

# The Overton Oracle

Volume 15. Issue 9

September 2013



## Gate issues !



**Good news** At long last the new fence which divides the Wrexham Road play area from the playing fields car park has been updated, the entrance near the gate to the main road has been blocked and a new gate installed much further along the fence. All this is to make sure that children do not run out from the play area into the path of cars driving in or out of the car park or turning in from Wrexham Road.

**Bad news** But within a week the gate was vandalised and pulled from the gatepost. Cllr Lesley Pugh collected comments

from local people. Generally people were quite incensed and expressed disbelief that it has happened and so quickly after the gate was installed. There were comments on how well designed for purpose and nice it looked and appreciation that the Overton Community Council had taken on board the urgency of providing safety, but dismay that others had destroy the safe guard. All mentioned that some sort of reparation should be paid to the community if the perpetrators are found. One did mention it was a pity we still didn't have the village stocks.



One cannot understand why in a village which has known the tragedy of a child killed by a car, other people should destroy a way to protect children from cars..

**Good News** Meanwhile the approach to the village has been enhanced by the newly installed gates to the Wrexham Road

cemetery. The original gates which probably dated back to when the cemetery was opened in 1872, had rotted away. The new gates have been made to a similar design to the original by Mike Lawrenson (*pictured right*). He has made them from African hardwood and has reused the original hinges.

Many thanks to Mike and to the team from Bangor Racecourse who transported them and lifted them into position.



## Overton welcomes La Murette visitors

This year's visit of our Twinning friends from La Murette saw a small group arriving at Liverpool and being greeted at the White Horse by around 20 supporters with a warm and enthusiastic welcome. As usual, the programme for the week was a rich variety of local visits and activities emphasising all that's marvellous in this border area of NE Wales; walks along the Dee and canals, visits to Ironbridge and Llanberis Slate Museum, delicious picnics and meals, demonstrations of local crafts and a game of Crown Green Bowls.

An interesting and surprising highlight was our morning spent at the Church in Worthenbury, an architectural gem. The success of the week is of course dependant on the participation, goodwill and hard work of members of the Twinning Association. So, a huge thank you to everyone who contributed to making the visit such a great success.



## Ramblings From the Reverend by Rev'd David Child



Every religion has its stories. Here's one I came across recently. The Great Spirit created the world, grass, flowers, shrubs, trees, birds, animals, creepy crawlies and human beings. It was spring and all was well and very beautiful. Then came summer and then came winter, it grew cold, really cold. So cold that the human beings thought they were going to die. So they prayed to the Great Spirit 'we are very frightened and we are very very cold, please help us!' The Great Spirit looked down and gave them the gift of fire and they huddled in caves and kept themselves warm. The animals also prayed to the Great Spirit, he gave them the gift of fur. The birds prayed to the Great Spirit, he gave them the gift of feathers. The creepy crawlies also prayed to the Great Spirit but the Great Spirit said he was very sorry for he had no more gifts to give. The creepy crawlies grew colder and colder. But then the trees saw what was happening and they decided to save the creepy crawlies by giving them their leaves. So they dropped their leaves which kept the creepy crawlies warm. But the trees - they died. The Great Spirit saw what the trees had done and promised that when spring came he would bring them back to life. You've probably guessed, this is a Native American story. It's a simple story but 2 themes run through it – self-giving love and resurrection, themes which Native Americans would recognise when they heard the story of Jesus.

Christianity is very good at adopting what's best in other traditions and many churches at Harvest Time will be making this statement of faith as we will in St. Mary's.

*"Whatever happens to the earth happens to the children of the earth.*

*The air is precious, for all of us share the same breath.*

*This we know, the earth does not belong to us, we belong to the earth.*

*This we know, all things are connected; like the blood that unites one family.*

*Our God is the same God, whose compassion is equal to all.*

*We did not weave the web of life; we are merely a strand in it.*

*Whatever we do to the web we do to ourselves.*

*Every part of the earth is sacred for all belongs to our Creator."*

It was written by Chief Si'al of the Duwamish Tribe (1780-1866), better known as Chief Seattle. The city of Seattle was named after him.

