

# The Overton Oracle

Volume 18 Issue 8

August 2016

Overton's Free Newspaper - delivered to every household monthly



## The 44th Overton Village Produce Show

Overton Village Produce Show is to be held at the Village Hall on Saturday 3rd September 2016. Entries 9.00 am to 11.00 am. Viewing from 2.30 pm. Presentation of prizes at 4.00 pm

## Overton Post Office

The Post Office will close for 3 weeks from 5.15pm on Monday 8th August and will hopefully reopen at 9.00am on Tuesday 30th August.

## Quiz Night

The White Horse's next charity quiz night will be on Thursday August 4th at 9pm in aid of the Cricket Club. Contact Kev if you would like your organisation to benefit.



## Overton Zumba

Keep fit this summer by joining Zumba Fitness at Overton Village Hall. Let the music free your body and let the ultimate dance-fitness party groove you into shape. Every Thursday and Sunday 7.00pm to 7.45pm, £4 per person. For more details contact Sharon on 07930 185902

## Number 146 bus service

Clwyd Sth AM Ken Skates said: "The news of GHA's problems is a bitter blow for our area. The Welsh Government is working closely with local councils including Wrexham to help those who rely on the services GHA is now unable to provide." MP Susan Elan Jones added: "Many of my constituents have been left stranded as result of this. While our local councils are acting to provide alternatives, I offer my full support at such a difficult, uncertain time."

## Overton welcomes our visitors from Albania and the Czech Republic



This year Overton played host to competitors for the Llangollen International Eisteddfod, to folk dancers and musicians from Albania and a choir from the Czech Republic.



Ansambli Visaret E Gores, a folk and traditional group from Tirane in Albania came first in the 'Dancing in the Street' competition.

BBC Wales S4C filmed in the village and interviewed Overton's accommodation co-ordinator, Carol Dykes who emphasised the importance of welcoming performers in to a local community, and Clive Hellingman who spoke of how Overton residents enjoyed meeting people from different cultures.



Patrons of the White Horse enjoyed an impromptu performance by the Czech visitors.

## and from France

Overton played host to two charming young French girls in July. Clara Ancel and Aurelia Carry were here from La Murette to improve their English. They were staying with Sam and Poppy Bateman-Green and with Cath Starkey, and the Twinning Association is keeping them busy. On Monday, they presented the Global Citizen award at St Mary's School at a charming assembly held under the trees on the school field, during which the school pupils demonstrated an impressive knowledge of France and French culture. An art class at the Penley Rainbow Centre, visiting the Plassey, going to Chester, Liverpool and the seaside, spending time with local teenagers, bell ringing and shopping are all in their diary of activities. They return to La Murette with 14 Overtonians who are spending a week enjoying French hospitality. Anyone interested in learning more about the Twinning Association should contact Sheila Miller on 710823 or any other Twinning member.



## Thank you for making this year's fete such a success!!

This year's village fete was a tremendously enjoyable community event and considering what the weather had been like prior to and after Saturday 25th June, we were so lucky to have wall to wall sunshine when the fete opened for the 12th consecutive year!

This year we had some new additions to the programme, line dancing with Geoff Langford and a fun dog show. A few of you were keen to have a go with the line dancing putting many of us to shame. Geoff encouraged all those who participated, with the end result looking professional and fun! *Photo right*

The dog show was a resounding success with all breeds and owners having a



great time. The enthusiasm from dogs and their owners was endless!! Thank you to the two judges, Bev Clarke and Alex Hart, who did a splendid job, which at times must have been difficult.

**Huge thanks** go to all our sponsors who donated items to be used at the fete, gave their services free of charge or supplied and enabled us to have loads of fantastic prizes in the Grand Prize Draw.

Whilst the Community Council oversee the organising and running of the fete, with four members of the Council involved throughout, we **couldn't** do without the help and

fresh ideas from our volunteers and those who make the day run smoothly: Christian Chalk, Laurence Chalk, Lucy Chalk, Charlotte Copeman, Mike Done for lending and delivering some hay bales for us to use, Kaye Garbett, Pam Lynch, Holly Lynch, John McCusker - our brilliant announcer, Jude Mouldsdale, Les Mouldsdale, and Community Cllr Tony Walker for popping along and then helping for the whole afternoon!



A special thank you goes to Andrew Jones for cutting the Millennium Meadow in preparation for cars parking on it and Ian Atkinson for coming to the aid of the Community Council and removing a fallen branch from one of the trees in the Millennium Meadow the day before the fete! Thank you to Pat Loughlin's team for working hard to make sure the Park and Football Pitch looked at its best on the day.

