

The Overton Oracle



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Overton's Free Newspaper - issued monthly

WHITE HORSE & JOULES BREWERY WIN NATIONAL AWARD



Joules Brewery are delighted to hear that they have won a prestigious national award for the pub refurbishment of the White Horse, Overton. The award from CamRA and sponsored by English Heritage, is given for work which conserves what is good in the pub to ensure its future for generations of customers. The restoration was completed in 2007 and the company went to great pains to acquire the original plans of the pub which were fortunately still at the County Record Office and also appealed to local people for their memories and photos. The original layout was restored, old etched glass and leaded lights reproduced to match the originals and it is now a stunning pub with open fires and authentic old pub charm, a credit to its prominent position in Overton's High Street conservation area.

The judges said "This was a run-down village-centre hotel which appeared ripe for redevelopment for residential or retail use. Instead, it has been saved in a manner that's spirited and individual. The original plan form has been largely retained, and a fine building, very much at Overton's cultural as well as geographical heart, has been success-

fully revitalised.' Steve Nuttall of Joules Brewery comments, "We are delighted with this award and that our approach to pub restoration has been recognised. We love pubs and are passionate about restoring in the very best of the old pub tradition with great local beer in comfortable and cosy surroundings. The company based in Market Drayton owns 14 pubs in the surrounding area. The White Horse Landlord and Landlady Steve and Jane Dodwell travelled to London for the award ceremony



50 year Long Service Award for Tony

At the recent Royal Welsh Show local farmworker Antonio Santosousso was presented with the long service medal for 50 years service at Asney Farm. Antonio (Tony) started work for George Done at Asney Farm on 27th July 1959 and now at 80 years of age he's still there every day. How Tony arrived in Overton is a bit of a love story. In 1950 Tony left Italy to follow his girlfriend Maria Grazia whose family had moved from Italy to work near Bala. They married in 1953 and in 1959 Tony accepted a job with the Done's at Asney Farm. His first wage was £8 per week plus 4 pints of milk per day and they paid 15 shillings (75p) a week for his cottage.

Tony has worked with four generations of the Done family, George, Bryan, Michael and Michael's son Matthew. Tony retired in 1994 and moved to Johnstown but he still comes down to the farm every day at 5.30am and puts in 20



hrs a week. Tony and Maria now have two grandsons, Carl and Paul and the whole family has kept up with the Italian community in Wrexham, but Tony is happiest working with his beloved cows. He knows each by its number and if one is not well he will ring Michael to see how she's doing. When Tony started work for George Done there were 5 cowmen looking after 51 cows, now there is just Michael with help from Tony and Matthew looking after 161 animals. Paying tribute to Tony, Michael said "Tony is a very special kind of person, almost one of the family, and there has never been a cross word in 50 yrs. Nothing gives him pleasure than to help people out. He's a smashing chap and nothing is ever too much trouble for him."

Ramblings From the Rectory by David Lewis



Dear Friends,
Last year, I reported on some church bulletins that had been misspelt or phrased wrongly. Here are some more. These bulletins appeared in actual Magazines.

First of all, how many wives would agree with the aims of this event?

'Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.'

One church newsletter reported this happy event

'Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on 24th October in church. So ends a friendship that began in their schooldays.'

One eager fund raiser couldn't wait to share this:

'A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the Church Hall. Music will follow.'

Well the above gave me a laugh, but they also remind me of all the people over the year, who in service to God, have done so many things for St Mary's as well as the other Christian churches in our village, from cutting the grass, to fund raising, to cleaning the church, arranging flowers, to being a friend of St Mary's and arranging messy church. Thank you to you all.

Being a follower of Jesus is not always easy in today's modern world, but our churches stand in our village as a witness to God's love for us all and all you do for the churches, helps further the Christian message of hope and love.

I will end with one last bulletin; I'm sure our Overton Scout Leaders would approve of this:

'Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children'. A laudable aim, I'm sure!

Have a great summer, David

COUNTRY BEAT by Constable Luke Hughes



I'm sure you are aware that our area has always been lucky enough to experience low levels of crime and I am pleased to report that crime is now down by around 23% on the same period as last year. However we must not become too relaxed as this can leave us vulnerable, please have a read of advice and don't hesitate to contact us if you see anything suspicious.

1) Remember to close and lock all windows and doors when leaving the premises unoccupied. If you have an alarm, remember to switch it on.

