

The Overton Oracle



Volume 11. Issue 6

June 2009

Overton's Free Newspaper - issued monthly

DON'T FORGET OVERTON FETE - SATURDAY JUNE 27th

PEDALLING TO LA MURETTE

This July we are off to La Murette on our bicycles. We start the ride in Overton and legs permitting will cover the 750 miles to La Murette to arrive at the same time as the rest of the group who are travelling by plane. The main purpose of the ride is to raise funds for the Overton & La Murette Twinning Association and The Rainbow Centre, Penley.

- The Rainbow Centre has been housed for over 10 yrs in make-do accommodation dating from World War II. Now, thanks to the tireless efforts of the local community, a rebuilding programme to provide modern facilities has been started. The centre provides an excellent service for the infirm and elderly from our area. Funds have been tight and hard-won so all contributions will make a real difference in ensuring a comfortable and stimulating environment in the new building.
- Our Twinning Association is celebrating its 15th Anniversary this year. Thanks to the foresight of the Community Council, our village extended the hand of friendship to a similar community in S.E. France in the early 90's. All residents of Overton Parish are automatically members of the Association. We feel that encouraging positive attitudes between our two countries is of vital importance and the many strong links and friendships that have been formed over the years are a testament to this ethos.

We ourselves are entitled to bus passes (just!) but these will be locked away out of reach for the duration, so every mile will be covered under our own steam. Every single penny that you pledge will be divided equally between these two local causes. We'll be at the Village Fete on 27th June with our bikes and equipment, so come and check us out. All contributions will be gratefully accepted and pledges may be given to any committee member or sent to me by email at gmemcloy@yahoo.co.uk, or by phoning me on 01978 710486. Georgina & Geoff Mason

VILLAGE CAFE

It is proposed to set up a community cafe in Overton. We are going to run a pilot from the beginning of June to Mid July with a view, if it is successful, to setting it up properly in the autumn.

The idea is that after the initial stage any profit would be ploughed back into the village through clubs, groups etc. We are only a small group initially to run this pilot but if you are interested in helping set it up then please come along and talk to us

So where will you find us??

Overton Community Cafe will be at

Overton Village Hall on...

Mondays 9am - 12pm

Wednesdays 2pm - 5pm

Thursdays 9am - 12pm

We will be serving teas, coffees, selection of cakes, teacakes and scones to start with.

So come along, try us out and give us your views!

For more information contact Rachel Harris 710041

100th Party

May Worthington's 100th birthday was celebrated with a special party with family and friends and attended by the Mayor of Wrexham, Cllr David Griffiths.

Sadly May has since passed away. A staff member of the Plas Newydd Residential Home said that May had greatly enjoyed her party "She was a lovely lady and very popular with every one at the home".



Ramblings From the Rectory by David Lewis

Dear Friends,
The Church Service was far too long for Billy, aged seven. He looked around for interesting distractions in the church. His eyes fell upon the stained glass windows and then the lectern and finally the war memorial.



'What's that?' he asked, pointing to the names of the roll of honour attached to the wall.

'Those are people who died in the services' whispered his mother

'Oh' said Billy. 'Did they die in the morning or evening services?'

Children can make the most interesting deductions on the world around them. I was in the chip shop the other day when a lady approached me and said that her daughter was convinced that I was God and no amount of persuasion would convince her otherwise. Talk about developing delusions of grandeur!

But one of the great joys of ministry for me is going into the schools and making connections with children. They really can make faith come alive and it is a privilege to be able to lead assemblies and school services. In June I will be going with Penley Madras School to St Asaph Cathedral. It will be my 4th visit with St Mary's School and Penley and it is a joy to hear the comments and questions that come from the children. They really do engage with what is going on around them.

And for all of us that is one of the fundamental tasks Jesus sets us. To help make our faith come alive so that others will see the joy and the love of Jesus. We are all asked to be agents of hope in our communities. We are asked to be peacemakers in all we say and do, so that we may be able to build bridges which bring people together, and not build walls which divide. In areas where there is hurt or misunderstanding, we by our loving understanding should always be part of the solution, never part of the problem. Our churches should be seen as loving, caring and sharing communities where people can feel that they truly belong.

Are we open to that spirit of joy, that spirit of love in our own lives?

Your Friend and Rector
David

COUNTRY BEAT by Constable Luke Hughes

We welcome a new addition to your local neighbourhood policing team, PCSO 2909 Jemma White has taken the place of Jenna Owen who left to become a Police Constable a few months ago. Jemma's arrival brings us up to full strength and I wish Jemma luck in her new role and I'm sure you will all make her feel welcome when you see her out and about.