Why not join us for our Harvest Festival – Sunday September 22<sup>nd</sup> 11.30 am.

With every blessing,  
David

## COUNTRY BEAT by PCSO Phil Jones



Hello and thanks for reading this month's beat report. Firstly I would like to point out that there has been some feedback from my last report that there had been No Anti-Social Behaviour in the village.

The feedback was that there has been ASB and mentioned areas that have been affected. I can assure you that nothing was reported to North Wales Police hence my statement to that affect.

I have since discovered that yes there have been some minor incidents. However these were not called in to NWP therefore no action can be taken if we don't know about it.

It is most important that any crime or ASB is reported to us ASAP on 101 if non urgent, or 999 if there is an emergency. It may be a case of persons not wanting to get involved. However, unreported incidents will not be followed up and therefore the persons committing the offences are getting away with it.

Unfortunately there has been a repeat burglary of a house that was burgled in June. This has been thoroughly investigated and a result is imminent. Again please make sure your homes, sheds, garages and vehicles are all secure.

I am very happy to report that we have a new PCSO at Overton station who replaces PCSO Stephen O'Connell. She is PCSO Robina Ahmed and has been a PCSO for 8 years so has a wealth of experience.

The event I mentioned in last month's report is gathering pace. There are positive responses coming in from our partner agencies who are looking forward to attending. Operation Cinnamon on Monday October 14th will be an afternoon event of information and fun. Look out for more details in the next Oracle.

**PCSO Phil Jones 2858**

Tel: 01978 348425 or 07854 389056

e-mail: [philip.w.jones@nthwales.pnn.police.uk](mailto:philip.w.jones@nthwales.pnn.police.uk)

**Non urgent calls 101 or in emergency call 999**

Hi Everyone,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the local community My name is PCSO Robina Ahmed. I have spent over 8 years working in Wrexham town centre and the surrounding areas and have dealt with many different challenging situations. I look forward to a new challenge that working this area will bring. As an experienced officer I will help tackle key issues and concerns within the communities I police.

**PCSO Robina Ahmed 2610**

Tel: 07854 334279

e-mail: [Robina.ahmed@nthwales.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Robina.ahmed@nthwales.pnn.police.uk)

Overton Police Station - covering area's Overton, Penley, Hanmer, Bettisfield & Horseman's Green.



## Farewell to Year 6

During the summer term pupils, parents and staff had a wonderful time at our annual sports day held in the glorious sunshine. All of the pupils were fantastic and ran, jumped and hopped to great success! A particular highlight was that pupils supported each other with everybody being made to feel a winner.

The final week of term at St Mary's School was an emotional one for everybody as we said farewell to our Yr 6 pupils who are moving to High School in September. Various services were held and numerous fond memories were shared often resulting in many happy tears! The culmination of the week was certainly our Yr 6 leaver's meal and disco which was held at the White Horse, Overton. All of Yr 6 dressed in best attire and a fantastic time was had by all.

All of the staff and governors would like to congratulate all of them on their numerous achievements whilst at St Mary's and wish them the very best for the future.

*Gary Wyn-Jones, Headmaster*



## Playgroup News

It's September again and Toddler sessions resume at Playgroup on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 9am-11am, we hope everyone will be back to catch up and share holiday stories.

During the summer break we have started to redecorate the playgroup and hope to complete it soon. A big thank you to Wrexham Homebase, with a special thanks to Sharon, for kindly donating the paint.

With the start of a new term we will back into full throttle with fundraising. We welcome new ideas, so if anyone wants to come along to one of our meetings or just pass on ideas to any of the committee members, please do so, all help is gratefully received.

## Lunch Club



The Overton Lunch Club is on Wednesday 11th September at 12.30pm at the White Horse.

The menu will be Turkey, Ham and Leek pie with new potatoes and peas followed by fruit crumble and custard.

To book please ring Gwynneth Austin on 710672.