2) When going to bed at night close and lock all ground floor windows, or have window restrictors fitted if this is not reasonable

3) Make your home appear occupied when you're not in by leaving lamps on in the evening and radios on during the day, you can purchase timers from DIY shops and large supermarkets which enable you to pre-set lamps and radios to go on and off at your chosen times over a running 24 hour period.

4) Consider marking your property with property marking kits and display the property marking stickers in your windows, this does help as a deterrent and reduces the risk of you being burgled. Property marking kits are not very expensive and can be purchased from good DIY outlets.

5) If you see anything suspicious please do not hesitate to call police on 999, you could save someone's property from being broken into or stolen.

6) For more crime prevention advice and security surveys our area feel free to contact your local policing team on 0845 607 1002

Also feel free to contact your local policing team and let us know when you will be away; we can then do our best to keep an eye on things in your absence.

Overton Police Station, Station Road, Overton, Wrexham
LL13 0EF Telephone: 0845 607 1002 ext: 48425

E-Mail : Luke.Hughes@nthwales.pnn.police.uk

OVERTON MEDICAL PRACTICE

The Swine Flu situation - all diagnoses are performed over the phone against a list of symptoms compiled by the Health Protection Agency/Local Health Board. The initial characteristic is a temperature of 38 degrees C or more followed by a combination any 2 of the "normal" flu-like symptoms – sore throat, cough, runny nose, aching limbs, headache, vomiting or diarrhoea. A patient must make contact within 48 hours of the onset of the symptoms and no later than 5 days after symptoms were first noticed.

Particular attention will be given to patients in the "at risk" categories of chronic disease – Heart, Lung, Kidney, Liver - plus Diabetics, Asthma that is being/has been treated by drugs, the pregnant, patients on immuno-suppressant drugs, the under 5's, and over 65's. If Swine Flu is diagnosed, then the GP issues the antiviral. Collection of the medication must be made by the patient's uninfected "flu friend/neighbour".

If a patient is not in the "at risk" category, treatment will be similar to that afforded to a summer cold – i.e. adequate hydration, rest and home isolation until all symptoms have settled.

Patients should NOT go to A & E, nor attend the Surgeries unless requested to by a GP.

Patients can check their symptoms using the Flu Information helpline 0800 1 513 513 or NHS Direct 0845 4647 – but these organisations may be wavering under the pressure of calls.

If in doubt and you think you have swine flu, contact NHS Direct or the Surgery

Other news - Dr Jessica Sokolov has finished her GP Registrar year with us and Dr Amy Stevenson will be starting mid August as our new Registrar.

OVERTON PRODUCE SHOW



A date for your diary is **Saturday September 5th** when the Village Hall is the venue for the 37th Annual Overton Village Produce Show. The show opens at 2.30pm. Entries are to be staged between 9.00 & 11.am. Enquiries to the Secretary, Doreen Walker 01978 710776

JOIN THE FILM CLUB - NOW !



The deal is £20 for full membership; £15 for OAPs. Members get to see all **6 films** (from October to March) FREE, plus they can bring a guest for £2.50. Membership is flexible within a household, i.e. anyone in the household can use the membership - it doesn't have to be the same person at each film. (Non-members pay full rate of £4.50/film; OAPs £3.50; children £2.50.)

We need your pledge and monies by 1st September at the very latest, to start the season as planned in October. There is an envelope behind the counter at the Corner Shop - so you can drop it off there.

WHICH WAY WAT'S DYKE? *by David Burton*

There has been confusion expressed over the signage of the route of the new Wat's Dyke Path that goes through Overton. The path proper enters the parish along the bank of the river Dee where it crosses the Shell Brook, and follows the river bank all the way to the A539 close to the Cross Foxes Inn. The sign at Barton Bank on the St Martins Road is an access indicator from the road at the southern end of the parish to show walkers how they can get to the new long distance path.



PARKSIDE IN BLOOM *by Alan Jones*

With the advent of summer, gardens are now looking their best, with colourful displays of flowers and vegetables soon ready for harvesting. Nowhere is this more apparent than Parkside. Neatly trimmed lawns, hanging baskets, window boxes, potted plants and shrubs, all add to make a kaleidoscope of colour. We are all encouraged towards healthy eating and this is certainly practised at the Flats, where runner and broad beans, peas, tomatoes, lettuce and potatoes are all in tip top condition .

Should there be a best kept village in bloom competition Parkside would be a tremendous asset and is a credit to its residents who have established such colourful displays.

Should you fancy a village stroll I heartily recommend you include Parkside in your jaunt where I am sure you will be impressed with the endeavours of the residents to provide colour and variety.

