

The Overton Oracle



Volume 21 Issue 8

August 2019

Overton's Free Newspaper - delivered to every household monthly for 20 years

The 47th Overton 2019 Village Produce Show



is in the Village Hall on **Saturday 7th September**.

Exhibits are to be staged between 9.00 am and 11.15am.

The Show opens at 2.30 pm.

Presentation of prizes at 4.00pm.

Keep the date

Overton Bowling Club will be holding a Coffee Morning in the Village Hall from 10.30am on Saturday September 14th.



Chapel Trip to Llandudno

Tuesday 20th August leaving 9:30am from the Car Park.



To book or for more information please ring Gwynneth Austin on 01978 710672 or tel: 01978 710493.

Congratulations

Congratulations to M. E. Evans Ltd our village butchers, for winning awards at the Great British Butchers Awards - BRONZE for Steak & Gravy Pie, SILVER for Sirloin Steak and GOLD for Traditional Bacon.



Quiz Night

Quiz night at the White Horse hosted by John Wynne on Thursday August 15th. All money goes to local charities.



Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the twinning of Overton & La Murette 4th - 11th August 2019



Cath Starkey (Chair) and Sheila Miller (Secretary) of the Twinning Association presented Daisy Harris with the Citizenship Award at St Mary's Leavers' Assembly on 18th July.

They took the opportunity to tell all the children and parents that we welcome 21 French visitors arriving from La Murette on 4th

August to celebrate our 25th anniversary. The party includes 12 children aged from 7 to 15 so many of the week's celebrations will focus on them and Sheila stressed that all local children are very welcome to join in on Monday 5th August when we are having a barbecue at 1pm and sports and games afternoon at the Scout Hut. Eddie Caswell has been roped in to organise the fun afternoon so success is guaranteed!

On Monday morning a Murder Mystery hunt round the village will end at approximately 11.45 am in St Mary's Church when the vicar will meet our visitors, and the War Memorials of both villages will be added to our new banner before it is carried to the Scout Hut for the week.

The full programme is on the Village website. We are going to Hawkstone Follies, Llandudno, Chester, Llangollen, and Ellesmere Summer Festival.

There will be a final opportunity to meet our visitors on Friday evening when we are holding a barn dance in the Village Hall with the band Moon Coin. Children under 16 no charge but must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets and more information available from Sheila 710823 or milleroverton22@yahoo.co.uk.

It's Your Neighbourhood (update)

It was with some trepidation that earlier this year, the Growers decided to take their first tentative steps towards accreditation for the village by entering the RHS 'It's Your Neighbourhood' initiative, based on three principles, 'Community Participation', 'Environmental Responsibility' and 'Gardening Achievement'. We duly completed the form, put together a self-evaluation document, sent off some other paperwork and received confirmation of our application. We were on our way!

(continued on Page 6)



Photo of the judges with Cath Roberts (Chair Overton Community Growers)

Overton Village Parade & Fete 2019

With alarming amounts of "the wet stuff" falling in deluges from the sky for seemingly most of June, we were blessed on the 29th itself with sunshine which basked down on apparently every



single Overton resident thronging the streets to cheer on the Parade, or taking part in the Parade itself!

Like last year, the Parade opened the fete with a bang, and immediately the entire Playing Field was full of people visiting the local businesses' and associations' stalls, munching on



calzones, hog roast baps and delicious BBQ chicken, entering their dogs into the Fun Dog Show, enjoying the fun fair and generally having fun.

The Village Fete has always been a terrific community event, made even more so by the addition of the Parade and many thanks go to everyone involved in making the day such a success. As she was leaving one fete-goer was heard to remark that she



hadn't seen a single person on their mobile phone ... we'll take that as a win!!

Next year's fete will be on Saturday 27th June - it's never too early to book your stall so if you want to get ahead, email overtonfete@outlook.com

More photos on Oracle website



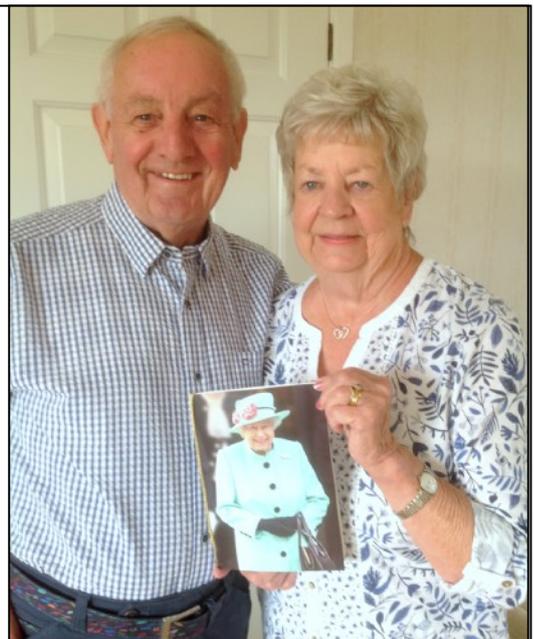
Congratulations from the Queen



Congratulations to Colin and Jan Davies who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on the 18th July.

