

The Overton Oracle

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December 2013

Overton's Free Newspaper - issued monthly



Christmas Wishes from St Mary's School

At time of writing there are still a few weeks to go until the autumn term finishes and we close for the Christmas holidays. However, staff and pupils are already very busy preparing for our Christmas concerts which are always fantastic and a highlight of the year for everybody. As we close for the Christmas break, it is wonderful to join in with the pupils as they all remind us about the true meaning of Christmas which can often be forgotten in today's busy society.



As we all begin to look forwards to the year ahead, I would like to thank everybody for all of their support during 2013. As a school, we continue to grow and move forward so that the education that we provide to all of our pupils is of the highest quality. Guiding and supporting children to reach their potential is a privilege, at St Mary's we are already looking forward to 2014 and continuing this exciting journey with all of our pupils. Finally, on behalf of the governors, staff and pupils of St. Mary's school, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a happy and peaceful new year – Nadolig Llawen

Afternoon Tea with Father Christmas



Back by popular demand! Come and meet Father Christmas in the Sunflowers Grotto on Sunday 15th December between 2pm and 4pm in the Scout Hut. With tea and cakes for all, arts and crafts for children, Forever Friends plus a few other stalls to browse as well as a raffle. It was a really lovely family event last year, come along and help to create the same Christmas magic this year! Sunflowers is The Support Group for Parents and Carers of Children with Additional Needs. www.sunflowers-owrtyrn.co.uk

Keeping warm this winter



Would you be interested in joining an Overton Oil Buyers Club? In the 5 years we've been buying heating oil, we've seen prices go from 28p/l to 60p/l and even higher when we get snow and long cold periods. I've learnt from experience that Boxing Day is a bad time to run out of heating oil!

I've been looking at ways to reduce our heating oil bill and read about heating oil buying clubs for local communities. Oil buying groups work by combining members orders and negotiating discounts with local suppliers. As the supplier can deliver larger quantities within the same area, transport costs are reduced allowing the savings to be passed on to group members and tanker deliveries within the village are reduced.

With this in mind, I'm interested in setting up an Overton oil buying group and would be interested to hear from anyone else in the area who uses heating oil and would be interested in joining. Membership would be free and there is no commitment to buy heating oil solely through the club. Depending on the number of members, I would expect the club to order 3-5 times throughout the year. We would contact members to find out who wants to order and how much and then negotiate with local suppliers to get the best price. Once this has been confirmed, we will let members know the price and confirm the orders. Payment is made directly to the supplier. If you are interested in joining a local heating oil Buying Club, email overton.oilgroup@gmail.com or ring 710634.

Thanks, Rob and Nicole

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 16th at the latest.



Ramblings From the Reverend by Rev'd Canon David Child



A group of parents after watching their children's Nativity Play decided that the following year they would perform an 'adult version'. They decided not have any written text but improvise the whole dialogue. So they immersed themselves in the Christmas Story – reading the Bible and several Bible Commentaries.

And so we come to the first night and the first scene. On one side of the stage Mary with the Visiting Angel asking her whether she would be willing to carry the Christ Child and on the other side Joseph being told in a dream to take Mary as his wife. It's then not long before we come to the scene when they arrive in Bethlehem. Joseph knocks at the door of an Inn. 'Please can you help, we've travelled all the way from Nazareth, we're desperate for somewhere to spend the night'. The innkeeper looks at the heavily pregnant Mary, 'Are you married?' Joseph is flummoxed; he doesn't know what to say. Mary rescues him, 'We're in a stable relationship!'

Poor old Joseph, except he isn't old. He's often depicted as old but he and Mary will have several other children. He's the strong silent type; he's not recorded in the Bible as saying anything. He just does what a man's got to do. He marries Mary, no problem, they're in love. He has to attend a census and so instead of leaving her to face scandal alone he takes her, heavily pregnant, 100 miles to Bethlehem. He doesn't give up and finds them accommodation. He probably sets up a business there but then after about a year or two he's warned by God that Herod is out to kill their baby. So he takes his young family to Egypt - 200 miles. Later when the child is older he brings them home, he skirts around Jerusalem sensing that danger might still be there and takes them back to Nazareth – 300 miles, sets up business again and brings up his family.

Most Christian imagination at Christmas time focuses on the mother and child. But God also provides for his Son an earthly father figure. The Bible doesn't tell us much about Jesus' childhood, but we do know that in later life Jesus was known as the 'carpenter's son'. And we also know that his favourite name for God was 'Father'. Joseph must have been a wonderful father. Whatever he did, he enabled Jesus to see in 'fatherhood' a divine quality. So don't forget this Christmas time when you look at a Nativity Scene that young man standing in the



background, caring for and protecting his new family.

