

The Overton Oracle

Volume 14. Issue 12

December 2012

Overton's Free Newspaper - issued monthly



Christmas at our village school

That time of year is rapidly approaching and preparations to celebrate Christmas at St. Mary's School are well underway. We have been practising a whole range of wonderful new Christmas songs; some with a modern twist, balanced out by a range of traditional carols and songs. The foundation department would like to welcome you to attend our Christmas Story in St. Mary's Church, Overton on Dee on Tuesday 4th December at 2.00pm and Wednesday 5th at 10.00am.



This half term we have been learning about the different colours of the church and the significance of Advent, as well as the Christmas Story and we have decided to support the Save the Family as a local charity this year. We are asking for families to buy one extra present this year, either for a mum or dad or a child and are sparing a thought for those less fortunate. Save the Family provides homeless families with an opportunity to stay together, to take responsibility and build a better future for themselves and their children and we would like to add a few extra smiles to those who have suffered hardship this Christmas.

The traditional Christmas Nativity by the Junior Department will take place on Tuesday 11th December at 6.30pm, to which everyone is invited to follow Mary and Joseph on their journey to Bethlehem and to join our Christmas festivities and enter into the spirit of the season.

Some good news from St. Mary's School. We have successfully been awarded the Healthy School award for the 8th consecutive year. It is a national award scheme where schools can develop their own health promoting policies and systems. They can contribute to the promotion of healthy lifestyles by considering a range of actions on particular health topics as part of their everyday curriculum.

This term has seen the eco and student council partaking in discussions about their environments and their facilities, even their toilets! They have worked hard and as excellent ambassadors during our review and proudly accepted the recent award at a ceremony at Glyndwr University on behalf of all the children and staff at school – well done to everyone involved!

Pictured to the left are representatives of the school councils from Year 6 receiving their award in November.



New postcard of Old Overton



The Friends of St Marys are selling postcards of a delightful print of Overton "in days gone bye". They can be purchased in packs of 10 and make excellent stocking fillers, or are perfect to use for thank you notes. The proceeds will go to help with the maintenance, care, development and improvement of the village's most historic building, St Mary's Church. Cards are available from the Post Office, the Corner Shop, Woodlands Deli & Café, or ring 710631



Happy Christmas to all Oracle Readers, Contributors & Distributors

Please note that because of the Christmas and New Year holidays at the printers, contributions for the January edition should be left at the Corner Shop or sent to overtonoracle@gmail.com by December 17th at the latest.

An Hilarious Play on Words



Overton Amateur Dramatic Society's latest offering of David Tristram's play "Inspector Drake's Last Case", a contemporary Whodunit spoof, gave audiences two evenings of laughter and hilarity.

The play takes place one dark evening at the home of Mrs Gagarin. We saw her taking a stroll followed by a scream and gunshots! It's up to the world's

greatest detective to solve the crime. But, in the words of Sergeant Plod, "don't believe everything you see ..." Is it safe to say that Mrs Gagarin is actually dead?

The Inspector investigates, hindered by his sidekick Sergeant Plod. They interview

Mr Guest the butler, Mr Butler the guest, Mr Cook the gardener, Mrs Gardner the cook, and more. Confusion, innuendo and double entendre abound.

A professional looking set provided the background for a tour de force performance by Michael Done as the Inspector. Alan Edwards was a most convincing incompetent policeman although his moustache appeared to be trying to get its own part

and nearly stole the show. Mervyn Haynes's mime and Diane Bell's amorous advances were memorable moments and the cast was ably complemented by Stephen Deyes, David Hughes, Clive Hellingham, Marion Sinclair, Sheila Miller and Mary Evans, all under the competent direction of Stephen Sorfleet.



Kids Kristmas Kolumn



by Kate Jenkinson, Robyn Rehbock and Charley Middleton



Hiya everyone! Are you all looking forward to the Christmas holidays?

Fool your mates with these merry Christmas jokes!