They would like to thank the many friends who sent greetings cards and congratulations, especially Her Majesty the Queen.

They celebrated the day with a short break at Holmes Lacy House Hotel near Hereford.



Seeds from St Mary's

by Rev'd. Peter Mackriell



The Overton parade and fete on June 29th was a great occasion, bringing the High Street to a halt as parade participants and spectators enjoyed the procession to the playing field, where many different stalls were available to tempt and to entertain. As a newcomer to the village, I was very impressed with all the work that had gone in to creating the parade with its mythical water creature and other floats, and I was interested to see so many different organisations represented on the field. My impression was that Overton punches somewhat above its weight as this was a fine achievement for a village of this size.

There is something very special about being part of a community. In towns and cities it can be difficult to feel connected to the place where you live; in a village like ours, it should be easier. That doesn't mean, however, that everyone feels accepted or cared for. Some people do get overlooked. Society feels more fractured than it once did, even in a village like ours.

Having conducted two weddings in July and celebrated my own son's wedding, St Paul's words about love are very much in my mind. When he writes that "love is patient, love is kind, love keeps no record of wrongs" he isn't thinking about a couple making their marriage vows. He isn't writing about romantic love. He is writing to a small community of Christians about how they should care for each other. He is writing about a commitment to love, not an emotion.

What can we do as a community to show love for our neighbours? Traditionally, the church has been a focus for pastoral care. Let me know if there is anything we can do for you or someone you know. Or, even better, let me know if there is something you would like to offer to do for others. Doing for others what we would like someone to do for us – that's a good principle, a practical way of showing love.

And may our community flourish!

Peter Mackriell

Cub Scouts Catch Speeders



Overton Cubs help PCSO Lydia Edwards use the speed gun around the village - see report in right hand column.

Country Beat

by PCSO Lydia Edwards



Through community engagement, North Wales Police have received reports of problematic parking of vehicles.

Inconsiderate or illegally parked vehicles are a potentially dangerous street obstruction which can force pedestrians to walk along the road to bypass those vehicles. This is especially problematic for pedestrians who are blind or visually impaired, wheelchair or mobility users, people with pushchairs, the elderly and the emergency services.

Reports include vehicles parked near school entrances (zig zags), across drop kerbs, too close to other street furniture, parked half on pavement and roads and in some cases vehicles parked fully on pavements.

The following Highway Code information should assist with any confusion regarding parking regulations. You **MUST NOT** stop or park:

- near a school entrance
- on a pedestrian crossing, including the area marked by the zig-zag lines
- anywhere you would prevent access for emergency services
- at or near a bus or tram stop or taxi rank
- opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space
- near the brow of a hill, hump bridge or on a bend
- opposite a traffic island or (if this would cause an obstruction) another parked vehicle
- where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and powered mobility vehicles
- in front of an entrance to a property
- on a cycle track where you would obstruct cyclists' use of cycle facilities except when forced to do so by stationary traffic.

PCSOs have also been doing speed checks in Overton village, on Station Road and Salop Road. These were done on the 17th and 18th July as part of a high impact awareness operation. In July we had some help from the local Cub pack who assisted with capturing the speeds of the motorists with the handheld speed gun and letting drivers know if they were driving sensibly within the speed limits with cheers and thumbs up or down. North Wales Police would like to thank them for their help on making the village a safe place to live. Officers will be doing spot checks in the area and warning motorists to be aware of their speed.

PCSOs have been dealing with some antisocial behaviour in the village which resulted in damage to the cricket club pavilion. Home visits were conducted by officers with parents present to those involved and letters of apologies have been written by a number of youths involved. Officers have noted no further reports of antisocial behaviour since the home visits were conducted.