I'm pleased to report that a good number of residents took the time to complete last month's questionnaire in the Oracle and a meeting has been held to review the results. The Community Council and Local Police team hope to update the community on this matter soon.

Inspector Lisa Surridge, District Inspector for the South Wrexham Area writes

The Evening Leader recently carried out a poll which revealed 70 per cent of people think that crime is a problem in the Borough. I am concerned that some people living in my policing area may have similar concerns. National news and media can also distort the perception of crime. It is important that people in the area I serve are aware of the facts about crime and the challenges to delivering policing in such a large and diverse region, so that they may form a balanced opinion of how safe they feel.

Following an increase of crime in the first half of last year in Sth Wrexham, a dedicated and structured response saw crime begin to fall. This trend has continued so that overall crime has reduced by 15% compared to this time last year. Similarly we are detecting more crime, at our year end in April we had detected 35% of all crime which contributed to Nth Wales Police being one of the top performing forces in the UK. This year we have increased the number of crimes detected by 8.5%, an improvement I will endeavour to sustain & improve on throughout the area. Performance would be higher still but for victims who choose not to support a prosecution.

The Sth Wrexham area covers 150 sq miles with a population of approximately 41,500. It is largely rural with several large suburban towns and villages, plus iconic landmarks and attractions. Balancing the needs of our rural and suburban communities is very important which is why we have Neighbourhood Policing Teams dedicated to responding to the needs of you as an individual. Through continued consultation with your community council and elected members Overton is well covered. The Maelor also borders West Mercia and Cheshire and officers from all three areas patrol the borders throughout the night on the lookout for travelling criminals. This is just one example of our activity which often goes unseen but contributes to making Wrexham South a safe place to live, work and visit.

OVERTON MEDICAL PRACTICE

The Easter stork arrived on 8th April with a baby girl 'Neha' for Doctor Sreeram. Both mum and baby are doing well and we send all our good wishes. Dr Myres has been appointed the Assistant Medical Director at Wrexham Local Health Board, a temporary post as the board will cease to function from October 2009 when all be merged into Betsi Cadwaladr University Local Health Board covering the whole of Wales. Obviously we are very proud of him and congratulate him on the appointment, but it does mean that he will not be able to do routine surgeries from May to October. His patients will be advised to see one of the other doctors in the practice in his absence and the situation will be re-visited in October as to what the future holds.

The next PPPG meeting is Monday 8th June at 6.00pm.

Overton's First Beaver Scouts Invested

As part of the celebration of 100 years of a Scout Troop in Overton a new Beaver Colony has been set up. On Wednesday 6th May, 7 Beaver Scouts and their leader David Harris were invested by Group Scout Leader, David Burton.

Overton's Beaver Colony is now an established fact, but there is plenty of room for more members. Boys and girls from 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 8 years old are eligible to take part and have fun! The Beaver Colony meets on a Wednesday evening from 6 to 7 pm at the Scout Hut. Come and join us.

Can you Help the Eisteddfod?

Since the start of the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod a large proportion of competitors have always been accommodated in the homes of local people. For many years Overton has played its part in providing hospitality for competitors.

Carol Dykes, Overton's coordinator, is looking for extra hosts for this year's International Eisteddfod as our village has been asked to host two dance troupes this year. It will be in the 2nd week of July. Hosts will receive £10 per night for Bed & Breakfast only. If you can help please contact Carol on 01978 710794 or 07947 747530.

OVERTON V. P. SCHOOL REUNION

The closing date has now passed, and due to numbers less than expected the proposed reunion of former pupils of Overton V.P. School 1949-1960 will go ahead with the venue now being the White Horse Hotel, Overton on Friday 11th September 2009. Those who have expressed their interest will be contacted in the near future concerning ticket availability and format for the evening. Any memorabilia that you have i.e, Photo's - Certificates - Books - Quotes - Short Stories, etc, anything from that era that may be displayed, please let me have them in the near future or bring them along on the evening. Many Thanks, Dave Austin

OVERTON LIBRARY

Overton Library is set to receive a cash injection from the Welsh Assembly. Refurbishment and improvements will mean an extra opening, plus increase the stock on offer. Work will commence this September and for 4/5 weeks the Library will operate from the Parish Room. The OVHMC consider this secures the future of the Library in Overton.

Kids Kolumn

by Alice Foster, Lydia Biggs and Lottie Blake

Hi everybody hope you enjoyed May, and you are looking forward to the Fete.

Ask Alice

Hi I'm Sarah, Father's Day is getting closer and closer and I don't know what to get my dad. Have you got any suggestions?

You could always get him chocolates or if you want something more special you could ask your mum what she thinks he might like.

