, Emma snapped at the mediaeval fair. They were staying with Emma's grandparents Christianne and Daniel.



Musicians at the Medieval Fair in Saint Antoine de l'Abbaye



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

Sunday Sept. 7th 10.00 Family Village Praise
Sunday Sept. 14th 11:30am Holy Communion
Sunday Sept. 21st 10.00am Family Communion
Sunday Sept. 28th 11.30am Holy Communion

September Diary for Overton Methodist Chapel

Sunday Sept 7th 6.30pm Rev Poole, Holy Communion
Sunday Sept. 14th 6.30pm Rev Richard Sharples
Sunday Sept. 21st 6.30pm Rev Ifan John
Sunday Sept 28th 11am All Age Worship Mr Nigel Burns
Friday Oct 3rd 7pm **Harvest Festival** Rev P. Braisdell
Sunday October 5th 6.30pm Mr Nigel Burns
Monday October 6th 6.30pm Harvest Supper

Thursday September 4th 10.30-2.30pm Penley Rainbow Lunch & Learn - Introduction to drawing.

Saturday September 6th Village Produce Show Exhibits before 11.00am. Open 2.30pm. Prizes 4.00pm

Monday September 8th 10.30am Overton British Legion meeting for coffee at Woodlands Deli

Tuesday September 9th 7.30pm Overton Community Council meeting in Parish Room. Members of public wishing to speak can do so 7.20-7.30pm.

Wednesday September 10th 12.30pm Overton Lunch Club at The White Horse. Booking required.

Saturday September 13th 10-11am Overton Community Council Drop-In in the Parish Room

Saturday September 13th 10.30am Overton Bowling Club Coffee Morning at the Village Hall. 50p

Saturday September 13th 11am to 11pm Wrexhams 1st Real Ale Trail at the White Horse. Live music in afternoon & featuring Limited Series in evening.

Sunday September 14th Etape Cymru Bike Race. Bangor to Overton Road closed

Monday September 15th 6pm Overton Surgery Patient Participation Group meeting. All welcome

Thursday September 18th 7.30pm Overton WI Meeting in the Parish Room. Speaker: Mrs Tamms on 'The History of food in your cupboard'.

Saturday September 20th 7.30 for 8pm Rainbow Centre Annual Quiz Night. £5 to include refreshments

Thursday September 25th WI Autumn Group Meeting at Penley Rainbow Ctre. Speaker: Julie Summers

Sat & Sun. September 27th & 28th 11am-5pm. The Overton Crafters at the Scout Hut.

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Mike and Audrey Marshall on their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Happy September Birthdays

to Lucas Pimparel, Brian Hamlington, Ken Farrell, Euan Stevenson, Val Stevenson, Ross Morrison, David (Wavy) Williams, Melissa Haynes, Mary Smitheram, Charlotte Eve, Pauline Lynch. Geoff Pritchard, Kayleigh Grindley, Haf and Aoife Edwards, Simon Edwards, Laura Marks, Myra Worthington, Pauline Edwards, Dave Austin and Marion Sinclair.
 Belated Happy 80th Birthday to Reg Jones.



Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Les Stant who passed away in August.

The photo taken in the 1930s, is of the Stant family who used to live in Bangor Rd in the cottages opposite where Radcliffe Flats are now. They were all brothers and sister - Derek Stant former builder on the left, Jean Stant at the rear and Les Stant on the right..



Sincere condolences to Catherine Eve, family and friends of Malcolm Wiggins who has passed away in August. Malcolm was a past member of St Mary's church choir.

Thank you

Mary & Amy Perrin would like to thank Mark Whittall for the charity cricket match he organised in memory of Andrew Perrin and also thanks to Kate Best and her mum for doing the food. It was a great day.

PLEASE REMEMBER

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

THIS INCLUDES ADVERTISEMENTS

Leave your contributions, & announcements at the Corner Shop.

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

Editor - Jill Burton. Tel 710631 or e-mail

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

Space constraints mean that submitted articles may be edited or not published.

The Oracle is available on the internet. Please be mindful that personal details submitted will be available to a wider audience.

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