- Q. What do tigers sing at Christmas
A. jungle bells, jungle bells!
- Q. How do sheep greet each other at Christmas?
A. Merry Christmas to ewel!
- Q. Why was Cinderella so poor at football?
A. Because she ran away from the Christmas ball!
- Q. What did the cow say on Christmas day?
A. Mooooooey Christmas!
- Q. What did Mary Poppins want from Santa?
A. Superclausfragilisticexpiallisnowshoes!



Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and new year from your kids kolumn team.

Can you find these words in the Christmas word search:

Holly Tree Turkey Santa Presents
Decorations Christmas Bauble Snow

A	Z	X	Y	S	B	H	C	D	B	S	S	B	D	E
O	A	D	G	S	I	O	H	K	A	B	C	E	E	G
S	U	A	A	E	M	L	A	I	U	D	S	E	C	J
E	U	Y	R	D	K	L	M	N	B	N	S	X	O	N
P	T	U	R	K	E	Y	N	F	L	E	K	Z	R	M
H	R	Y	E	A	S	O	J	N	E	J	P	P	A	L
D	E	E	J	W	N	S	A	N	T	A	A	J	T	X
Y	E	A	O	Y	O	G	E	G	Y	Y	D	Q	I	Z
L	M	N	A	M	P	R	E	S	E	N	T	S	O	O
L	S	Y	N	A	L	O	N	R	B	L	E	H	N	L
T	C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S	I	A	B	S	M
Y	J	E	N	R	U	I	T	A	C	M	E	D	C	E

Find the opposites and use the first letters to make a Christmas word.

- ___ and bottom
- ___ over and ___
- ___ left and ___
- ___ and Queen
- ___ and full
- ___ and no



Ramblings From the Reverend by Rev'd David Child



By the time you get this edition of the Oracle, Santa will have been working his cotton socks off for months – think of all the toys he's got to assemble and not only that, think of his data base, think of all the labelling and think of all the responsibility of making sure that there's no mix up in his deliveries.

Someone once worked it out. There must be about 2 billion children in the world. Now Santa doesn't visit them all. There are after all many countries where they don't celebrate Christmas but that will still leave about 350 million children. At an average rate of 3.5 children per household and presuming there must be at least one good child in each house; Santa must visit about a million homes. But at least if you take into account the rotation of the earth and the different time zones it does mean that he's got more than 24 hours to make his deliveries –he's probably got about 31 hours but that's still leaves it very tight. That means that at each household with a good child, Santa has around 1/1000th of a second to park the sleigh, hop out, jump down the chimney, fill the stockings, distribute the remaining presents under the tree, eat whatever snacks have been left for him, and get back up the chimney, jump into the sleigh, and get on to the next house. No wonder then that he'll need a good long rest before he starts preparing for the next Christmas. But how does he manage it all? There's only one answer – it must be magic.

Now think back 2000 years to Bethlehem to that first Christmas. God doesn't do magic. Instead he's got this crazy plan to change the world. How's he going to do it? He sends Jesus, his only Son, born in a stable to a teenage mum in downtown Bethlehem to show us how to live our lives by following his way of love. And then what does he do? He relies on us to be his helpers and to work with him to see it through. Sometimes like now when we see on our TVs what's happening in the Middle East and other troubled places around our world we think that it'll never happen.

But we mustn't give up because if you dream the dreams that God dreams your dreams will come true. Happy Christmas, David

COUNTRY BEAT by PCSO Stephen O'Connell



Winter is upon us and I want to take this opportunity to offer some general advice to home and car owners:

It is once again dark by 5pm so please think about using a timer light to come on by then, if you do not get home from work until after 6 or 7pm.

Distraction burglaries occur more often under the cover of darkness. Please be wary of anyone knocking your door after dark and always ask for I.D. If you are unsure, do not let them in and contact North Wales Police to report anyone suspicious.

Please do not keep any expensive presents or food in sheds, garages or your car. Shed and garage break-ins increase over Christmas time with offenders looking for expensive bikes and electrical goods (and yes they look for food too).

If the road conditions do get severe, please do not make any unnecessary trips unless absolutely essential. If you have to travel, please ensure you have a fully charged mobile phone with you for any emergencies.