LAUGH WITH LYDIA

*It's gone forever - forever I tell you !
What has ?
Yesterday!*

*What do computer operators eat for lunch ?
Chips!*

*Almost everyone needs it, asks for it, gives it, but almost nobody takes it. What is it?
Advice.*

Lottie's Pet of the Month

Pet: Chameleon

Habitat: Chameleons main habitats are Africa and Madagascar, some other species are found in Europe and Asia.

Diet: Wild chameleons may prey upon hundreds of species of insects and other invertebrates such as snails and spiders in nature.

Did you know that chameleons can range from 1inch to 2ft.

Reviews

Film: **Coraline** (PG)

Stars: Dakota Fanning (Plays the voice of Coraline), Teri Hatcher, Jennifer Saunders, Dawn French and Ian McShane

Coraline is a restless girl desperate to escape her grey world and her parents who ignore her. On finding a mysterious tunnel she is transported to a place where everything is the same, but better.

We really recommend this film and it is amazing in 3D.

Rating: 9/10



HAVE YOU TRIED GEO CACHING?

by Nicole Netzband

Geo-caching (pronounced *Geo-cashing*) is described as a high-tech treasure hunt that is played worldwide. The basic idea is to search for and find hidden containers called geocaches by using a handheld GPS. Geo-caching is mostly family & dog friendly and is great for improving fitness levels as you'll be walking, following GPS instruction in search of the geocaches.

If you fancy trying out a Geo-cache, you'll need to visit the website stated below and register for free and you will then be able to search for geocaches via postcode and difficulty. Please check the FAQs section on the website for more information.

Luckily there is a Geo-cache in Overton, so you don't even have to go far to try your first one! Have a look at <http://www.geocaching.com/>

WHAT'S A NICE BIRD LIKE YOU DOING UP HERE?



This unlucky pheasant got a cold reception when he tried chatting up the weather vane on the summer house of an Overton resident recently. The owner is only too glad he didn't buy a model featuring a bull or a shire horse pulling a plough!

OVERTON HAS TALENT

**Have you got talent?
A party piece up your sleeve?
You Have?
Then don't be shy!
Come and perform at the
'Overton's Got Talent!'
evening on 13th November**

We are looking for
singers, musicians, poets, actors
... performers of all kinds and all ages ...

Simply contact Helen Belton for information
or an application form (*if emailing, please mention
'Overton's Got Talent' in the subject box*)

The event will be held in St Mary's Church and
will be fundraising for the Church as well
as a social evening.

"How The Other Half Loves"

The 23rd, 24th and 25th April saw Overton Village Hall turn into a delightful theatre as Overton Amateur Dramatic Society put on their performance of Alan Ayckbourn's imaginative play. As I was seated I noticed the dimmed lighting and the charming music playing in the background and this really created a lovely atmosphere and set the mood for a relaxing, laugh out loud night at the theatre.

The play itself told the story of three London couples living in the 80s and in true Ayckbourn style the relatively simple storyline suddenly became a tangled web of lies told in a sharp, well-timed and confident manner.

The set was well thought out and clearly displayed class divide and cleverly provided the opportunity to stage two different dinner parties at the same time.

Well done to the cast and all those involved for putting on a marvellous show!

Bravo!

DON'T MISS IT!!!
OADS & Overton Twinning Association
70's Banquet
June 20th 2009 7.30pm
Overton Village Hall
Tickets £15
Tel: 01978 710 455 for details

INAUGURAL MEETING
Overton History Society
Tuesday 23rd June
7.30pm
at The Brow, Wrexham Road
ALL WELCOME

SCHOOL NEWS

FROM YEAR 4 When we all arrived at school we all were very excited because today was a very special day, we were going to Chirk Castle. As we all got off the mini bus we saw a nice lady dressed as a Tudor servant. She took us to a room where she told us Elizabeth I had given a lot of presents to her boyfriend Thomas Seymour and one day she gave him Chirk Castle. He wanted to see what the castle looked like, so an artist drew a picture for him. When Thomas Seymour died he didn't have any family to leave the castle to, so it was sold for just £5,000.

After that the ladies helped us dress into Tudor servant outfits and we went to a room where servants ate. We learnt that the servants ate and drank from plates and mugs made out of leather or wood while Thomas Myddelton and his guests ate from pewter & silver plates and goblets. We each had a piece of dough, there were two kinds of biscuits you could make - a knot biscuit or a round biscuit. Then it was time for us to be lords and ladies, we went to the Long Gallery which was used for parties. The children would play in there if the weather was bad outside and we played with toys that Tudor children used to play with.