Regards, Lydia

PCSO 2929 Lydia Edwards

Nth Wales Police/Heddlu Gogledd Cymru,
Lydia.edwards@nthwales.pnn.police.uk

Quarter Peal at St Mary's Church

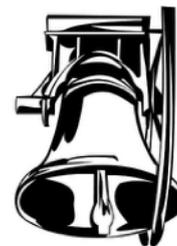
On Saturday 31st August 2019 a Quarter Peal is to be attempted at St Marys Church, Overton, between 10.00 and 10.45am. A Quarter Peal is comprised of 1,260 changes, or permutations of the 6 bells. The method that will be rung is Plain Bob Doubles and two regular Overton bell ringers will be joined by ringers from the neighbouring towers of Chirk, Llangollen and Oswestry.

Looking at the Overton bell ringing records dating back to 1881, there has only ever been one Full Peal, lasting 2 hours and 49 minutes rung in 1976, and eleven Quarter Peals rung in 1924, 1967, 1975, 1978, 1979, 1986, 1990, 1993, 1995, 2000 and 2004. The Quarter Peal attempt has been organised to coincide with normal practise on Saturday mornings but will last approximately 15-20 minutes longer than usual.

If the attempt is successful and meets the strict guidelines outlined by the *Central Council of Church Bell Ringers*, it will be recorded in *The Ringing World* as only the twelfth Quarter Peal to be rung in Overton.

(Thanks to Peter Woollam from Oswestry tower for his help in searching the historic records)

Clare Morris



Bee Friendly

Thursday 27th June saw the arrival of some welcome but problematic guests to the village. A swarm of bees decided to make its new home in one of the vents near the Village Hall entrance. The honey bee still faces a number of challenges despite the surge in bee keeping popularity (in 1900 there were over a million hives in the UK, in 2015 this numbered just 270,000) so the Village Hall was keen to see these bees removed humanely and rehomed to a more suitable location (especially with a wedding due to be held at the hall on 29th....although you couldn't make it up....the theme of the wedding? Bees!)



Two local bee keepers were called in and Operation Extract the Bees commenced. A small hive was set up to trap as many of the bees as possible. This has now been rehomed along with the majority of the bees to the Brymbo Heritage Project where they are establishing an apiary to encourage people to learn how to keep bees and to help pollinate their orchard of heritage apple trees. www.brymboheritage.co.uk

A swarm is how bees increase their numbers by sending a queen off to establish a new hive along with some worker bees. When bees swarm, they are docile as they will have gorged on honey in order to take enough supplies with them to establish a new home. They are reluctant to sting in this state. It's a bit like trying to do karate after a big Sunday dinner! Whilst if a swarm lands in your garden, it needn't be a cause for panic, do exercise caution and call your local bee keeper to help safely remove it <https://scbeekeepers.co.uk/swarms/>.

Want to do your bit to help the UK bee population? Top tips for a bee-friendly garden;

- Let your lawn grow: wildflowers rich in pollen such as dandelions, clover, daisies and plantains will thrive.
- Choose a range of flower shapes to suit different bee species, as their foraging methods and feeding techniques can vary.
- Provide water for bees to take back to the hive.
- Ensure year-round planting so bees have a source of flowers in the winter.
- Avoid the use of pesticides.
- Provide a bee house for solitary bees: make from a block of wood with holes drilled in it, or bamboo, or buy one.
- Focus on cottage garden flowers, eg lupins, hollyhocks, delphiniums, foxgloves, wallflowers, roses and honeysuckle.
- Encourage your local council to plant pretty drifts of wildflowers in public places: they are low-maintenance and very bee-friendly.

Sarah Glover

Letters to the Editor



Impressed by the village

I visited the public convenience in Overton today, July 2019.

First thing I saw was the area dedicated to bees and wildlife, planting looks very interesting and well done on clearing the Ground Elder!

Second was the delightful, colourful flower beds directly outside the building.

Third - on entering the (ladies) toilet, they were spotlessly clean and smelled only of fresh paint. What a very pleasant change.

I continued onwards through the High Street and again was moved by the amount and the quality of floral planting everywhere.

Some years ago (about 15 I think) I lived in the Village and found myself responsible for a lot of the flower planting. It's lovely to see that Overton appears to be becoming a community again.

All I can say is CONGRATULATIONS and keep up the good work.

Regards, Eunice Taylor

Dear Oracle,

To all involved in organising our village fete: What a really enjoyable event! It was bursting with good will, energy, creativity and enthusiasm. The theme was amazing, as was the Parade.

Having not been to one before, I didn't know what to expect. I then spent a delightful afternoon on the sports field - everyone enjoying the wonderful sunshine, socialising and relaxing. I couldn't help but notice that there was hardly a mobile phone in sight other than to take photos! It was a really heart-warming afternoon.