With every blessing for
Christmas.
David

COUNTRY BEAT

by PCSO Phil Jones



Hello,

Firstly I would like to inform you of more important news. Someone has been arrested and charged for one of the more recent burglaries in Overton. Nth Wales Police working as a team have managed to investigate this incident very swiftly to get this person away from the community as soon as possible. It is just coincidence at the moment that there have been no further incidents of burglary, so it appears that it was a spate and hopefully this will be an end to it.

To keep Overton Village safe from incidents in the future I would like to ask local residents if anyone would like to become a Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator. This position is an unpaid role and basically means being a point of contact for Neighbourhood Watch in a residential street, close, number of houses or properties. Once everyone in the street has signed up to the Watch which is FREE to join, the coordinator will be sent packs which are to be delivered to all houses signed up.

The packs include Internal window signage, security markers, security information etc. There will also be a triangular sign placed on a lamp post in the area to make people aware that it is a Neighbourhood Watch area. So if you have some spare time on your hands and would like to help the village stay safe please make contact with me using the contact details below.

We have had recent incidents with horses escaping from fields in the area, it is the field owners responsibility to make sure that the horses are secure and are not able to get out from old gates or holes in fences. If these horses get out on busy roads they can cause serious road traffic collisions and even fatalities. So please make sure horses are secure, also checked regularly, well watered (break ice on water troughs) and fed well during the winter period. Please report any loose horses, sheep or cattle to the Police who will endeavour to secure them. We have a very successful North Wales Horsecatch scheme running in this area, please contact me for information.

The Halloween and Bonfire period in Overton passed without any major Anti-Social Behaviour reported to the Police. Again please report any suspicious activity around the area, if you see or know something please contact 101 or myself on the number below, it's all confidential.

The Overton Local Policing Team would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and hope you all have a safe and enjoyable New Year.

If you're on twitter you can see live updates from myself as I patrol around the area, search for NWPPhilJones.

Thank you,

Phil.

Tel: 01978 348425 or 07854 389056

More School News

At St Mary's our Nursery Farmers have been gathering their harvest from the school gardens. Thanks to our parents who support our gardening venture and are available come rain or shine.



Join us for an ample sprinkling of Christmas cheer on Wed 4th at 1.45pm and Thursday 5th 10.00am for the Foundation Phase Production at Overton Village Hall of 'A Little Bird Told Me' - a heart-warming tale of a Robin and her friends on the way to warm their feathers in Bethlehem at the time of the birth of a special Baby King. Tickets are £2.50 available from St. Mary's School on 710370.

Wednesday 11th December is the Juniors Nativity Concert at St. Mary's Church from 6.00pm. All are welcome to attend.

Help for the Philippines

In a recent Cub meeting the cubs agreed they needed to do something before Christmas to help the people caught up in the Typhoon Haiyan disaster. Shelterbox is a charity that Scouts as a whole have links to and we've decided to support their relief efforts. The cubs have come up with lots of ideas to choose from but realistically are not going to raise £590 for a whole box so this is where you come in! Let's send an Overton Shelterbox (or equivalent) by working together as a community we could raise far more!

A start has been made already - St Mary's Church is going to donate all the collection from the Christingle Service on the 15th Dec. at 10am! Overton Playgroup is going to put up collection boxes in the Playcentre and ask people at the Christmas Fair on the 30th Nov. in the Village Hall for donations to be raffled off. Sunflowers will be donating part of the proceeds raised from their Afternoon Tea with Father Christmas on the 15th Dec 2 - 4pm in the Scout Hut.

Please join us to send a tent or a whole shelterbox (or whatever we can raise) on it's way from us in Overton to the Philippines before Christmas. What can you or your group do? Contact Akela on 07778122801 More about shelterboxes on www.shelterbox.org

Kids Kolumn

by Kate Jenkinson,
Robyn Rehbock and
Charley Middleton

Hey everybody! 😊

It's nearly Christmas!

Happy Christmas



Solve the Christmas anagrams:

SINLET _____	RUKTEY _____
ROLCA _____	SPRENTS _____
TINAVYI _____	BUBLAES _____
TMSSAICHR _____	HILGST _____
RPOTUS _____	ROCEDTOIASN _____

Christmas jokes!



What does a donkey eat at Christmas?

Mule Log.

What do you call a polar bear wearing ear muffs?

Anything you want. He can't hear you!

What do you have in December that you don't have in any other month?

The letter 'd'.