The event concluded with the Grand Prize Draw with everyone waiting with baited breath to find out if they had won one of the brilliant prizes donated by local businesses.

Then tables were packed away, gazebos taken down, cars packed up and everyone wended their weary way home with smiles on their faces and thought of next year's fete on their mind.

Thank you and see you all next year!!

*Overton Community Council*

## Prizegiving Assembly at St Mary's School

At a recent prizegiving assembly, St Mary's School gave out 2 awards. The first was presented by Pene Coles, chair of the OCC and Mrs Wendy Lunt who came up with the idea for a "Keep Overton Tidy" poster competition. Wendy is pictured with the winners, Seren Dodd and Zoe Mitchell who designed superb posters that will be displayed around the village to remind residents to pick up litter and to pick up after their dogs.



The second award was our prestigious "Global Citizen" award to the pupil who staff feel made the greatest contribution to the special ethos we have at St Mary's and who follows our school core values of love, honesty, respect, peace and trust. The decision was a very difficult one and there could have been many winners, but after lots of deliberation, the shield was awarded to Jacob Jones (*left*) in Year 6. Sheila Miller represented the Twinning Association who have kindly sponsored the award for many years, and Clara Ancel and Aurelia Carry from La Murette presented the award. "Bravo, Jacob!"



## Ramblings from the Reverend



by Rev'd Canon David Child

Last month we held our School Leaving Service. Year 6 told us of their hopes and fears with regard to their finishing in St Mary's and starting next term in a new school. Year five presented each one of them with a lighted candle and a prayer. But it wasn't just year 6 we were saying farewell to as two of our long serving teachers were also leaving, Sandra Jones to begin her retirement and Dylan Williams who has been appointed Head of Bwlchgwyn School

People say that the two hardest things in life are starting and finishing. But when you think about it waiting is pretty challenging too. There does seem to be an awful lot of temporary traffic lights about at present. And we're all there staring at those lights waiting for them to turn to green, in first gear ready to gain those crucial few yards.

But at least the little man in the traffic light is there to tell us when to stop and when to go. But with relationships, lifestyle choices, careers, we have to decide for ourselves when to slam the breaks on and come to a standstill or when to pull off from stationary. There doesn't seem to be anyone there to tell us when to stay, when to go or when to take a different direction. Or is there?

We're all human beings. It's a funny name because if there's one thing we humans aren't very good at it's just 'being'. We're better at living in the past – 'human beans', dwelling on past mistakes or long gone successes. We're even better at being 'human will be's' looking to the future, dreaming dreams, planning what we'll do when everything turns out right.

But as for just 'being', as for just living in the here and now, we're all too busy; we've got far too much to do. We can't just 'be'. The fact is, we can't tell what the future will bring. We can make our plans, but God's in charge and he might have a very different direction for us to take. What was that about a lighted candle and a prayer?

With every blessing

David

## D of E Litter pick

For the past 13 weeks Alfie Macdonald-Brown has been litter picking at the park and around the village as part of his Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award, collecting many bags of litter from the playingfield, football pitch, hedgerows and after the fete. Alfie has said about the experience "It has been great helping pick up litter though I won't miss the little plastic bottle tops!" Many thanks Alfie and good luck with the rest of your tasks for your Bronze D of E.

Pene Cole, Chairwoman OCC



email: [overtonoracle@gmail.com](mailto:overtonoracle@gmail.com)

## Country Beat



by PCSO Lynne Maurice

Even during relatively mild weather, a car can quickly heat up in the sun, despite the outside temperature feeling fairly cool.

During the heat experienced recently and hopefully in the months to come, vehicles can turn deadly.

Unlike humans, dogs pant to help keep themselves cool. In a hot stuffy car dogs can't cool down - parking in the shade, leaving a window open or a sunshield on the windscreen won't keep a car cool enough and a dog could die.

The following signs of an animal who is in danger of death by heatstroke:

- Excessive panting
- Excessive drooling
- Increased heart rate
- Trouble breathing
- Disorientation
- Collapse or loss of consciousness
- Seizure
- Respiratory arrest



Under the Animal Welfare Act 2006 Police have the powers to deal with dogs that are trapped and in distress in vehicles under Section 18 – Powers in relation to animals in distress. I hope this is of some assistance.

Regards

Lynne

**Lynne Maurice PCSO 0151 / SCCH 0151**

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## HELP !!!