Thank you all.

Name and address supplied

From Parkside Pensioners - Farewell and Thank You

Sadly due to ill health our warden Pat Edwards has had to retire. She will be missed by so many who she has helped, for all the paperwork, her cheery smile and all around kindness. Pat has been part time warden for 17 years and a full time warden for 18 years. For a lot of people she was probably the only contact they had each day.

Pat - now it's time to look after yourself, and to let us help you if we can. Now you can relax, come and join us to play bingo.

We send you all our love. Thanks and best wishes from all your grateful clients and friends on Parkside.

Thank you Pat xx

Pat is pictured (right) with the Mayor of Wrexham at the opening of the Parkside Day Room in 2008.



Thank you

I would like to thank all the residents of Parkside for showing me so much kindness, by presenting me with a garden seat for my retirement.

I will miss my job as Warden but look forward to more holidays.

Many thanks,
Pat

Playcentre News

We have had a busy time here at Overton Playcentre over the last few weeks!

Wrexham Museum came in twice bringing museum artifacts for children to see and handle. Eleri who ran the sessions completely captured the children's attention and parents coming to pick them up were fascinated too!

Keith, Vice Chairman of the Eisteddfod, Karen, Chairperson of Hospitality and Carol Dykes Homestay Officer came to visit the Playcentre and the children presented them with three pictures we had created for display on the walls of the Hospitality Suite!

For the parade the children used tools to create little boats with Nathan made out of drift wood that had been collected from the banks of the river. These boats sailed down the street during the parade - in water! In a workshop with Amy (left) the children screen printed frog designs onto cloth and made flags that were then sewn together by Ryan's Heather! We had a fabulous time during the parade - thanks to Grace and Harriet's Dad for pushing our Rainbow Bird! Pyjamarama saw all the staff wearing pyjamas to work with many of our children too. We read stories and the children took home the Bookstart book to read at home with their parents!

Our Early Education children have been preparing to move on to school. We work closely with St Mary's School to ensure that their transition to school is a fabulous time for them and the children have visited school; spent time in their Forest School; had Mrs Burton come and read stories with us in the Playcentre and then finally Mums and Dads went into school and spent the morning in school with their children!

To celebrate their work with us during the year we had a lovely 'Moving On Celebration', when families came to watch their children sing a song, Each child was presented with a certificate and their Keepsake Book put together by each child's Keyworker. Afterwards we watched a slide show that Nicky had put together of all the amazing things we have done over the year! Quite a few parents and grandparents commented that 'We didn't realise you do so much with them!'

It is always a happy/sad time as we have watched our wonderful children thrive and grow with us. Though many children will stay with us for Playgroup Plus, Wrap Around and Holiday Club, we do say goodbye to some of our families that move on elsewhere. We wish all our children the very best as they move on.

A new member of our family joined us very recently - our Dragon!! (right) Created for us by Simon O'Rourke as part of the Play Development Grant! He will be installed over the next few weeks in the 'Gardd Gudd' where he will inspire the children to read stories and make their own up too! However... he needs a name and we will be launching our 'Name the Dragon' Competition soon!!

Now that term has finished it means that Konekt Holiday Club is going in full swing and we have a great summer planned, for 2-12 yr olds, 7.30am - 6.00pm every week day. Lots of exciting things including weekly DJ sessions, a visit from the Wrexham Museum, 'A Star' sports will be running two sessions and many more things too.....!

We are registered for the Childcare Offer and also for vouchers.



Overton Royal British Legion 100 Club



Results of the "100 Club" Bonus Draw for July 100 members entered and the draw was made at the White Horse Lunch Club on Wednesday 10th July by Rev David Child.

Winners -

1st Prize £200.00 No 97 Vicky Jones
2nd Prize £100.00 No 66 David Leighton Harper
3rd Prize £ 50.00 No 91 Anne Brereton

Legion Fund: £150

CONGRATULATIONS

Next Draw: Wednesday August 14th 2019

If you wish to join please ring DAVE AUSTIN on
Tel: 01978 710678.



It's Your Neighbourhood (update) continued from page 1

On the morning of the visit, Sunday, 7th July, the sun shone and the village looked spectacular! Hanging baskets, tubs, planters and window boxes were ablaze with colour throughout the village, hedges were trimmed, public spaces were weeded, tidied and swept and gardens carefully tended as the village rose fully to the occasion. We welcomed Peter Barton-Price, Chair of the regional 'Wales In Bloom' Committee, together with Heidi Barton-Price, as our assessors, who enjoyed their first visit to Overton immensely.