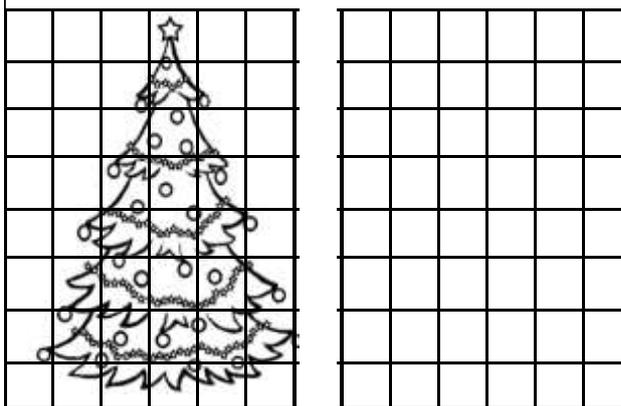
Where did the mistletoe go to become famous?

Holly-wood.

Why is it cold at Christmas?

Because it's in Decembrrrrrrrr!

Test your drawing skills by trying to copy and colour this Christmas tree!



Lunch Club



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

The menu will be Traditional Christmas Lunch.

To book please ring Gwynneth Austin on 710672.

The history of Parkside

A new addition to the History section of the village website is the story of the building of Parkside. The information has been put together by Gordon Whitfield who has a copy of the original programme for the official opening in 1965, showing all the original costings.

The Overton Parkside Welfare Scheme was designed to consist of 18 one bedroom bungalows together with a communal laundry, within a small estate which would also contain 6 three bedroom houses, a block of 9 two bedroom flats and 8 garages, was built in 2 stages, and was commenced in 1963. The estate was opened by Harold Finch MP, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Welsh Office on the 9th April 1965. Within just a few years of the official opening an additional 8 houses and 2 blocks of four flats were built to expand the estate.

Gordon remembers many residents were just 60 years old, and used to get the young lads running up to Dalby's newsagent for 10 Park Drive cigarettes or off to buy some groceries from Metcalfe's shop, and compares to nowadays when many 60 year olds are still very much more active.



The first Christmas Party

The council had considered the number of accidents which occurred throughout the country from open domestic fires, especially in homes of old people, and therefore installed closed solid fuel room in the bungalow living rooms to also supply hot water for the kitchen and bathroom. The bedrooms were equipped with thermostatically controlled electric under floor heating which some occupants tried but no one ever used due to the cost. Many original occupants from Parkside had grown up or had moved from cottages with no bathroom, consequently many failed to use them for their intended purpose. One lady found going outside for coal during winter months too much of a chore and kept her coal in the bath. Having the coal bunker built outside the front door, with a cast iron hatch, was thought to be very modern. It was also much appreciated by the local villains. There were numerous reports of people hearing the sound of the hatch being replaced in the middle of the night

and coal levels mysteriously dropping!

Residents celebrated the first Christmas with a party held in the Parkside laundry, The following years the old folk were taken to see a show. Gordon remembers one year going off to the Granada in Shrewsbury to see a variety show including Gerry and the Pacemakers and Fred Emney the comedian. One of the old ladies was relaying the trip to someone in the doctor's waiting room and told them they'd had a good time and had been to see 'Perry and the Jacemakers' who were a bit loud!!



Helpers at the first Christmas Party

Beard growing for charity



Staff at The Maelor School are raising money this year in aid of breast cancer. Seven male teachers grew beards throughout November. Pictured are Mr Aylward, Mr Bright, Mr Hughes, Mr Connelly, Mr Bruce-Pinard, Mr Rose and Headteacher, Mr Ellis.

Their beards were shaved off ceremoniously in the school hall in front of the pupils on Friday 29 November by a professional barber. Anyone wishing to support this cause - www.justgiving.com/maelorstaff or text MAEL99 to donate £2, £5 or £10, to 70070.



Film Club

Overton Film Club Wednesday December 11th, 7.30pm at the Village Hall presents "Blue Jasmine" with Cate Blanchett directed by Woody Allen.

Found

Found on Sunday 17th November - a pair of glasses on the fence in the village car park. Please phone 01978 710598 if they are yours.



OVERTON CHRISTMAS OPENINGS

OVERTON SURGERY

Closed Wed. Dec. 25th,
Thursday Dec. 26th
and Wednesday 1st Jan.

