

The Overton Oracle

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All Change at the Corner Shop



Photo - Karen, Cain and Mike

It's all change in the High Street with new owners for the Corner Shop. After 11 years, and working 7 days a week, Mick and Karen Pinder have left the Corner Shop to take a well earned rest before they even think about what to do next!! (see more about Mike and Karen on page 5)

Welcome to the new owner who is Cain (pronounced Kine) Rowlands. Cain grew up in Overton, and her parents still live here, but she moved away to go to University and has worked for many years in London as an Operations Manager and a Digital Project Manager.

She eventually decided she wanted to escape to the country and try something different! After 2 weeks working with Mick and Karen she is easing her way in and not intending to change things. The existing staff will continue to work with her and that will make life a little easier!

She acknowledges that Mick and Karen will be a hard act to follow!

All Change at the British Legion

Overton's British Legion Standard Bearer retired on Remembrance Sunday. Gerry Owen has carried the Standard for Overton Royal British Legion for the past 30 years, starting in 1984. He won numerous County standard bearing competitions including winning the right to carry the East Denbighshire County Standard for over 20 years. His crowning achievements were to carry the Welsh National Standard at the 40th anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy in his first year and also at the Festival of Remembrance in front of her Majesty The Queen, again in 1984 – and he still got back to carry the Overton standard on the following morning. Gerry did not hit the chandelier in Overton Church on any occasion in the last 30 years, no mean achievement as many former Scouts and Cubs will testify! In a simple ceremony at the end of the Remembrance Service Gerry was thanked for his years of service by Chairman, David Burton before the Standard was handed to a new bearer, Dave Austin. Gerry did his 2 year National Service with the RAF as a Leading Aircraftman and saw overseas service on the Isle of Wight!!



The British Legion would like to thank the Scouts, Cubs, Beavers and Brownies and members of the public for their support and participation on Remembrance Sunday. This year's Poppy Appeal raised over £3,000. Thanks also go to Frank Lloyd who after 9 years organising the appeal, has also retired, handing over to Colin Bamber.

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 emailed to overtonoracle@gmail.com by December 16th at the latest.



Ramblings From the Reverend by Rev'd Canon David Child



Phillips Brooks, a young American clergyman, decided in 1865 to visit the Holy Land. It must have been quite a journey but on Christmas Eve he found himself at the Midnight Service in Bethlehem. He later wrote "I remember standing in the old church in Bethlehem, close to the spot where Jesus was born, when the whole church was ringing hour after hour with splendid hymns of praise to God, how again and again it seemed as if I could hear voices I knew well, telling each other of the wonderful night of the Saviour's birth."

That night as he rode back to Jerusalem he wondered how he could communicate his experience to his congregation. A year later he was able to put those feelings into a poem which we now know as the carol, 'O little town of Bethlehem'.

It's an amazing poem, there's a rhyme within the rhyme e.g. 'Above thy deep and dreamless sleep' and 'the hopes and fears of all the years' so that the words and the song flow effortlessly along. It's a carol that reminds us of the words of the shepherds. 'Let us now go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which the Lord has made known to us.' Phillips Brooks' pilgrimage made a deep impression on him as it does on many who visit that 'Little Town'.

I may have told you of how in 2000 I found myself one evening all alone in Bethlehem, without my passport, without any ID and with only just enough money to pay my taxi and guide. I felt very vulnerable. Perhaps that's the only way to approach Bethlehem. And then I'm standing in the crypt, the cave under the Church of the Holy Nativity watching the crowd, each one bowing, kneeling or kissing the spot where tradition has it Jesus was born. But me, I only have anxious thoughts of home.

Then it all changes, my guide taps me on the shoulder. 'Look doctor' and he points into the dark recesses of the cave where no-one else is looking. And then when my eyes get accustomed to the darkness I see it, a feeding trough, a manger hewn out of the solid rock. After a few minutes, he taps me on the shoulder again. 'You go home now, doctor'.

It may not be possible for you to make that journey, but you can make it in your imagination. So read the Bible Story again, join us in our Christmas Messy Church, our Carols by Candlelight, Crib Service, 'Midnight' (11pm) Communion, and Christmas Day Communion and remember that most of the work leading to you meeting with and coming to know Jesus is done by God. All you have to do is to sing or say with Phillips Brooks, 'O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.'

A Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and with every blessing,
David

Country Beat

by PCSO Phil Jones



Season's Greetings from the Overton Policing Team.

Overton village has remained quiet, however other areas have had problems with fireworks, fires etc. which we have all attended to. Hopefully all those problems have come to an end now so we can look forward to Christmas.

There have been some burglaries in surrounding villages including Bangor On Dee, please make sure you secure your house, close curtains, purchase shed alarms. If possible fit CCTV to your home, it's our best way of catching offenders.

Unfortunately there has been some graffiti on the new wooden train in the park, words written in ball point pen. If we catch anyone doing this they will face investigation and a fine.

You may have seen myself and PCSO Lynne Maurice out with the speed camera on Wrexham Rd and High Street, this was to monitor traffic speeds of vehicles entering and exiting the village. It is 30mph from just before Argoed lane, but we have captured people going over that limit as it seems a long way until you actually get to the village. This must stop; there are homes running along that stretch of road and vehicles travelling too fast can cause problems for residents. We will continue to periodically check speeds of vehicles in the village, Station Rd is a hot spot for vehicles travelling too fast so that will be the next priority.

It was a privilege to lay the Wreath at this year's Overton Remembrance Service which was very well attended by all.

If you have twitter watch out for my updates. I will be sending tweets to advertise Police Surgeries in Overton so if you want to chat about anything come along.

This is all for now so may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Phil

PCSO 2858 Phil Jones

Police Community Support Officer
Covering area's Overton, Penley, Hanmer,
Bettisfield & Horseman's Green.

Tel: 01978 348425 or 07854 389056

Email: philip.w.jones@nthwales.pnn.police.uk

Playcentre News

It is coming to the end of the year but as a new committee of Playgroup, we are just getting started! It has

been a busy beginning for us with our Nearly New Sale, which took place in October and was a great success, as we raised £600. So many, many thanks to all the sellers and buyers without whom it would not have been successful. We also had a fun Halloween party, where all the children who came had a fantastic spooky scary time!

Planning our Christmas fair, we have been overwhelmed with the communities support and generosity towards Playgroup. So a BIG thank you to all. On top of this, we are very grateful to Mick and Karen, (from the Corner Shop) who with their donation from the carrier bags, kindly arranged for us to receive a new entrance gate. It was very much needed and is working wonderfully! Plus they have been very kind with supplying us with our mince pies for our Christmas fair. They have now recently moved on from the Corner Shop so we wish them well and lots of luck and thank them for the years of support to playgroup.

We shall be running our Holiday Club from Monday 22nd until Christmas Day and then shall reopen on Monday 5th January 2015 as usual.

We are currently a small new committee, so positions are available, so if you would like to help, then contact myself or Playgroup to learn more.

We have decided to postpone our Christmas Bingo until next year, so keep a look out for more details! What we do have in our fundraising diaries, is, "The Overton Disco Revival!!" This will take place on February 14th at the village hall.

Definitely an event NOT TO BE MISSED!

All that is left is to wish everyone a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year, and Playgroup will see you in 2015!

Sarah Evans

Kids Kolumn

Hello everyone.

by Kate Jenkinson,
Robyn Rehbock and
Charley Middleton



It's coming up to Christmas!! Have you all got your advent calendars?

Here are some Christmas questions!!

- * In the song "the twelve days of Christmas" what were the presents on the fourth day?
- * What is the name of the reindeer with the red nose?
- * What is the most popular item put on a tree?
- * What song contains the line "let's be jolly, deck the halls with boughs of holly"?
- * What does "advent" mean?

To work out your 9 times table number your fingers 1 to 10. To multiply 9 by 3, fold down the third finger and then count the number of fingers on the left and right of it. There are 2 fingers on the left and 7 on the right, so 3 times 9 is 27! - To work out 6 times 9, there are 5 fingers on the left and 4 fingers on the right, so 54!

Find the Christmas words

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

REINDEER, HOLLY, GIFTS, PINE TREE, ANGEL, PARTIES, TURKEY, SNOW, FUN, FESTIVE, LOVE



Christmas pictures to colour in



Your Letters...

Dear Editor,

As a resident of Salop Road for the past 2 years I have been horrified by the volume of heavy traffic that uses it, the speeds at which the traffic travels and its state of repair. Having brought the attention of both the Community Council and Wrexham County Borough Council to the problem on numerous occasions, so far very little has been done to improve things.