We are happy to report that Peter and Heidi were most impressed by the village and thoroughly enjoyed their visit. The recent work done by the Growers at the car park, the development of the Mini Plots adjacent to The Bowls Club, the planting at the Village Hall as well as the way in which the whole village presented itself, drew particular praise. They also acknowledged that there is a very good awareness in the village of environmental responsibility. The obvious pride that we have for our village shone out. A number of village representatives had the opportunity to speak with the assessors as they made their way around the village. The strong sense of the village working together as a community was clearly evident, with Peter describing it as being evidenced 'in bucket loads'. The Oracle goes to press before we will receive our accreditation and formal feedback, sometime in mid-August. However, look out for the results in next month's Oracle!

2019 Overton Growers Hanging Basket, Tubs and Gardening Awards.



Following the accreditation, we had another busy weekend. On Sunday, 14th July David Lock, Head Gardener at Chirk Castle, visited the village to judge, for the third year running, our annual awards. The Growers sponsor these awards and from this year the recipients will receive a trophy to keep for a year. The winners will be announced in next month's Oracle and results will also be posted on the Village Notice Boards and at the Library.

In conclusion, it's been a busy few months but we couldn't have done any of this without you all. Thank you to those who formed our first 'In Bloom Committee' for their help and support, those who have grown and supplied us with additional planting and everyone who has worked so hard and supported us. We are very grateful to you all.

If you would like to become actively involved with the Growers, would like to sponsor or support our work in some other way or would be interested in forming a 'Village In Bloom Committee' early next year, please look out for more information, coming soon. In the meantime, please remember to keep taking photographs of village landmarks and events and send them in to the email address below for our second 'Overton Growers Calendar' to be published later this year.

A huge thank you to you all. We couldn't have done it without you!

Please like and share "The Overton - on - Dee Community Growers" on Facebook to keep up to date with what we are doing.



Cath Roberts, Chair, Overton Community Growers Email: cathroberts100@aol.com

Congratulations

Congratulations to Coro Intermezzo from Costa Rica who came 2nd in the Adult Folk Song Chirk, 2nd in the Male Voice Choir & 3rd in the Mixed Choirs competitions.



Members of the Coro Intermezzo were hosted by Overton families. Carol Dykes, Home Stay Officer for Hospitality, wishes to thank all those who helped make the competitors so welcome in our village.

She is looking for more volunteer hosts for next year (July 6-11 2020) so that competitors can continue to stay in Overton.

The Overton on Dee Branch of the WI visit the Wynnstay Hunt kennels

The Wynnstay hounds welcomed a very interested party of friends from the Overton branch of the WI in July, led by their president, Margaret O'Neill. They were met by Harry Williams-Wynn, a Joint Master in charge of the kennels who told us all a little of the history of the building built in 1788 by his ancestor, Sir Watkin Williams Wynn. The huntsman, Chris Woodward and the whip, Thady Duff were also there explaining how all the hounds are looked after and exercised every day. The dogs and the bitches are kept separately, as are any bitches in season. They are taken out for fitness and obedience training every morning, with the hunt staff on bikes at this time of year. The hounds are fed on fallen stock supplied by local farmers, which is both a service and the best way to feed them. The terrier lives in with the big dog hounds and is 'the boss'! When they are fed, the more shy will be let in first to make sure everyone gets their fair share.



In the afternoons they are taken out into the paddocks to relax and play. The recent puppies are sent out to family homes to be 'walked' or educated as to the sights and smells of the world before coming back to the pack.

The hounds belong to Sir Watkin and are bred in the Old English tradition as opposed to the lighter weight 'modern' foxhound. The blood lines are highly documented and can be traced back many decades, with their traditional names starting with the letter of their sire or dam.

The champion hound at this year's Great Yorkshire Show, Chairman, was introduced, he is highly sort after as a stud dog by other hunts .

Just outside is a smart lawned area with some stone flags where each year the puppies who are the 'new entry' for the year are shown and lots of prizes are given out to their walkers who have been looking after them.

Afterwards everyone came back for tea and to look at some old photographs of the hounds meeting in Bryn y Pys park in the 1930's together with a scrap book diary compiled by Lady Kenyon which had documented visits from Hanmer WI.

Postscript to the visit:

It was remarked by the visitors on the hounds' high standard of care, with everything kept immaculately clean and washed down. It was also said that the building itself is beautifully preserved.