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 & Wed Jan 1st.
Emergency chemist at St Georges
Crescent, Wrexham on 25th 11 to 1
Dec 26th & Jan 1st 11am-3pm

LAST POSTING DATES

1st Class within the UK -
Friday December 20th
2nd Class within the UK -
Wed. December 18th



THE WHITE HORSE

Sun 22nd 12 - 2.30 & 4.30 - midnight
(Food 12-2.30 & 6-9pm)
Mon 23rd Closed
Christmas Eve 4.00 - 11.30pm
(Food 6 - 8.00pm)
Christmas Day 11.30 - 1.30 (No food)
Boxing Day 12- 6pm (Carvery 12-3pm)
Fri 27th 12-2.30pm, 5.30-midnight
(Food 12-2.30 & 6-9.00)
Sat 28th 12noon - midnight
(Food 12-2.30 & 6 - 9.00)
Sun 29th 12noon - 9.00pm
(Food 12-3.00 & 6 - 8.00)
Mon 30th Closed
New Years Eve 7.00pm - 1.00am
(7.00 - 10.00pm - pre booked only)
New Years Day 12 noon - 8pm
(Food 12 - 2.30 & 6 - 8.00)

COSTCUTTER

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



WOODLANDS DELI

Dec 24th 8.30am - 4pm
Dec 25th, 26th, 27th closed
Dec 28th 10am - 4pm Dec 29th Closed
Dec 30th & 31st 10am - 4pm
Jan 1st closed. As normal from the 2nd

Overton Playgroup

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We have had lots of support over the last year with all of our fundraisers and want to thank everyone for all their help.

Moving forward with the Playcentre we have recently received a grant from The Rural Environmental Project Scheme. Our application to install a children's potting shed and water butts with a pump to feed into the water play area in the back garden, was successful and we will be looking at getting the project off the ground early in the spring, weather permitting!!

We are also in the process of setting up a website for the Playcentre with the help and support of Communities 2.0, a Welsh Government scheme set up to help communities get the most out of the internet. Our AGM will be held at the end of January 2014, we hope as many people as possible will attend. There will be committee positions available so if anyone would like to get more involved at the Playcentre, please contact me to have a chat about how you can help.
Angie Atkins

MAELOR VETERINARY CENTRE

In Emergency please telephone (01978) 711975

CORNER SHOP

Monday 23rd 5am - 8pm
Xmas Eve 5am - 5pm
Xmas Day Closed
Boxing Day 7am - noon
Fri 27th 7am - 6pm
Sat 28th 7am - 6pm
Sun. 29th 7am - 6pm
Monday 30th 5am - 6pm
Tuesday 31st 5am - 4pm
New Yrs Day 8am - noon
Fri 3rd Back to normal

DUSTBIN DAYS

Fri. Dec 20th
Green Bin
Mon. Dec 30th
General Waste
Mon. Jan 6th
Green Bin
Sat. Jan 11th
General Waste
Then back to Fridays

OVERTON RECREATIONAL CLUB

Dec 13th Finals Night & Dec 21st Presentation
Night - both 7pm to 12am
Dec 24th 7pm to 12.am
Dec 25th 12pm to 2pm Dec 26th 2pm to 12am

OVERTON LIBRARY

Open 10am - 2pm Monday 23rd December
then closed till 2pm 3rd January 2014.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Fiona Williams of Cae Dyah Farm, Overton on graduating from the University of Nottingham with a BSc (Hons) degree in healthcare Science (Medical Physiology & Therapeutics) She is now studying for a Masters Degree at the University of Cardiff. Love from Nan, Granddad, Mum, Dad, Sara and Katy.



Congratulations to Alice Murray on graduating from Glyndwr University, Wrexham with a BA (Hons) degree in Business Management.

New Years Eve Disco Party

at Overton Village Hall, 8 till Late.

Fancy Dress Optional. Bring your own food, Bar, Tickets £5 with £1.50 being donated to the "Hayley Higginson & Sophie Edwards Cancer Trust"

Tickets available from Overton Club or Corner Shop.

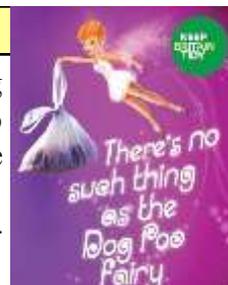
Well behaved children welcome.

Overton Recreational Club will be open until 1am.



Bin it!!!

Please clear up after your dog and take your bagged doggy poo to a bin, either one of those around the village or at home. Do not leave it hanging on fences or around the village!



OVERTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

**Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011,
Section 116 Notice of Co-Option**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Overton Community Council intends to Co-opt **two** member(s) to fill the vacancies that exist in the office of Councillor for the Overton Community.