After we had eaten our lunch we went to the beautiful garden. We had a wonderful time playing in the magnificent grounds. When we went back to the castle we were shown a big hole in the ground which was the well. We went to a tower and saw holes above us which people used to drop things down - they were called murder holes! Then we went down to the dungeon!! It was very scary!! After that we were allowed to try on the armour that was used in battles and we also pretended to fire the cannon! It was nearly time for our day to come to an end, but before that we were allowed to dress up in rich Tudor clothes, we looked very grand! We made posies which the Tudors carried to try to take away bad smells. We also had a look at leeches, these were used in Tudor times to suck blood out of people who were ill to try to make them better. It was then time to go. We made our final visit of the day to the gift shop before getting on the bus to go back to school. I had an amazing day at Chirk Castle and I can't wait to go again.
By Katia Allen

YEAR 6 have been continuing their design and build projects; the P.T.A. have kindly purchased Knex bridge building kits for school and we have also borrowed large bridge kits from Careers Wales, we then had great fun constructing different styles of bridges investigating which style is the strongest.

THE SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM are celebrating adding to their league title by winning the William Aston plate at the recent tournament at Wrexham FC's Colliers Park training centre. This was quite an achievement as it was a county wide competition and we were up against some much bigger schools.

EVEN MORE GOOD NEWS! St Mary's School has just received confirmation that The National Lottery and BBC Breathing Places have awarded **£3,050** to further resource the school's outdoor learning equipment and facilities and the chance to develop a book of local stories and pictures for storytelling.

An exciting event is set to be held in the school grounds in July to celebrate the fantastic successes of T.R.E.E.S. (Through Recycling in our Environment we Encourage Sustainability) @ St. Mary's School and the Eco Council, and everyone is invited!

See next month's Oracle for all the details.

WHAT'S ON

June Diary for St Mary's Services

- Sunday June 7th** 11:30am Holy Eucharist
Tuesday June 2nd 2.30pm St Mary's School Service in Church. All welcome.
Sunday June 14th 11.30am Coffee & Sunday Praise
Sunday June 21st 11.30am Holy Eucharist
Sunday June 28th 11.30am Family Eucharist & Baptism
 Congratulations to the family of Toby William Gittins
Sunday July 5th 11:30am Holy Eucharist
Methodist Chapel Services Sunday evenings 6.30pm
Tuesday June 9th Overton Community Council meeting in the Parish Room. Members of the public wishing to speak can do so between 7.20 – 7.30pm. The meeting commences 7.30pm.
Saturday June 13th 10.30 –12 noon Wrexham Lions Coffee Morning in Village Hall
Thursday June 18th Overton WI Meeting in the Parish Room. "Summer flowers" by Laura Evison. Competition: Single rose in a vase.
Saturday June 20th 7.30pm Overton Amateur Dramatic Society & Twinning Association 1970s Banquet in the Village Hall
Monday June 22nd 7pm Village Hall Trustee meeting
Tuesday June 23rd 7.30pm Confirmation in Bangor Church
Tuesday June 23rd 7.30pm Inaugural meeting of Overton History Society at The Brow, Wrexham Rd. All Welcome
Wednesday June 24th Bag2school Collection in aid of the Overton Play Centre
Saturday June 27th Overton Village Fete
Saturday July 4th 2pm St Mary's Church Fete in the Church grounds. Watch out for details of the Teddy parachute jump!
Saturday July 4th 12.30pm Family Day at the Play Centre. Barbeque, games, tombola, Raffle. Tickets: £5 for adults, £2 for children

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** Jacky Maskall; **Distribution** Cynthia Davies; **Sean Clarke, Euan Stevenson & Rob Piggott.**
Editor - Jill Burton.
Tel 710631 or e-mail
 editor@overton-on-dee.co.uk

Red Nose Thank You

Red Nose Day came and went, & Robin Wason's hair went all in the name of charity, under the guidance of Robin the proprietor of Ego Xcentric hairdressers here in Overton.

We would like to thank our customers, local suppliers and friends for sponsoring Robin and helping to raise a total of £205.55. Thank you all again for your generosity.

Overton Garage & Convenience Store



THANK YOU

You probably saw the posters around the village about the two lost Jack Russells. I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who displayed the posters and kept an eye out for the two runaways. They were found by Mr Lee Wright two days later just outside Ellesmere. They were enjoying a Sunday breakfast of Lee's prize winning chickens! A big thanks to him for returning them. A big thanks, Alex and Rich

On behalf of St Mary's Church, Keith and Joan would like to say "thank you" to everyone who supported the Coffee Morning held on Saturday May 2nd. The sum of £449.83 was raised for the Senior Citizens Christmas Party. Once again many thanks.

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 Overton Oracle is printed and supported by Prontaprint, Wrexham. Tel. No. 01978 664726
 e-mail: info@prontaprintwrexham.co.uk

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The Oracle is delivered FREE to nearly 600 homes in the Overton Area.

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