Claire Rosselli



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St Mary's CIW VA School, Overton
Tel: 01978 710370
 Email:
mailbox@stmarys-overton-pri.wrexham.sch.uk

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Midday Supervisory Assistant (5 days per week)

The Governing body seeks to appoint a Midday Supervisory Assistant to undertake the supervision of the pupils in the dining hall, playground areas and school premises and any other appropriate ancillary duties.

Five days a week (Mon to Fri) from 12.00pm – 1.00pm
 (1 hour) @ £9.00 per hour (Pay grade G02)

To start 30 September 2019

For further information about the post please contact the Headteacher on the number above or email the school with an expression of interest. Please note school is closed for summer holidays until Monday 2 September 2019. This post is subject to Education Workforce Council Registration.

Wrexham Council welcomes applications from suitably qualified candidates regardless of race, gender, disability, sexuality, religious belief or age.

Please note that all school positions are subject to an enhanced DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service).

Term time only with no term leave.

We would welcome any interest by email to mailbox@stmarys-overton-pri.wrexham.sch.uk

Come and have an amble

The Overton Amblers, dedicated to keeping Overton's Public Footpaths accessible, will be going out again to explore and enjoy Overton's footpaths on Saturday August 10th and on Wednesday August 21st. We will be looking out for problems on the paths while enjoying the walk and the scenery. Any problems such as inaccessible paths or broken stiles will be reported to the footpath officer at WCBC.

A recent walk set off down Musley Lane and on to Overton's public footpath number 14 to Queensbridge Dingle. From there we followed footpath 15 to Lightwood Green where we accessed number 41 returning to the village along footpath 12. We came across 3 broken stiles plus a place where there should have been a stile but we were forced to negotiate a fence instead. These problems will be reported. For further information contact Ian Roberts: email ian.barsfield@btinternet.com or Pene Coles: email penecoles49@gmail.com or on 01978 710598.

I was recently contacted by Anne Davis who expressed an interest in joining us on our walks and so she left me her email but unfortunately her email keeps bouncing back which means that I might have written it down incorrectly. If you are reading this Anne Davis, please contact me again. I am very sorry that I have not been able to get in touch with you.

Best wishes from Pene Coles.

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**Overton
 Super-
 market**

The White Horse

Tuesday - Thursday from 5:30pm are now surf n turf nights. 2 meals for £20.00 including steak and sea bass and salmon along with seasonal salads.

Quiz night hosted by John Wynne the last Thursday of every month. All money goes to local charities

Book for Homemade Sunday Lunch on 01978 710111

Function room available, fully equipped for a disco with free use of DJ equipment.

We cater for all buffets and formal events including christenings, weddings and wakes.

AR

ANTHONY ROBERTS
 TREE & GARDEN CARE

TREE SURGERY	CONTACT INFORMATION
HEDGE MAINTENANCE	antsgardening@yahoo.com
FENCING	01691 770054
STUMP GRINDING	07725819414
LANDSCAPING	(free quote and advise)
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OVERTON FOOTBALL CLUB

DARTS KNOCKOUT

at Overton Recreational Club

SATURDAY 3RD AUGUST

7.00 pm Start

£3 ENTRY **WINNER £75** **RUNNER UP £25**

Open to All including Non Members



Fun Day & Dog Show

Friars Field Community Garden in Bangor on Dee will be hosting their fifth annual Fun Day and Dog Show on Saturday 14th September at 11.30am.

After a huge success over the last four years, the intention is to raise much needed funding for the maintenance and upkeep of the gardens, but also allow for future events. You can register your dog on the day or contact Jo and Jimmy on 01978 780919, or visit our Facebook page: [Facebook.com/groups/friarsfield](https://www.facebook.com/groups/friarsfield)

We are looking for donations for our prize draw, any tombola items, bottles of wine and cakes. Anybody who would like to volunteer and run a stall for us on the day please let us know.

Overton Community Council

Feasibility of placing a pelican crossing on the High Street.

Overton Community Council (OCC) received a request from a resident of Overton as to the feasibility of installing a pelican crossing on the High Street.



Members of OCC met with Graham Lloyd from Wrexham County Borough Council. The purpose of the meeting was to identify suitable sites on the High Street for the location of a crossing and then to consider the cost implications. The findings suggested that the High Street is not suited for pelican or zebra crossings for the following reasons:

- The location of bus stops
- Width of the High Street, which would need to be reduced to support a crossing
- Parking issues – the installation of a crossing would significantly reduce the parking spaces available on the High Street.

As this was disappointing, we examined another possible location: installing a crossing close to St Mary’s Church. This also proved unsuitable because:

- the required distance from any junction must be 8 metres; and
- installing a crossing in this location posed a problem for those using the church i.e. for funerals and weddings.