I would advise, if possible, to have your car serviced before the bad weather hits. If not, please make sure your tyres are road worthy and your brakes are working properly.

Windscreen wash, de-icer, a torch, a hi-vis jacket and a blanket are useful items to have with you in your car just in case!

If there is a cold snap please take care when driving around the village and especially on the country lanes. If you feel that any roads are too hazardous to drive on (because of ice, mud or flooding), please contact the Council and report it to them on 01978 29 89 89.

If you have anything you would like to discuss with regards to the above or anything else please contact either myself or my colleague, Lynne Maurice, on 01978 348 425.

Many thanks,
PCSO Stephen O'Connell
07854 352 601 or 01978 348 425
stephen.o'connell@nthwales.pnn.police.uk

Lunch Club



The Overton Lunch Club is on Wednesday 12th December at 12.30pm at the White Horse. The menu will be a two course Christmas Lunch of Turkey and all the trimmings followed by Christmas Pudding and Brandy Sauce. To book please ring Gwynneth Austin on 710672.

Piano lessons
Music Theory Lessons
Primary curriculum extra tuition (English & Maths)

Please call Helen Belton for rates or any advice.
Tel: **01978 711970** or mobile **07718 368434**
Helen1210@hotmail.co.uk

OVERTON CHRISTMAS OPENINGS

OVERTON SURGERY

Closed Tues. Dec. 25th,
Wednesday Dec. 26th
and Tuesday 1st January.

On closed days and outside
surgery opening hours ring

**Out of Hours provider
on 0300 123 55 66**

OVERTON CHEMIST

Open Xmas Eve 9am - 6pm
Closed 25th & 26th & Tues Jan 1st.
Emergency chemist at St Georges
Crescent, Wrexham on 25th 11 to 1
Dec 26th & Jan 1st 11am-3pm

MAELOR VETERINARY CENTRE

In an Emergency please telephone
(01978) 711975

CORNER SHOP

Xmas Eve 5am - 4pm
Xmas Day Closed
Boxing Day 7am - 12pm
Thurs 27th 7am - 6pm
Fri 28th 7am - 6pm
Sat. 29th 7am - 6pm
Sunday 30th 7am - 6pm
Monday 31st 7am - 4pm
New Yrs Day 8am - 12pm
2nd3rd4th5th6th 7am - 6pm
Jan 7th back to normal

DUSTBIN DAYS

Fri. Dec 21st
Green Bin
Mon. Dec 31st
General Waste
Mon. Jan 7th
Green Bin
Sat. Jan 12th
General Waste
Then back to Fridays

THE WHITE HORSE

Christmas Eve 12.00 to 11.00pm
(Food 12 - 2.30pm only)
Christmas Day 11.30 - 1.30 (No food)
Boxing Day 12- 6pm (Carvery 12-3pm)
Thurs 27th 12-2.30pm, 5.30-midnight
(Food 12-2.30 & 6-8.00)
Fri 28th 12-2.30pm, 5.30-midnight
(Food 12-2.30 & 6-9.00)
Sat 29th 12noon - midnight
(Food 12-2.30 & 6-9.00)
Sun 30th 12noon - 8.00pm
(Food 12-3.00 & 6-8.00)
New Years Eve 7.00pm - 1.00am
(7.00 - 10.00pm)
New Years Day 12 noon - 8pm
(Food 12 - 2.30, 6 - 8.00)
Wed Jan 2nd 6.00pm - midnight
(Food 6.00pm - 9.00pm)



LAST POSTING DATES
1st Class within the UK
Thursday December 20th
2nd Class within the UK
Tuesday December 18th

COSTCUTTER

DEC 23rd 6am - 10pm
24th 6am - 10pm
25th 8am - 8pm
26th 6am - 10pm
27th 6am - 10pm
28th - 30th 6am - 10pm
31st 6am - 10pm
JAN 1st 8am - 8pm
2nd 6am - 10pm



WOODLANDS DELI

Dec. 24th 9.00am - 4.00pm
Dec. 25th to 28th Closed
Dec. 29th 9.00am - 4.00pm; Dec. 30th Closed
Dec. 31st 9.00am - 4.00pm; Jan 1st Closed
Jan 2nd Open as normal



LIBRARY

Overton Library closes 1pm Saturday 22nd
December and re-opens 2pm 2nd January 2013.