# Kids Kolumn

by Kate Jenkinson,  
Robyn Rehbock and  
Charley Middleton



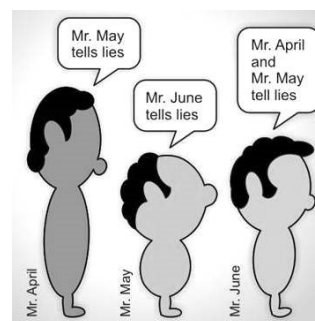
**Hey! It is September, and that means its time to go back to school!**

**We hope you have good fun in your new year groups or schools!**

### Did You Know? Facts

- In case there is a crash Prince Charles and Prince William never travel in the same airplane!
- The King of Hearts is the only king without a moustache in a standard playing card set!
- Mona Lisa has no eyebrows. The fashion at that time was to shave them off!
- Every day 20 banks are robbed!
- Tablecloths were originally meant to be used as towels with which dinner guests could wipe their hands and faces after eating!

### Lying Puzzle



Work out who is telling the truth?

Two of these people are lying, and one is telling the truth

### Here's a quick advert quiz!!

1. This is a brand that makes phones, tablets, MP3 players and computers/laptops A \_ \_ E
2. A company that is known for selling stationary and books W \_ S \_ \_ \_ \_
3. A common fast food chain, we are sure you have all been M \_ D \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
4. A common brand of sweets, their tune is "...kids and grown ups love it so, the happy world of H \_ \_ \_ \_ \_"

Here are the answers to last month's animal group names. \_\_\_\_\_

- A pride of lions.
- A prickle of porcupines.
- A bite of midges.
- A company of parrots.
- A cackle of hyenas.
- An army of caterpillars.
- A pod of dolphins. A herd of wrens

*We are sorry to say that there was a mistake in last months Kids Kolumn! The 'wingbat of wingbats' does not exist!*

Lying Puzzle Answer: Mr. May is telling the truth.

## My Kilimanjaro Adventure by Jenny England



On June 30<sup>th</sup> I began one of the most intense physical and mental challenges of my life. I was terrified as I stepped onto the plane at Heathrow, I had heard many stories and advice but still had no real idea what to expect. My only comfort was the 18 other Nottingham students surrounding me, all quiet and slightly pale; my new team mates! After our long journey we had 1 night's rest before arriving at our starting point. We were climbing the Machame route, or "Whiskey route", the most difficult route up Kilimanjaro that tourists can climb without a permit but the most popular due to its stunning views and varied landscapes. The first day was an 11km trek through rainforest up to Machame Camp, at 3026m. The rainforest is beautiful and contains lots of wildlife including indigenous flowers and black and white monkeys! The next day was a shorter trek to Shira Camp at 3766m. Leaving the forest behind, we trekked through moorland with some actual climbing but mainly a relatively gentle and enjoyable hike.

None of the group had shown signs of altitude sickness but we were told this would change soon! As we arrived in Shira Camp we received a warm welcome from our guides and porters, singing songs and dancing until nightfall. We briefly admired the beautiful night sky before rushing into our tents to escape the cold!

The next morning we saw the summit of Kilimanjaro for the first time, an awe inspiring view which had been hidden by clouds the previous night. It certainly brought home how challenging this trek was going to be. Day 3 was just that, a 10km trek through alpine desert, known as "Judgement Day" was where altitude sickness became a real issue, ascending to about 4695m to "Lava Tower" the group struggled with nausea, exhaustion and headaches. We were all relieved as we descended to Barranco Camp (~3900m) and were able to rest, but it was bittersweet as we realised it was only going to get harder. Day 4 began by climbing up the 200m vertical Barranco wall. We kept a steady pace, heads down and walked the 9km to Barafu Camp. We ate dinner in a nervous silence then went to our tents, hoping for a couple of hours sleep before we began the final ascent.