OCC was also advised that any costs incurred would be borne by the community and would be in the region of £25,000 to £50,000.

We queried the possibility of speed restrictions being placed on the High Street i.e. 20mph. This type of traffic calming is sited only outside schools, not on through routes, such as the A528.

Overton Community Council has considered the request very carefully and has had to conclude that at present, the installation of a crossing on the High Street is not feasible.

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Wildlife News

Mini Meadows

A big thank you to everyone who has been out and helped with the mini meadows surveys. (see photo right) In all over 30 wild flower species were found across the three sites, with more species found to be flowering in the uncut areas compared to the cut areas. Both the playground and cemetery mini meadows showed good numbers of wildflowers including wild carrot, cuckoo flower, yarrow and ribwort plantain, however the millennium meadow was much more impoverished, probably due to its history as a cow pasture.

Now that the mini meadows have done their job in providing nectar for pollinators throughout the summer they will be cut back for the winter and the cuttings raked and removed. If you would like to assist with this work please get in contact.



Bug Hotel

To help offer homes to all manner of insects we will be building a bug hotel in the playground. So far the structure is flatpacked and ready to go but we are now looking for people to help build the hotel and fill it with twigs, leaves and other natural items for insects to live in. We will be pulling together the bug hotel on the 7th September from 12am-2pm. If you would like to come along and help please get in touch at Katharine.piercy@googlemail.com or call on 07725 224151.

Crisp packet collection

Thank you to everyone that has been dropping off their crisp packets at the collection point by the cheese vending machine. We will soon be sending these off for recycling - the money raised going to the North Wales Wildlife Trust.

Litter pick

The monthly litter pick is showing good results with less litter being found now. Thank you to all who have helped. (see photo right) However cigarettes ends are still a big problem so please remember to stub out cigarettes carefully and then dispose of in a bin. The next litter pick will be Saturday 3rd August, meeting 10am outside the Corner Shop.



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St Mary's School News

Skillforce Success

Every Friday since January Year 6 have been taking part in the Prince William Explorer Award with Skillforce instructor James Bradford. Each week, a range of tasks and challenges have helped us to develop a range of character attributes in order to work more effectively with others. With an emphasis on developing confidence, listening skills, self-belief, resilience and teamwork, Skillforce has presented new challenges in order for us to develop and grow as individuals.

Skillforce has really brought us together and helped us to work as a team; helping us learn that no matter who we work with, or what we are doing, we can do anything as a class or in teams. So now this is us; Year 6 Class of 2019 who have learnt that we can do anything with dedication. On 12th July our hard work was rewarded with an award ceremony where all members of the class were presented with their Prince William Explorer Awards – a memorable way to end our primary school journey.



Olivia Busby and Max Evans – Year 6 Joint Editors-in-Chief.

Walk Wise

You may have seen some of our younger pupils 'walking wise' around the streets of Overton recently in their high-vis jackets. Year 1 and 2 pupils were participating in the 'Walk Wise' scheme – a programme designed to allow younger children to become confident and competent pedestrians with an understanding and awareness of safer road use. The children learnt consideration for other road users and the golden rules of 'stop, look, listen and think.' One of the pupils, Mair, told reporters, "Learning this is really important to my life". It was fun, whilst still ensuring all pupils learnt these essential life skills.



James Wright, Year 6 Roving Reporter

Time to Say Goodbye

Year 6 had a busy end to their final term at St Mary's with events to celebrate reaching the end of their primary school careers.

An action-packed day out at Crocky Trail in Cheshire was followed by a Leavers' Party at the Buck House Hotel in Bangor-on-Dee - where there was much fun and dancing! In our final week, a candle lighting ceremony was held at St Mary's Church,



overseen by Reverend Peter, where each pupil shared their hopes and dreams for the future as they move on to High School. Year 6's last week then culminated with a Leavers' Assembly held on the school field, where we were joined by many parents to say a last goodbye to a wonderful class of pupils. It was both funny and emotional as pupils each shared their fondest memories of their time with us at St Mary's and sang 'Fight Song' in memory of our beloved classmate, Daisy Haynes. We were pleased to be joined by representatives of Overton's Twinning Association who presented the prestigious annual Global Citizenship Award to Year 6 pupil, Daisy Harris (see photo on page 1). Sportsman Award was presented to Thomas Edwards, for his sense of fair play and contribution

to our football, netball and athletics teams. Our 'Daisy Haynes Art Award' was awarded to talented Year 6 pupil Tirion Owen.