Overton Playgroup

We can offer Free Funded Places to 3 & 4 year olds.

Your child could be entitled to

4 FREE SESSIONS PER WEEK

with the Early Entitlement Scheme. If your child has their 3rd birthday on or before the 8th January they will be eligible for a place with us in the January intake. You could also qualify for assisted places for your children. Please speak to Margaret for more details or for information on how to apply. Contact us on 01978 710688 or just call in and speak to a member of staff.

Thanks to all those who came to our Halloween party we raised over £100 and thanks to Emma for organising the Nearly New Sale which raised £400. The playgroup children will be putting on their annual Christmas show on the 8th December.

Medical Practice

The 2012 Flu Campaign is well under way and we have vaccinated almost 1,000 patients within the "At Risk" categories. We will contact any stragglers during the next few weeks. If you would like to book an appointment please contact reception.

It has been very encouraging to have several of our pregnant ladies (i.e. those over 28 weeks), taking up the Whooping Cough vaccination. This will be an ongoing service so please bear it in mind.

Take note of a change of hours. The Bangor on Dee Branch Surgery is now open for dispensing on Thursday mornings and Friday afternoons.

This means it will now be open in Bangor on Monday AM & PM, Tuesday PM, Wednesday AM, Thursday AM, and Friday AM & PM.

Overton Community Council

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Overton Community Council intends to Co-opt one member to fill the vacancy that exists in the office of Councillor for the Overton Community (Ward).

If you are interested in applying for this voluntary position, Please send a short CV (½ a page long) and a brief covering letter outlining your interests, hobbies and qualities that you feel would be suited to this role.

All correspondence regarding the vacancies should be sent to: Katrina Chalk, Clerk to OCC, Overton Village Hall, 5 Penyllan St, Overton, Wrexham LL13 0EE

If you have any questions or queries please contact Katrina on 01978 710055

The closing date for applications is 3rd Dec. 2012

OCC Surgery Dates



Come and have a chat with YOUR Community Councillors at the Parish Room. OCC are holding surgeries on the dates listed below.

Come and tell us about your concerns regarding the village; we want to hear your opinions and needs. Do you have an idea for a project or scheme which you would like the Community Council to consider? Or come and find out what local clubs and organisations are run in the village. Everyone is welcome to drop in for a chat. Overton Community Council wants to work in partnership with residents, community groups, voluntary organisations and business interests for the benefit of the community.

Councillors will be available between 10am – 11am in the Parish Room on the following dates:- Wednesday 16th January, Saturday 23rd February and more to

Poppy Appeal



The Overton branch of the Royal British Legion would like to thank everyone who turned out for Remembrance Sunday which was so well supported. Particular thanks to the bugler Mark Griffiths and the police for help with traffic control.

The proceeds of the Poppy Appeal in Overton raised over £2,200 this year. Many thanks to all the collectors and businesses who worked so hard to ensure that this figure was raised.

*To advertise on the website please
click on link on
Business page*



New Years Eve

The one event you have been waiting for



"Limited Series"

+ through the decades disco - fancy dress optional!

December 31st from 7.30pm

at Overton Village Hall

Supervised children welcome. Full Bar.

See 2013 in with a BANG !

Tickets only £5 (£1 from each ticket to Hope House)

Tickets from Recreational Club or Corner Shop



Wishing you a Merry Christmas from the

The White Horse Inn

What's On In December

Thurs 20th Charity Quiz - Cash Prizes

Fri 21st Music night with Jonny Bell and Ben Jones

Sat 22nd Grand Christmas Draw 8.30pm



Boxing Day Carvery Lunch

from £6.25

12.00 noon - 3.00pm book a table now

Join us on New Year's Eve for a Family Evening

Curry, Lasagne or Hot Pot all £5 served 7.00 - 10.00pm

(01978) 710111 www.thewhitehorseoverton.co.uk

Village Carols



Churches Together in Overton (Cytun) are going carolling again this year (weather permitting), proceeds for a charity yet to be decided. We will be meeting at the Catholic Hall, Wrexham Road on Monday December 10th at 6.30pm and we intend to meander down Wrexham Road towards Bangor Road and Maelor Court with lots of stops for singing carols on the way. Please look out for us and anyone who would like to join and have a good sing will be most welcome.