Last year I sent out a plea through the Oracle for talented folks of the village to join us in a musical production entitled "Time to Remember Christmas". Unfortunately the response, although encouraging, did not reach the required numbers so we had to postpone it. Not being the type to fall at the first hurdle, we are trying again this year. The volunteers we are looking for are: \*Male singers - all ages (we have a few but really need a few more)

\*Teenage singers and teenage dancers - both boys and girls.

The parts are not too challenging and will be fun to be involved with. If you are interested in knowing more please contact Mervyn Haynes on 01978 710740 (evenings) or [haynes1954@hotmail.com](mailto:haynes1954@hotmail.com) and can you please get in touch by the weekend of August 14th so that we will know if we can "go for it".

## Overton Cricket Fixtures in August

6th - Guilsfield - Home - 1.30pm

13th - Coton Hall - Away - 1.30pm

20th - Allscott 3 - Home - 1.00pm

27th - Bridgnorth 3 - Home - 1.00pm



### Summer Stay & Play Sessions with Sing & Sign

Summer Stay & Play Sessions are 2 hour play sessions for children aged 0-5 years with crafts/big art, sensory activities, soft play and a little Sing & Sign, running in the Village Hall in August; refreshments also provided. Sessions cost £5 for 1 child then £1 for each additional child. Children over 5 years are more than welcome when accompanying.

The sessions will be running on:

3 August @ 10am

8 August @ 1.30pm

17 August @ 10am

22 August @ 1.30pm

Find us on Facebook for more information; 'Sing & Sign Denbighshire and South Wrexham' Beccy Elwell

### Playcentre News

What an amazing way to end our academic year at the Playcentre! We had 30 children with playgroup staff, parents and grandparents undertaking a 2 mile sponsored walk in glorious sunshine across beautiful countryside from the Playcentre to Home Farm. It was a huge achievement for the little ones, who thoroughly enjoyed collecting pictures of animals along the way. Thank you to all who sponsored them, to Margaret, Charlotte and Angela who worked hard to set it all up, and to Mr Tim Rosselli for permission and access for such a wonderful walk. A big thank you to Alison and Dave and all at Home Farm for their hospitality and much needed shelter and cold drinks in the scorching heat. The children also really loved having the opportunity to see all the animals and were very excited to see our ducklings in their new home.

On behalf of all the committee I would like to highlight again how hardworking and committed all the staff are and what a fantastic job they have done this year. Thank you so much for all you do and give to our playgroup.

Thanks to all parents, grandparents, staff, committee, St Mary's School and all others who have supported Playgroup and Toddlers over the year and of course most importantly all our children who make our playgroup what it is. For all our children who are going up to big school we would like to wish them a very happy time there, we will miss them all.

## Kids Kolumn

This month's contribution is from  
Caitlin Baker

Summer is upon us another school year is over. 6-8 weeks may seem like a very long time but there are so many things we can do to enjoy ourselves before the transition into another year of school.

Many of our friends are flying overseas to exotic places to experience new things. We are going to the Netherlands. There are however many exciting things to do right here. For example swimming, going on walks with your family, going to the beach, camping and enjoying National Trust properties. I like to go for bike rides around my village with my sisters and with my friends. Because its summer there are also many yummy things to eat that are fresh in season right now. I'm looking forward to having no homework and to not get up at six o'clock to catch the bus to school.

I hope you all have a great summer and enjoy yourselves.

### Being a Community Councillor

Pene Coles wrote about joining the Overton Community Council in the fete programme. I am in my 17<sup>th</sup> year as a Councillor and like Pene, I too have enjoyed my time working with the Council, striving to improve the quality of life within the community. We do receive some comments from people who wish their community council was more pro-active. It cannot be denied that being a community councillor does involve a good deal of commitment but it is a very interesting and rewarding commitment.

The council is a body of volunteers who work their role around busy lives. It should have 11 members but for some time now we have only had 9 and for the first time that I can recall, the July meeting had to be adjourned because a full quorum could not attend. We need to fill the vacancies for 2 co-opted members. Please think about becoming a councillor, the Overton website carries all the information. To quote Pene, 'It is a lovely village in which we live, work and play and it is important that we keep it this way.'

*Cllr Lesley Pugh*

*Adverts are not included  
in the on-line archived edition of the Oracle.*

*This is because the archive of the Oracle is  
available on-line going back many years  
and the adverts and contact details  
would be out of date.*

### Crossing the Dee

This photograph shows the old ferry that ran across the Dee by the Boat Inn, Erbistock for which the fare was one old penny each way in the 1920s and 1930s. The two wire hawsers visible ran round a pulley attic held to a tree on the Overton side and to a windlass on the other side in front of the inn. Attached to the hawser was a flat bottomed boat and the crossing was made by turning the windlass. Only the windlass remains today to remind us of those days.