As Year 6 now venture to their different High Schools we wish them luck but know that each and every one of them is ready for the next, exciting part of their lives.

Mrs Williams, Year 6 Teacher and the Year 6 Oracle Reporting Team.

**The Overton Oracle wishes to thank St Mary's School
2018/19 Yr 6 Roving Reporters for their
excellent reports this year and wish them well for their future schools.**



What's On**August Diary for St Mary's Services**

Sunday August 4th 10.00am Morning Prayer
 Sunday August 11th 11.30am Holy Communion
 Sunday August 18th 10.00am Family Communion
 5.00pm Mission Area Evensong at Bangor
 Sunday August 25th 11.30am Holy Communion

August Diary for Overton Methodist Chapel

Sunday August 4th 6.30pm Rev Neville Pugh
 Sunday August 11th 6.30pm Mr David Young
 Sunday August 18th 6.30pm Holy Communion Rev Phillip Poole
 Sunday August 25th 11.00am All Age Worship Local Arrangement
 No Craft Class or Toddler Group in August

Coffee Mornings at the Chapel every Saturday morning 10.30am to 12 noon

Thursday August 1st 10.30am - 2.30pm Rainbow Centre
 Paint, Craft & Create with lunch. 'Silk Scarves' with
 textile artist Jackie Tomkinson

Saturday August 3rd 10.00am Community Litter Pick, meet b
 the Corner Shop. All welcome.

Saturday August 3rd 7.00pm start Overton Football Club
 Darts Knockout at Overton Recreational Club

Tuesday August 6th 10.00am-12 noon Post Office at the
 Village Hall with Community Cafe run by Overton
 Playcentre

Thursday August 8th & 22nd Lunch Club at the Rainbow
 Centre. 2 course meal for £7.50. Tel: 01498 830730

Tuesday August 13th 10.00am - 12 noon Post Office at the
 Village Hall with Community Cafe run by Overton
 Twinning

Wednesday August 14th 10.30am Overton British Legion
 meeting at the Scout Hut. All welcome.

Wednesday August 14th 12.30pm Overton Lunch Club at the
 White Horse. To book please ring 01978 710672.

Thursday August 15th Maelor South Adventurers Group visit
 to Attingham Park (National Trust) To book ring 01948
 830730

Tuesday August 20th 10.00am - 12 noon Post Office at the
 Village Hall with Community Cafe run by Overton
 Community Growers

Tuesday August 20th 9.30am from the car park. Chapel
 Outing to Llandudno

Tuesday August 27th 10.00am - 12 noon Post Office at the
 Village Hall with Community Cafe run by St Marys
 Parish Church

Saturday August 31st 10.00-10.45am Quarter peal to be rung
 at St Mary's Church tower

Overton Cricket Club August Fixture List

Matches commence at 1.00pm

August 3	Wiley	Home
10	Guilfield	Away
17	Harecourt	Home
24	Acton Reynald	Home
31	Column	Away

**Family Announcements****Wedding Congratulations to**

Joe McCulloch & Beatrice Ruston
 and Dafydd Kember & Amy Thelwell



Belated congratulations to Kelly Rogers and Jordan
 on the birth of their daughter, Millie Sophia born on
 21st May, love from Mum, Nan, Grandad and all the
 family.

Happy August Birthdays to Tara Stubbart, Francis
 Glynne Jones, Belinda Matthews, Seanie Clarke,
 Jackie Grindley, Gladys Evans, Carol Dykes, Lewis
 Evison, Chloe Malam, Brian Williams, Matt
 Worsdell, Trena Haynes, Alex Natrass, Charlotte
 Scott-Davies, Dave Bellis, Ethan Saunders, Reg
 Jones, Jackie Tombs and Gill Evans. Cindy Myers,
 Kacey and Kevin Owens, Katherine Scott-Davies,
 Matthew Lawrenson and Liesel Netzband-Piggott.

Belated 1st birthday wishes to Poppy Edwards.

Belated 21st birthday wishes Alice Foster, love
 from Mum and Freddie

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of John
 Malam who passed away on July 10th.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of
 Mary Hall who has passed away at the age of 95.

Special Congratulations to Katy
 McCulloch on being awarded a
 First Class Honours Degree in
 Theology at Cambridge University

**Overton Lunch Club**

is on **Wednesday August 14th** at
 12.30pm at the **White Horse**. A
 choice of a two-course menu all
 for **£8.95**. To book ring
Gwynneth Austin on 01978
 710672.



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