The heavy vehicles involved can be amongst the heaviest on the road and often tower next to the houses alongside. They include tankers, waste containers, curtain sided lorries and heavy agricultural vehicles. On one weekday morning I walked from my house to the Costcutter shop and back (a distance of some 400 yds) and I saw half a dozen heavy vehicles pass! Since the road is riddled with crazing and potholes and has become a patchwork of botched in-fills at conflicting levels, when these vehicles hit and clatter over the bumps, especially at speed, the effect is to make houses shake as if during an earthquake! In my own house cracks have appeared in the walls, a roofing tile has fallen off and ceiling boards are vibrating so much that they are pulling away from their supports. Other residents have told me the same with at least one having experienced falling masonry within the house! The fact that Salop Road is supposed to be in a so called 'Conservation Area' makes the continued disregard of this state of affairs even more bizarre!

The problem of speed is exacerbated by the fact that Salop Road is virtually straight thus encouraging the build up of speed in the dark where any opposing traffic is obvious from its headlights. The Go Safe speed van has made fairly regular visits, but there are no deterrents when it is not there. During December 2013 a traffic counting machine was placed in front of my house which showed that vehicles were exceeding the speed limit but not sufficiently to trigger the need for increased measures.

My continued protestations finally resulted in a recent visit from Kevin Edwards 'Streetscene Area Manager' and his colleague Darren Green 'Network & Infrastructure Manager' from Wrexham County Borough Council. Several neighbours also attended and the problems were discussed at length and the state of the road surface along the Salop Road was inspected. All agreed there was a need for the road to be resurfaced with a modern, low noise surface. However, residents also felt that the speed control was inadequate and Darren Green suggested consideration be given to appropriately placed flashing repeater speed limit signs. After all, a bypass being out of the question, surely the neglect of the only alternative seems remiss

Following their visit, I wrote to Kevin Edwards and Darren Green summarizing the points raised to ensure that our concerns were fully understood. We wait in anticipation, to see whether anything is now done to make things less of a nuisance and, more importantly, safer.

David Warren

Dear Editor,

Please can we thank everyone involved for the new climbing frame, swing and toy train at the playing field. We had great fun there almost every day at half term.

Signed George (aged 10), William (aged 8) and Dad (aged 48 ¾).

Name and address supplied

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank Mick and Karen Pinder for their attentive service at the Corner Shop and offer them best wishes for the future.

Edward and Lesley Pugh

Charity Football Match

A big thank you to everyone who took part in a charity football match to raise funds for the Sophie Edwards & Haley Higginson Trust. Overton played Cotts (formerly Calypso Soft Drinks) on Sunday the 26th of October at Overton's home ground. The final score was 4-3 to Overton and a re match is already being talked about. After the game everyone headed back to Overton Recreational Club for refreshments provided by family and friends. Local photographer Mervyn Haynes took snap shots of the day and Rob Duncan officiated the match. A grand total of £800 was raised for the well deserving charity which was accepted by Sophie's Mum. On a poignant note Sophie's Dad, Neil Edwards, played in last years game but sadly passed away earlier this year. Thanks to all involved.



Christmas Greetings from all at St Mary's School

As the Christmas festivities approach, the children are already very busy preparing for their Christmas concerts. These are always a highlight of the year for everybody at school and it is wonderful to join with the pupils as they remind us all of the true meaning of Christmas.

As the calendar year begins to draw to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody for all of their support during 2014. A particular thank you must be extended to the whole community, as your support is greatly appreciated and valued by the whole school.

As 2015 starts and we begin the New Year, St. Mary's school shall continue to grow and move forward as we ensure the very best education is provided for all of our pupils.

It now leaves me on behalf of all the pupils, governors and staff to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy and peaceful New Year! - Nadolig Llawen



Mr G Wyn-Jones (Headteacher)



St Mary's School marked Armistice Day, November 11th with a service in St Mary's Church, led by Rev'd David Child. They joined members of the Overton branch of the Royal British Legion to keep the 2 minute silence at 11am at the churches war memorial, followed by Mr Williams playing the Last Post and the children of Year 6 reading the names of The Fallen.

Head teacher Mr Wyn-Jones said "It certainly was a lovely service which included the young to the more mature all coming together to show their respect. To have the British Legion with us was also a special moment for all of us."