Kids Kolumn

by Alice Foster, Lydia Biggs and Lottie Blake

Hi everybody. We hope you are enjoying your summer holidays.

Ask Alice

Q Hi, I'm being teased at school because I've got ginger hair and wear glasses, what should I do?
From Francis

A We say ignore them and if they carry on tell your parent because they have no right to pick on you.

LAUGH WITH LYDIA

A blonde goes into a nearby store and asks the shopkeeper if she can buy the TV in the corner.

The shopkeeper looks at her and says that he doesn't serve blondes, so she goes back home and dyes her hair black.

The next day she returns to the store and asks the same thing, and again, the shopkeeper said he doesn't serve blondes.

Frustrated, the blonde goes home and dyes her hair yet again, to a shade of red. Sure that a shopkeeper would sell her the TV this time, she returns and asks a different shopkeeper.

To her astonishment, this shopkeeper also says we don't serve blondes. Then she asks the shopkeeper "How do you know I'm blonde?"

The shopkeeper look at her disgustedly and replies "That's not a T.V --it's a microwave!"

Lottie's Pet of the Month

Animal: Turtle

Kingdom: Animalia

Phylum: Chordata

Subphylum: Vertebrata

Class: Reptilia

Order: Testudines

Turtles are not easy pets to care for- you need to provide the right diet, temps, humidity, water quality, etc. Lot's of people have turtles including Blue Peter with their turtle Shelly.

I rate turtles 8/10 because they're slow.

Reviews

Film: **Ice Age 3** (U)

Ice Age 3 is probably the best and the funniest out of all of the ice age films, personally we didn't think it would be that good but it turned out to be really good.

Rate:10/10

OVERTON FETE 2009



The 'fate' of the fete was threatened this year, by the strangle hold of red tape which has jeopardised so many community projects like ours. However thanks to the huge effort and time put in by numerous people behind the scenes, not least our O.C.C. clerk, Katrina Chalk, we prevailed and should be secure for years to come. As I said when opening the fete: The fete was revived to give an opportunity, each year, for the community of Overton to get together with friends and neighbours, and to celebrate the huge diversity of clubs, groups and businesses which make this village so great to live in. Huge thanks must go therefore to all of YOU for supporting the day and turning up in such large numbers, despite the rather dodgy weather we all woke up to! The sun did eventually shine on us and people seemed to have a great day and stayed throughout the afternoon. Special thanks must go to Lorren Wallwin for all the time she put into her dance troupes' presentation for the day, and to all her dancers Large and Small for their bravery and energy in giving us a super half hours entertainment!! Special thanks also to Debbie Jones who liaised with the coaches of the Abbey Road Gymnasts and brought them back to the fete for another year. Yet again a really great display from them, -- and yes I have booked them again for next year! Thank you to the following people/businesses and organisations for their donations to Overton Community Council's raffle Bangor-on-Dee Racecourse, Bowling Club, Brownies, Cadburys, EgoXcentric, John Davis, Overton Post Office, Rowlands Chemist, Thursday Club & the Trotting Mare Garage

Thank you to the following people for their help when organising the village fete, Andy Dodwell & Mike Done and sons for transporting chairs and tables, Bryn Y Pys Explorer Scouts for all their help in setting up the fete. Craig Williams for grass cutting in the Millennium meadow, Dafydd Kember for running the Coconut stall at short notice and assistance in setting up and clearing away, Mick Pinder for the Tannoy system, Mr and Mrs Hayes (Buck House Hotel), Pat Loughlin, O.V.H.M.C and Catholic Church for donating their chairs and tables for the day, and Claire Rosselli and Mervyn Haynes for their fete advertising signs.

As for next year? Same time! Same place! Saturday 26th June 2010! See you there!

Joanne Kember

Our Storytelling Chairs

St Mary's School celebrated receiving their most recent award of £3,050 from the National Lottery and BBC Breathing Places with a Dirty Weekend event, including a Farmer's Market, vegetables for sale from the school's kitchen garden, Forest School taster sessions and team games, plus a chance to see the plans for the school's new planned themed gardens.

Local chainsaw sculptor, Simon O'Rourke spent time at the school creating two delightful storytelling chairs, one topped by a squirrel and one by an owl, a further resource for the school's outdoor learning facilities and an inspiration for developing a book of local stories and pictures for storytelling.

Off to La Murette



Geoff and Georgina Mason set off from Overton High Street on 16th July waved off by a band of loyal supporters. They aim to cover the 750 miles to La Murette in south east France, to arrive at the same time as the rest of the Overton group who are travelling by plane. The main purpose of the ride is to raise funds for the Overton & La Murette Twinning Assoc. now celebrating

its 15th year, and also for The Rainbow Centre in Penley. There is still time to sponsor the dynamic duo.