If you wish to be considered for co-option for the vacant seat(s) or want more information regarding the role of a Community Councillor please contact the Proper Officer, Clerk to the Council Community on/at Overton Village Hall, Penyllan Street, Overton or email occ.clerk@btinternet.com
by (deadline) 9th December 2013.

You may have seen OCC members going around Overton during September/October with our public consultation for additional playing field equipment. We have now finished the public consultation and would like to say thank you to everyone who took part. We have visited lots of different groups, St Marys School, Playgroup, Scouts, Brownies, Lunch Club, WI to name but a few! A very BIG thank you must also go to 'Sunflowers' for continued support and assistance with the display boards.
We are now putting together the results of this consultation and will put grant applications forward in February/March 2014.

*Commercial adverts are not included
in the on-line
version of the Oracle.*

*Business adverts can be viewed in the
Business section of the
Overton-on-Dee website page*

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





WHAT'S ON

December Diary for St Mary's Services

- Sunday December 1st** 10.00am Advent Village Praise
Tuesday December 3rd 2.30pm School service led by Year 5
Sunday December 8th 11:30am Holy Communion
Wednesday December 11th 6.00pm School Christmas Concert & Nativity Play
Sunday December 15th 10.00am Christingle & Family Communion (Collection for Philippines Disaster)
Sunday December 22nd 11.30am Holy Communion
 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight
Tuesday Christmas Eve 3.00pm Crib Service
 11.00pm 'Midnight' Communion
Wed. Christmas Day 10.00am Christmas Day Communion
Sunday December 29th 10.00am Group Eucharist

December Diary for Methodist Chapel Services

- Sunday Dec 8th** 6.30pm Chapel Anniversary
Wednesday Dec 18th 7.00pm Festival of Carols
Sunday Dec 22nd 2.00pm Family Service
Wednesday Dec 25th 9.15am Communion - Rev Una McLean
Tuesday December 3rd 3.30 Senior Citizens Christmas Party
Thursday December 5th 10.30 - 2.30pm Penley Rainbow Lunch & learn - Christmas Floral Decorations
Friday December 6th 7.30pm Maelor Music Society Xmas Supper Evening with entertainment by Alf Gladman
Saturday December 7th 2pm Methodist Chapel Xmas Fair
Monday December 9th 10.30am Overton British Legion coffee at Woodlands Deli & Grand Xmas Draw.
Monday December 9th 6pm Patient Participation Group meeting at Overton Surgery
Tuesday December 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.
Tuesday December 10th 7 for 7.30pm Penley Rainbow Prize & Money Bingo. Includes tea/coffee & mincepie
Wednesday December 11th 12.30pm Overton Lunch Club at the White Horse. Booking required.



FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Lucy England & Fergus Davies on their forthcoming marriage on Dec 21st
Congratulations to Gail Coupland on her recent wedding in Australia.
Happy December Birthdays Nick Russell, Joseph Thomas, Iris Edwards, Howard Jones, Walter Roberts, Carol Morrison, Jill Jones, Mack Phillips, Helen Roberts, Lisa Edwards & Amelia Lloyd.
 A very **Happy 18th Birthday** on Dec 12th to our beautiful daughter Daniella Jones. Lots of love from Mum, Dad and Mikey XXX
Happy 21st Birthday to Laura Edwards, with love from all the family.
 Tom, Debbie, Dani & Mikey would like to wish all family, friends & neighbours a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year. We have chosen to donate to charity this year and not buy cards.
Sincere condolences to Dave Austin, family and friends on the very sad loss of Stella.
Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Judy Riddell who passed away in November.

Thank you

My family and I would like to express our sincere thanks for the many cards, words of sympathy, condolences and genuine support that we have received following our recent bereavement. Dave Austin.

For Sale

The original Powakaddy Classic Golf Trolley, not been used for 3 years in good condition, complete with 18 hole battery & charger £45.00 for quick sale **Tel: 01978 710582**
 11 Golf clubs, 2 drivers & 2 putter in a smart red case including a golf trolley £60 ono
 Cordless drill/driver, cost £30, little used . £10
 Cordless drill/driver, cost £50, Challenge Extreme, little used 2 rechargeable batteries £25
 VAX "stairs" vacuum cleaner, cost £150. Nearly new, Tools reach to top of stairs £60 **Tel: 01978 710646**

PLEASE REMEMBER

Copy deadline 16th 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; Treasurer Rob Netzband-Piggott; Distribution Cynthia Davies; Sean Clarke, & Euan Stevenson.

Editor - Jill Burton.
 Tel 710631 or e-mail overtonoracle@gmail.com

All articles and advertisements in the Overton Oracle are published in good faith and without prejudice.

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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