New Mother & Toddler

The new Baby and Toddler Group welcomes new members. Sessions are on Monday mornings from 10am to 12noon in St Mary's Church. It is £1.50 for 1 child or £2 per family. The children can join in with



songs, listen to stories and play with the toys whilst the adults can enjoy a chat, a nice cuppa and a biscuit!

Confirmation



Bishop Gregory held the Deanery Confirmation this year in St Mary's Ruabon on November 4th. Thirty-six candidates were confirmed, nine of whom attended an instruction course led by Rev'd David Child in St. Mary's School After School Club. From Overton - Charlotte Done, Jack Aplin, George Gooding, Megan & Jennifer Tobijanski, Ethan King, Beth Harrison, Thomas Ford, and from Erbistock - Sion Ellis and Andrew Raffle.



Charity Christmas Tea



In aid of continuing work in Africa
Overton Village Hall. Sat. Dec. 8th 3.00-5.30pm
Piano & Vocal Recital by Eleanor McCusker
Prize Draw, Xmas Gifts, Cards, Photographs

Farewell to Grace



Grace James was born in Overton on Dee on July 14th 1917 to parents Sarah Eilen (Sally) and George Alfred (Fred) James and as a sister to Constance (Connie).

She was born at Lilac Cottage on Bangor Road and attended Overton Primary School until the age of 14. Many residents of Overton will remember her family's business at the fish and chip shop, a curious tin roofed affair which stood on the same site as our current fish and chip shop. It was kept in pristine condition with most disagreements and ruffled family feathers smoothed over by Grace in her role as peacemaker. Many remember Grace and her sister 'stepping out' in fabulous fur coats, both sisters always smartly turned out and considered as trend setters, especially in her role as Rose Queen in 1931. Grace's family moved to 18 High Street, the Pharmacy house in the 1930's, where later, Grace befriended and became engaged to Arthur, the pharmacist at the time but sadly her engagement was broken. She was a lady who was loved and admired but loved to care for her family members more, including taking care of her parents and her nephews Michael and Terry.

She dedicated her life to caring for others, her family, ailing friends and by delivering the post around the Overton area for over 30 years. This she did in snow and dreadful weather and during great times of change in the Overton we now know. She could share tales of the war effort in the country, the Italian prisoners of war and the time when the American G.I.'s arrived, including how items were swapped and bartered for through the fences surrounding their camp.

She reminisced of the times of dances and music in the village hall, told tales of her nephews and their families, her beloved neighbours of Mrs Bradley, Mr and Mrs Woolley, Mrs Bussey and loved nothing more than to stand outside her front door, brushing the leaves from the path and watching the ever changing world pass by. Grace will be sadly missed by many, each one with a differing memory of her; perhaps how she provided elevenses every single day to the staff who served at the Rowland's Pharmacy until it closed, her beautiful handwriting and her love of animals. Grace did find every day living increasingly hard in the recent years, grieving the loss of her sister and her nephew Terry last year. Although her death was sudden, Grace passed away at peace in the Maelor Hospital after a fall.

Grace's family would like to thank everyone for their kind words, thoughts they have shared and prayers in the recent weeks. Also for donations received in lieu of flowers for St. Mary's Church, Overton.



WHAT'S ON

December Diary for St Mary's Services

- Sunday Dec 2nd** 10:00am Advent Village Praise
- Sunday Dec 9th** 11.30am Holy Communion
- Tuesday Dec 11th** 6.30pm School Nativity
- Sunday Dec 16th** 10:00am Christingle & Family Communion
- Sunday Dec 23rd** 6.30pm Nine Lessons & Carols
- Monday Dec 24th** 3.00pm Crib Service
11.00pm 'Midnight Communion'
- Tuesday Dec 25th** 10.00am Christmas Day Communion
- Sunday Dec 30th** 10.00am Group Eucharist

December Diary for Methodist Chapel Services.