Photo of the Legion Flag Bearers, David Child and Year 6

Farewell to the Pinders



After 11 years and working 7 days a week Mick and Karen Pinder have left the Corner Shop and will take a long, long rest before they even think about what to do next!!

We will all miss Mick's warm welcome and Karen's renowned choice of words, although as she remembers sometimes badly timed as when she turned around to find the previous Rector David Lewis listening!

Over the years they have given an enormous amount of support to local charities. Top of the list is the money raised from selling plastic bags at 5p each, this has benefitted the Scout Group to the tune of £500 and the Playcentre to the tune of £350. They have sponsored 2 football teams, collected money for Wingetts, the Penley Rainbow Centre, the Lions

Xmas Raffle, the Poppy Appeal, a Grand National Sweepstake and have supported the Friends of St Mary's and the Royal British Legion (every year counting all the money from the Poppy Appeal) and provided the contact point for the Overton Oracle.

Mick and Karen want to mention their fantastic staff with whom they have had a great working relationship with over the years. They have all always tried their best for their customers, going that extra mile to source products that customers want. For example, they always insist that customers check their lottery tickets by reading them in the machine. Many customers have unexpectedly discovered they are winners when they have succumbed and presented their old tickets.

Lunch Club



The Overton Lunch Club is on **Wednesday December 10th** at 12.30pm at the White Horse. The menu will be Christmas Lunch with all the trimmings, roast & boiled potatoes and seasonal vegetables followed by Christmas Pudding and Brandy Sauce. To book please ring Gwynneth Austin on 710672.

When ITV Wales was filming in the village last year they popped in and told Mick that it was he may be running the "best corner shop in the country" In the last few weeks Mick and Karen have had many customers say how much they have appreciated the Corner Shop and how they will miss them both. For example Lyn Conboy said that she couldn't find the words to say what a wonderful Corner Shop it is.

We wish Mick and Karen all the best for the future.

Fun and laughter with Overton Am-Drams

If you were lucky enough to be in the audience at the 2 night run of Overton Amateur Dramatic Society's latest production, then you enjoyed an evening of fun and laughter, as well as a reminder of poignant and painful memories of ones own or children's experiences of performing in a primary school nativity play. "The Flint Street Nativity" was originally written as a film for TV, broadcast at Christmas 1999. The author Tim Firth rewrote the play and added music for the stage in 2006.



Directed by Sheila Miller, the cast of 10, Stephen Sorfleet, Nichola Jones, Cindy Myers, Rhian Wyn Jones, Viv Oleniuk, Mervyn Haynes, Marion Sinclair, Stephen Deyes, Luke Haynes and Mike Done played the 7 or 8 year old children with parts in the school nativity, culminating in a stable scene with 2 Marys, only 2 kings, a Joseph obsessed with 'Question of Sport', a flashing angel, and a star who wanted to be a spaceman.



Insights in to the 'children's' families were provided by their rendition of carols with alternative words, trained by musical director, Joanne Kember. The final scene gave

the audience an insight into the home life of the pupils when the 'children' became their parents for the post-play drinks party, and the origins of the attitudes and prejudices apparent in the children were revealed.



The set was professional and within the confines of the village hall stage, provided a fully equipped classroom with store cupboard, home corner and playground area. Thanks go to St Marys School for lending real school chairs and to the Before & After School club for providing authentic art work for the walls.

The Guardian wrote of the original play that it "*exposes what an ungodly snake pit of paediatric power-politics the staging of your average Nativity play can be... There are moments when you may wet yourself laughing.*" and Overton Amateur Dramatic Society's production certainly lived up to this recommendation.

Photos are in colour on the online edition on www.overtonoracle.com and are downloadable on the Gallery page.