People from the Erbistock side would cross to admire the snowdrops, wild daffodils and bluebells on the Overton side and the Overtonians for the obvious purpose of quenching their thirst. There was no restraint in those days but that didn't really matter. Just think you could cross over to the inn and back for twopence, but five Woodbines for another twopence and get roaring drunk for a couple of shillings, if that! And if you wanted to save the ferry fare you could always wade across the ford in front of the church. However, before wishing for the "good old days" we should remember that money was somewhat tighter in those far-off times, with a coal miner for instance on a basic weekly wage of £1.75 or thirty-five shillings in old money.

*Ken Farrell*

### Thank you

The Overton Branch of the Royal British Legion would like to place on record their grateful thanks to Eastwick Nurseries for their generosity and hard work in re-planting around the Cenotaph in Overton.

### White Horse News

We would like to thank all who supported us in celebrating our anniversary, Ange & Simons leaving do and Craig William's birthday, with special thanks to Chris Box & Soul Sam for their expert job on the decks. Following this trial of the disco equipment at the White Horse we are now able to offer the function room for parties for all ages including if required a children's entertainer. For details call in or phone 710111

*More photos of Overton's Eisteddfod visitors from Albania*



*Jacob Jones of St Mary's School receives the 'Global Citizen' award presented by Sheila Miller on behalf of the Twinning Association, watched by his family.*



## St Mary's School Leavers

As part of our school's recent leaver's assembly at St. Mary's Church, we were treated to a heart-warming tribute from our current year five pupils for our school leavers in year six. The children lit a candle for their peers and each was wished a whole variety of success at their chosen secondary school. The children then shared their 'hopes and fears' for the challenges ahead and were assured by our St. Mary's family that our door is always open and we hope that each and every one of them has a bright and brilliant future, filled with happiness and laughter.

The service then turned to 2 members of our staff who are leaving to pastures new with a wonderful address read by Diane Aplin, our Chair of Governors; Dylan Williams is to become the new Headteacher at Bwlchgwyn Primary School and we will all miss his musical talent, his football skills and even his unconventional teaching of punctuation! Pob lwc Mistar Williams, byddwn yn colli chi!



Mrs Sandra Jones (*photo left*) will be leaving St. Mary's at the end of term and will be beginning a long, fun filled and fabulous retirement. She has been part of the very foundations of our amazing school since its construction in 1986 and the children certainly found a fantastic way to find out a little bit more about her during the service at church. Year 6 children used a bingo type game to ask a range of tricky, sensible and hilarious questions during her 'hot seat' session. When asked about her favourite part of teaching, Sandra explained that she loved spending time with all the children, watching them grow and develop confidence with enthusiasm to learn. She loves to find out about children's chosen careers and in turn has taught children of her past pupils too. She told us that her best experience was preparing her class to perform in front of Queen Elizabeth II in 1992; not a claim to fame that many teachers have! Her clumsiest memory, (yes, she was asked this) was when she fell over children at the finishing line on sports day, in front of all the parents too! There is one thing that Mrs Jones will be remembered for is her laugh and with it, her sense of humour and we're sure that this wonderful quality will be part of her retirement too!

Sandra plans to spend more time with her family and friends and she also hopes to travel and begin to learn a new language. We wish her well on her new adventure and although we, at St. Mary's feel sad that she is leaving our school, she will never leave our family and will always be welcomed back with open arms.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our school families for their support over this past school year and wish everyone a happy, sunny and fun filled summer holiday. Take care, be safe and we will see you soon.

## Congratulations



Well done to all of the children who took part in St. Mary's School Sports Day. Everyone showed great sportsman-ship and we had a fantastic day! A big well done to Alyn for winning the Sport's Day

trophy! and congratulations to Lydia Evison on winning *Victrix Ludorum*, and Sam Hammond on winning *Victor Ludorum*. Adam Ratcliffe also received an award for great sportsmanship. Da iawn all, you were super athletes!

Well done also to St Mary's swimming team, who represented their school's area in the Wrexham School Swimming Gala, and won 3rd place.



## WWI remembered

There have been many different ways of remembering the 1<sup>st</sup> World War but one 16yr old student at the Maelor School has found a unique way of remembering. Art student Gracie Evans, who lives in Penley was looking for a project for her GCSE final art exam. She was inspired by the stories of soldiers in WW1 and the work of South



African artist Peter Clarke and textile artist Maria Walker. She searched the internet and found letters from soldiers at the front. She downloaded these and using a hot glue gun created the dress in the picture from the letters she printed off. The letters are glued over a wire frame made by Gracie and finished off with poppies.