- Sunday Dec 2nd** 6.00pm Chapel Anniversary
- Wednesday Dec 19th** 7.00pm Festival of Carols
- Sunday Dec 23rd** 3.00pm Christmas Service
- Tuesday Dec 25th** 10.00am Christmas Communion
- Saturday December 1st** 2pm Methodist Chapel Xmas Fair.
- Sunday December 2nd** 2-4pm Afternoon Tea with Father Xmas at the Scout Hut in aid of Sunflowers. Adm. Free
- Tuesday December 4th** 3.30 Senior Citizens Christmas Party.
- Tuesday December 4th** 7.30pm Overton Film Club at the Village Hall. Film "The Imposter". Bar from 7pm.
- Friday December 7th** 7.00pm White Horse Christmas Food and Wine Fayre featuring local businesses.
- Friday December 7th** 7.30pm Maelor Music Society Christmas Supper Evening with entertainment by Ruth Williams at the Maelor School Hall.
- Saturday December 8th** 3.00 - 5.30pm Charity Christmas Tea at Village Hall. Music & stalls. Tea served at 4pm.
- Saturday December 8th** 8.00pm Football Party at the Village Hall. £5 incl buffet. All welcome.
- Monday December 10th** from 6.30pm Overton Churches Together carol singing around the village.
- Monday December 10th** 7.30pm Overton British Legion AGM at "Larkrise", 2 Penyllan Court, Overton.
- Tuesday December 11th** Overton Community Council meeting in the Parish Room. Members of the public wishing to speak can do so between 7.20 – 7.30pm.
- Wednesday December 12th** 12.30pm Overton Lunch Club at the White Horse. Booking required.
- Thursday December 13th** 7.30 pm Overton WI meeting at the Parish Room. Speaker: Dave Cooke "Team4U" Competition: A Christmas Card.
- Thursday December 20th** White Horse Charity Christmas Quiz Cash Prizes.
- Friday December 21st** White Horse Live Music evening featuring Jonny Bell and Benn Jones plus others.
- Saturday December 22nd** 8.30pm White Horse Xmas Draw.
- Monday December 31st** "Limited Series" in Village Hall £5.00

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy December Birthdays Nick Russell, Joseph Thomas, Dani Jones, Iris Edwards, Howard Jones, Walter Roberts, Carol Morrison, Lisa Edwards, Mack Phillips and Amelia Lloyd. 
Belated 18th Birthday wishes to Rebecca Overthrow from all the Family.

Belated congratulations to Dewi Roberts, grandson of Walter and Olive Roberts, on his 18th birthday.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Peter Williams fondly known as 'Three Wheeler Pete', formerly of Lightwood Green.

Congratulations



Congratulations to Ian Roberts, son of Walter and Olive Roberts, on gaining his degree in 'Executive Coaching and Mentoring'. Well done Ian, from Mum and Dad.

Thank you

Thank you to Les Hughes and Rob Lawrenson for carrying out the recent maintenance and repairs to the Village Hall and Cocoa Rooms. The work has enhanced the building and given it a new lease of life. Special thanks to Tony Reed for doing a fantastic restoration of the lamp above the entrance door.

For Sale

PLEASE REMEMBER

Copy deadline 17th of December. Get your events & news to us early to avoid disappointment **THIS INCLUDES ADVERTISEMENTS**

Leave your contributions, & announcements at the Corner Shop.

Your Oracle Team - Chairman & Advertising David Burton; Secretary Nicole Netzband-Piggott; Treasurer Rob Netzband-Piggott; Distribution Cynthia Davies; Sean Clarke, & Euan Stevenson. Editor - Jill Burton. Tel 710631 or e-mail overtonoracle@gmail.com

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Space constraints mean that submitted articles may be edited or not published.

The Oracle is available on the internet. Please be mindful that personal details submitted will be available to a wider audience.

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