At 10.45pm we woke and started walking again. Already exhausted from the last 4 treks I focused on my own pace and breathing and tried not to fall asleep on my walking poles! We were told that this was going to be difficult but if we were determined, we could do it. The trek was extremely steep and looking up I couldn't tell if it was the stars or people's head torches above me. By sunrise we were still climbing, which although beautiful, highlighted how far we still had to go. As the ground began to level at Stella Point, the desert retreated and we were walking amongst huge ice glaciers, an interesting sight in July! At around 7am I reached Uhuru Peak, the highest point in Africa (5895m) I know that I wouldn't have made it to the top without the wonderful guides encouraging us to keep going, they truly were an inspiration. It was incredible reaching the top, we were so proud of each other and what we had accomplished. I know I will never forget my achievement and also that many members of Overton village helped me to reach my goal by supporting the charity. Once again, I am truly grateful for all your help! I have seen how it is changing lives in Tanzania and am so happy to have helped continue their valued work! For anyone who still wants to donate, this is the link! [http://www.hopeheroes.org/jennifer\\_england](http://www.hopeheroes.org/jennifer_england)



## Family Garden Party



**W.R.A.P.S**

You are invited to a Family Garden Party from 2pm on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> of September at Pickhill Old Hall, Cross Lanes, LL13 0UE. Entrance is : £2.00 (Children under 16 free)

This will be a chance to enjoy the beautiful views from the gardens of Pickhill Old Hall plus there will be fun activities including a Bouncy Castle, Children's Agility and Kite Flying (contestants will need to bring their own Kites). The stalls include Books, Tombola, and Lucky Dip .

You will be able to quench your thirst at the Licensed Bar and tuck into delicious refreshments that will be available plus a BBQ

This is a Fund Raising Event for WRAPS: Wrexham Residents Against Power Scheme, the campaign against a proposed 1200MW gas fired power station on Wrexham Industrial Estate and the resulting 47metre high pylons which would cross the local countryside to transport energy from the power station.

All enquiries and tickets available from Sarah: 01978 780914 or Marian: 01978 661456 or Jackie: 01978 780544 or pay at the entrance. More information on the campaign on <http://www.wrexhamwraps.org/>



## Clearing river banks



Over the last 2 years, members of the Bryn y Pys Angling Association have under the direction of Head Bailiff Chris Derwent, undertaken extensive work clearing the banks of

the river Dee between Overton Bridge and Bangor on Dee of Himalayan Balsam – an invasive plant which is rapidly taking hold and preventing native natural species colonising the banks of the river. The club has received support and funding from both The Welsh Dee Trust and Keep Wales Tidy Campaign and has been so successful in eradicating the balsam that Keep Wales Tidy Campaign has recently submitted a report to the Welsh Government outlining how successful the club has been in dealing with the balsam.

Neil Smith of Natural Resources Wales (formally Countryside Council for Wales) has stated “This is a great example of how angling clubs and those with an interest in the river can take positive action to protect their local river. Non-native, invasive plant species such as Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed out compete our native plants, causing them to decline. This can affect habitats for local wildlife and can also block access to footpaths, limiting our access to the countryside. The Bryn y Pys Angling Association have shown great enthusiasm in tackling this problem and their efforts will make a huge difference to the area. The work undertaken by this group goes to show that individuals and small groups really can make a difference.”

Bryn y Pys Angling Association controls approximately 4½ miles of the river Dee between Overton Bridge and Bangor on Dee Bridge and offers fishing for brown trout, grayling and coarse fishing. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the club can contact either Chris Derwent on 07800862244 or Adrian Baker on 07901696475 or visit the club’s website [bryn-y-pys.webs.com](http://bryn-y-pys.webs.com)

If you would like to host a High Tea in your own home, once a year, on a Sunday afternoon for a small group of local elderly people and their drivers or help drive the elderly guests then come along to find out more on Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> September 7.00pm to Penley Rainbow Centre.