The dress represents a mourning dress, but using the letters rather than black material. There are over 300 letters used to create the dress. Gracie was often moved to tears when reading them, which were often final love letters from the front to their wives, sweethearts and many to their mothers. After all her research it still took 8-10 hours of hard work to create the dress. We hope Gracie receives top marks for her memorial dress. She is pictured here with Dave Austin, Standard Bearer for the Overton Branch of the Royal British Legion and David Burton, Overton's Branch Chairman.

## What's On

### August Diary for St Mary's Services

Wednesday August 3<sup>rd</sup> 7.30pm Evening Prayer  
 Sunday August 7<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Family Village Praise  
 Sunday August 14<sup>th</sup> 11.30am Holy Communion  
 Sunday August 21<sup>st</sup> 10.00am Family Communion  
 Sunday August 28<sup>th</sup> 11.30am Holy Communion

### August Diary for Overton Methodist Chapel

Sunday August 7<sup>th</sup> 6.30pm Mrs Sheila Rudden  
 Sunday August 14<sup>th</sup> 6.30pm Mr Ebenezer Sam  
 Sunday August 21<sup>st</sup> 6.30pm Rev Phill Poole Holy Communion  
 Sunday August 28<sup>th</sup> 11am Rev Neville Pugh All Age Worship

**Every Saturday** 10.30am-12 noon Weekly Coffee Mornings at the Methodist Chapel

**Every Wednesday** 10.30am St Mary's Coffee Morning and Get-together in church to raise money for Nightingale House. All welcome.

**Wednesday August 3<sup>rd</sup>** 12.30pm Overton Lunch Club at the White Horse. Booking required

**Thursday August 4<sup>th</sup>** 10.30am - 2.30pm Rainbow Centre Lunch & Learn. "Making your own Fascinator" with Sara Jones

**Thursday August 4<sup>th</sup>** 9.00pm Charity Quiz Night at the White Horse in aid of the Cricket Club

**Wednesday August 10<sup>th</sup>** 10.30am Overton British Legion meeting at the Scout Hut. All welcome.

**Wednesday August 17<sup>th</sup>** White Horse Tarot Reading night

**Saturday September 3<sup>rd</sup>** 2.30pm Overton Village Produce Show in the Village Hall

**Sunday September 4<sup>th</sup>** Nightingale House Rainbow Dash at Banqor-on-Dee Racecourse

## For Sale

### Overton Royal British Legion 100 Club

Results of the "100 Club" draw for July. 79 members entered and the draw was made at the Lunch Club on 13th June by Olwen Sides.

Winners -

1st Prize £158.00 No 11 Colin Bamber  
 2nd Prize £79.00 No 63 Gerald O'Shaughnessy  
 3rd Prize £39.50 No 62 Doreen Jones

Legion Fund: £118.50 Next Draw on Aug. 10th  
 A few membership places still available, open to everyone, not just RBL members. If you wish to join please ring Dave Austin Tel: 01978 710678

## Family Announcements



**Happy August Birthdays** to Daniel Brown.

Alan Stubbert, Tara Stubbert, Francis Glynne Jones, Belinda Matthews, Seanie Clarke, Jackie Grindley, Gladys Evans, Gill Rogers, Carol Dykes, Lewis Evison, Brian Williams, Chloe Malam, Matt Worsdell, Trena Haynes, Alex Natrass, Charlotte Scott-Davies, Dave Bellis, Ethan Saunders, Reg Jones, Jackie Tombs and Gill Evans. Ellen Hoare, Cindy Myers, Kacey Owens and Kevin Owens.

**Happy 18th Birthday** to Katherine Scott-Davies

**Happy 21st Birthday** to Matthew Lawrenson, love from Mum, Dad and Scott

**Sincere condolences** to the family and friends of Celia Anne Hellingman who passed away July 12th.

## Gardener Needed

## Overton Lunch Club

Overton Lunch Club is on Wednesday August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 12.30pm at the White Horse. The menu will be brunch followed by crumble - all for £6.25. To book please ring Gwynneth Austin on 01978 710672



## Congratulations

to Sarah-Jane Hellingman (left) on attaining a BA Hons in History of Art at Oxford Brookes University and to



Claire Abigail Hellingman (right) on attaining a Master of Architecture at Kent University.

**PLEASE REMEMBER**  
**Copy deadline is 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.**

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