Dear Editor,

Your Letters...

Wow, what an achievement by Doreen Walker donating 75 pints over 35 years..! My story is not so impressive..! The very first time I gave blood in Yeovil, Somerset - I queued, I waited, I had the sample taken and then the main event; I gave a pint had a cup of tea - promptly left the church hall and fainted! I remember waking up with people accusing me of being drunk. Two months later went back and didn't even get to the cup of tea before I crashed to the floor again. Ha...3rd time lucky..? This time the lovely lady said 'let's take just half a pint today Sir' - OK then. Guess what? Yes gravity performed it's act once again. The lovely lady then suggested I come back when I had grown up - I was 33 at the time!! At this rate I could be 245 years old to get to Doreen's achievement plus very bruised - Well done Doreen..!

Overton V. P School Reunion

Can all those who have shown interest in the Overton School Reunion to take place on **September 11th** please pay their Ticket Fees to Dave Austin, if you have not already done so. Please pay for tickets as soon as possible in order to pay for overheads prior to the reunion.

Closing date for tickets is August 1st.

At the Zoo

Members of Overton Playgroup recently took part in the "Barnado's Big Toddle" at Chester Zoo, raising money for the charity and for their Playgroup. Afterwards they enjoyed a fantastic morning looking around at all the animals.

Fete Stops Rain by Sean Clarke

The organisers of this years Overton village fete had their hearts in their mouths as to whether or not the fete would be successful though it was not to do with organisation or planning but the weather! Each previous event had been generally perceived as being triumphant, - being held in glorious sunshine. Despite some dodgy reporting, (to be honest it is hard to entertain readers with dry facts and we rarely let the truth get in the way of a good story), the fete's popularity has risen each year.

It was touch and go this year though as clouds loomed all morning and those setting up got wet. Fortunately, at the last moment the weather changed and the turnout from visitors, the army and fire services and local businesses was impressive. People enjoyed ice creams, beer and burgers, some all at once, and there was plenty to see and buy. As usual though there were some shenanigans going on and despite gagging attempts it would be remiss of me not to report them.

This years culprits where the 'after-cool' club team, Cynthia, Grace and Davina. They manned the stall where you picked a playing card, red or black and won a prize if you picked red. The number of winning children was strangely disproportionate with the laws of chance and I think that careers in casino's could well be on the cards if they ever get tired of childcare.....Next year I think they should dispense with the stall and set themselves up as X-factor style judges. How they would decide who was Simon, Cheryl and Danni lord only knows. I can just imagine the trio buzzing an X as the gymnasts vault over the box - not!



WHAT'S ON

August Diary for St Mary's Services

Sunday August 2nd 11:30am Holy Eucharist
Sunday August 9th 11.00am Coffee & Sunday Praise
Sunday August 16th 11.30am Holy Eucharist
Sunday August 23rd 11.30am Family Eucharist
Sunday August 30th 11.30am United Eucharist in Penley

Methodist Chapel Services Sunday evenings 6.30pm

Saturday mornings 10.30am till 12.00 noon Chapel
 Coffee Mornings every Saturday till end of Sept

Thursday August 6th 1.30 - 5.30pm Play Scheme for 8 to 15 year olds on the Playing Fields. FREE

Friday August 28th Hog Roast with "The Weebag Irish Band" at Hanmer Arms. Tickets - 01948 830532

Saturday September 5th 2.30pm 37th Annual Overton Village Produce Show in the Village Hall. Entries to be staged between 9.00 & 11.15am

Saturday September 12th 10.30am Overton Bowling Club Coffee Morning in the Village Hall

Monday September 14th 6.00pm Practice Patient Participation Group at the Surgery. All Welcome.

Tuesday October 6th 7.30pm Council Open Public Meeting in the Village Hall regarding Traffic Calming in Overton

November 13th "Overton's got talent" at St Mary's Church. Contact Helen Belton on 01978 711970 for information or application form

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who took part or donated prizes & money for the Corner Shop's Summer Raffle. It raised a massive £540 for the Special Care Baby Unit Charity

BRAVE BEARS !



Thank you to everyone who worked so hard for our Teddy Bear Parachute Jump & St Mary's Summer Fete.

LOST

Small 18 month old ginger cat lost in Overton during April. Please can you contact 07942 145281 if you know where he is.

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.**
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