**Helpa Gelf/Open Art Studios**  
welcomes you to a showcase of  
“All things Woolly”  
at the Parish Room, Overton  
14th & 15th Sept. 11am - 5pm  
Work by local artist  
**Joyce McLaughlin**  
will be on display

## Your Letters...



*Dear Editor,*

I have been informed by our local PCSO that I have been illegally parked on the High Street in front of our home, Church Cottage for the last 20-25 years. Yes I have checked, it is true. “It is against the law to park within 10 metre (34ft) of a junction”. This may sound like sour grapes but it does have serious implications for other villagers especially the Corner Shop and the people who park at the end of Turning St near the junction with High Street. I am lucky that I can park off road but this will drastically effect the number of people that will be able to park in the High Street as if I can’t park in front of my house then no one can and I will ensure that the police are informed every time I see someone parked illegally.

On a similar note I am pleased that the speeding through the village is being discussed. From a High St residents point of view it is the volume, size and speed of vehicles through the village 24 hours a day that concerns me most. A 20mph limit in the High St enforced by traffic calming measures, ie. a narrowing of the road in two places over its length, the most urgent need. This may solve the previous problem at the same time by putting large flower planters on the junction of Dark lane and High St and outside the Corner Shop thus reducing the width of the road and creating a chicane of flowers, forcing the HGV’s and cars to slow down.

*Jim Glover*

## Cricket News

With the latter part of the season approaching, the Cricket Club is well placed in second place in the 4th division of The Shropshire Cricket League. Over the past month, results have been positive with great performances with bat and ball. The weather has been more than kind, meaning we haven't lost a game to inclement weather at home this season (famous last words!). Being so dry, the ball has run fast and true to the boundary or in many cases this year, over the boundary, especially with our 'big hitters'.



The club's president match went well, with much valued support from Peter Rosselli's XI, with good food, great food and friendly chat. We would like to take this opportunity in thanking our supporters for their donations throughout the season and for their most generous support. The last matches of the season are on September 7th at Prees & 14th - Whitchurch commencing 1.00pm.

*Photo - Matthew Lawrenson in good form against Wem.*

Don't miss the opportunity to see the spectacular Mold Gold Cape on loan from the British Museum and on display at Wrexham Museum until September 14th. Free Admission. 3,700 years old, the cape is one of the finest examples of Early Bronze Age embossed gold work in Europe - prehistoric bling!

## Get sporty

A-Star Sports will be starting sessions for children in the Village Hall in September. They are fun-filled multi-sports experiences for children aged 2-10 years. They provide inclusive, developmental multi-sports coaching in a positive environment that begins with an initial ABC-based programme (agility, balance and co-ordination) plus develops into 10 core sports – basketball, cricket, dodgeball, football, handball, hockey, rounders, rugby, tennis and volleyball. The core curriculum is supplemented by a programme of activities in keeping with current sporting events.

These practical and fun learning experiences provide the foundation for children to develop physically, socially and emotionally through the positive challenges and enjoyment of taking part in sport. For more information on classes & parties visit [www.a-starsports.co.uk](http://www.a-starsports.co.uk) or call Adrian on 07795 691417.

## Medical Practice

Letters are going to patients aged 70 and aged 79 offering Shingles vaccination. Nurse-led Clinics will take place during September to deliver the Zostavax vaccine.

We expect to run Flu clinics at the end of September or early October. Posters will be displayed with dates. We welcome Dr Elin Roberts, our new GP Registrar; and say farewell to Dr Helen Treharne.

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## Blues Band is back!

The legendary Blues Band are to appear once more at Overton Village Hall on Friday November 15th. They contacted the organisers and said they had enjoyed themselves so much last time - 2 years ago, would it be possible to appear there again. Tickets will be on sale in the village at the Corner Shop.

Now entering 35 years of touring, the legendary British outfit are fronted by the amazingly youthful Paul Jones (ex Manfred Mann) on vocals and harmonica. The band features Tom McGuinness and Dave Kelly, Gary Fletcher plus Rob Townsend on drums.

woodlands  
of erbistock

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*Classes start Jan. 2014 for this age group*
2. 40pm for children turning 4 before 31/8/14
3. 40pm for Reception aged children,
4. 40pm for Yr 1 & 2.
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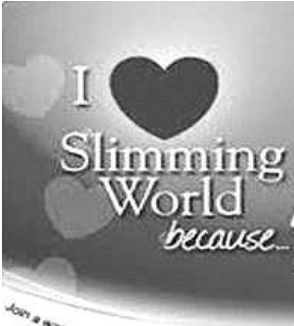

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## WHAT'S ON

### September Diary for St Mary's Services

- Sunday Sept 1st** 10.00am Family Village Praise  
**Sunday Sept 8th** 11.30am **MERCHANT NAVY** Communion  
**Sunday Sept 15th** 10.00am Family Communion  
**Sunday Sept 22nd** 11.30am **HARVEST FESTIVAL**  
**Sunday Sept 29th** 10.00am Group Eucharist

### September Diary for Methodist Chapel Services

**Sunday evenings** 6.30pm

**Monday September 2nd** 2.00 - 3.00pm Overton  
Community Council Drop-In in the Parkside  
Residents Lounge

**Friday September 6th** 3.30 - 5.30pm MP and AM  
Surgery at the Parish Room.

**Saturday September 7th** The Village Produce Show &  
Handicraft Show. Exhibits before 11.00am.  
Doors open at 2.30pm. Presentation of Prizes  
at 4.00pm

**Saturday September 7th** 2.00pm Family Garden Party  
at Pickhill Old Hall in aid of WRAPS

**Monday September 9th** 10.30am Overton British Legion  
meeting for coffee at Woodlands Deli

**Tuesday September 10th** 7.30pm Overton Community  
Council meeting in the Parish Room. Members of  
the public wishing to speak can do so between  
7.20 - 7.30pm.

**Wednesday September 11th** 12.30pm Overton Lunch  
Club at the White Horse. Booking required.

**Friday 13th September 13th** Horse racing night at the  
White Horse in aid of Abbey Road Acro and  
Gymnastics Team. First race 9.00pm. Free entry.

**Saturday September 14th** 10.30am Overton Bowling  
Club Coffee Morning at the Village Hall. 50p

**Saturday & Sunday September 14th & 15th** 11am -  
5pm "All things Woolly" in the Village Hall

**Saturday September 14th** 12 - 4pm St Mary's School  
Bonanza, Free entry. All welcome

**Monday September 16th** 6pm Overton Surgery Patient  
Participation Group meeting. All welcome

**Tuesday September 17th** 10.30 - 2.30pm Penley  
Rainbow Lunch & learn - Silk scarf painting

## FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Congratulations** to Lisa and Kevin Owen on the birth  
of a daughter, Casey Ann, a first granddaughter for  
Pauline Edwards, & a niece for Laura and Lucy.

**Congratulations** to Elizabeth Thompson of Kiln Cot-  
tage, Overton and David Lambert on the occasion of  
their marriage at Marchwiell on 27th July.

**Happy September Birthdays** to Lucas Pimparel, Bri-  
an Hamlington, Euan Stevenson, Val Stevenson,  
Ross Morrison, David (Wavy) Williams, Melissa  
Haynes, Mary Smitheram, Charlotte Eve, Ken Farrell,  
Pauline Lynch. Geoff Pritchard, Kayleigh Grindley, Haf  
and Aoife Edwards, Simon Edwards, Laura Marks,  
Myra Worthington, Pauline Edwards and Dave Austin.  
Happy 50th birthday to Marion Sinclair.

**Sincere condolences** to the family and friends of Mrs  
L. Edwards of PlasynCoed who passed away July 29th

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Sarah-Jane Hellingman, for suc-  
cessfully passing her 'A' level exams, and obtaining a  
place at Oxford Brookes University where she will be  
studying for a History of Arts Degree. With Love from  
Mum, Dad and Claire.

## For Sale

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### Overton Bowling Club Coffee Morning

at Overton Village Hall on  
Saturday 14th September at 10.30am En-



The October Oracle will be published a few days late  
due to the Editor's holiday.

### PLEASE REMEMBER

Copy deadline 20th of the  
month. Get your events  
& news to us early to  
avoid disappointment  
**THIS INCLUDES  
ADVERTISEMENTS**

Leave your contribu-  
tions, & announcements  
at the Corner Shop.

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