The 'children' become the parents



OVERTON CHRISTMAS OPENINGS

<p>OVERTON SURGERY Closed Thurs Dec. 25th, Friday Dec. 26th and Thursday 1st Jan. On closed days and outside surgery opening hours ring Out of Hours provider on 0300 123 55 66</p>	<p>OVERTON CHEMIST Open Xmas Eve 9am - 6pm Closed 25th & 26th & Thurs Jan 1st. Emergency chemist at St Georges Crescent, Wrexham on 25th 11 to1 Dec 26th & Jan 1st 11am-3pm</p>	<p>MAELOR VETERINARY CENTRE In Emergency please telephone (01978) 711975</p>	<p>CORNER SHOP Tuesday 23rd 5am - 8pm Xmas Eve 5am - 6pm Xmas Day Closed Boxing Day 8am - noon Sat 27th 7am - 6pm Sun 28th 7am - 6pm Mon 29th 5am - 6pm Tues 30th 5am - 6pm Wed 31st 5am - 4pm New Yrs Day 8am - noon Fri 2nd Back to normal</p>
<p>THE WHITE HORSE Mon 22nd Closed Tues 23rd 5.30 - 10.30pm <i>(Food 6 - 9.00pm)</i> Christmas Eve 3.00pm - 11.30pm <i>(Food 6 - 8.00pm)</i> Christmas Day 11.30am - 1.30pm <i>(No food)</i> Boxing Day 12 noon - 6.00pm <i>(Food 12-3pm Carvery only)</i> Sat 27th 12 noon - 12.00am <i>(Food 12-2.30pm & 6pm-9pm)</i> Sun 28th 12noon - 9.00pm <i>(Food 12-3.00pm & 6pm-8pm)</i> Mon 29th Closed Tues 30th 5.30pm to 10.00pm <i>(Food 6pm - 9pm)</i> New Years Eve 7.00pm -1.00am <i>(7.00pm - 10.00pm – Hot Food Buffet pre booked only)</i> New Years Day 12 noon - 9pm <i>(Food 12 - 2.30pm & 6 - 8.00pm)</i></p>		<p>LAST POSTING DATES 1st Class within the UK - Saturday December 20th 2nd Class within the UK - Thurs. December 18th</p>	<p>DUSTBIN DAYS Fri. Dec 19th Green Bin Mon. Dec 29th General Waste Mon. Jan 5th Green Bin Sat. Jan 10th General Waste Then back to Fridays</p>
<p>COSTCUTTER DEC 23rd 6am - 10pm 24th 6am - 10pm 25th 8am - 4pm 26th 7am - 10pm 27th 6am - 10pm 28th - 30th 6am - 10pm 31st 6am - 10pm JAN 1st 8am - 8pm 2nd 6am - 10pm</p>		<p>OVERTON RECREATIONAL CLUB Sat Dec 6th Bingo 8pm. Fri Dec 12th Christmas Pamper night 7:00pm Massage, Nails Waxing etc. Sat Dec 13th Finals night Sun Dec 14th Bingo 8pm Sat Dec 20th Presentation Night and Bingo. 8pm. Sun Dec 21st Christmas Quiz 8:30 pm. Wed Dec 24th Christmas Eve Bar 5:30 til Late Thurs Dec 25th Christmas Day 12:00pm til 2:00pm Fri Dec 26th Bar 1:00pm til Late Sat Dec 27th Bingo 8pm Sun Dec 28th Music Quiz 8:30pm. Wed Dec 31st Disco and Casino 8pm til Late.</p>	
<p>WOODLANDS DELI Dec 24th 8.30am - 4pm Dec 25th, 26th, closed Dec 27th 10.00am - 3.00pm Dec 28th & 29th closed Dec 30th & 31st 10.00am - 4.00pm Jan 1st closed. As normal from the 2nd</p>		<p>OVERTON LIBRARY Monday 22nd December open 10am - 2pm then closed until 2pm on 2nd January 2015</p>	

Evans & Wynne Family History

100 years ago in December my grandfather, William Alexander Smith, left Australia for Gallipoli. His war ended on the Western Front, where injuries led to his left arm being amputated. Either in the field hospital in France or on the south coast of England during convalescence, he met his future wife, Dymphna Jane Evans. On the 13th February 1919 she emigrated to Australia where they were married on 26 July the same year. In 1926, the family visited England, giving their destination as Wrexham Street, Overton.

As my mother and aunt have now passed away I have very little tangible information on our family history. My research led me to Overton-on-Dee, the birthplace on my grandmother's marriage certificate. Her father was Thomas Evans, shoemaker, and her mother was Elizabeth, née Wynne, married in Overton. They had 9 children, Maggie born 1876, Nellie born 1881 (who married Ernest Burgess in 1902) William born 883, Elizabeth born 1885, James born 1886, Sarah born 1890, Jenny born 1892, Mary born 1895, and Harry born 1894 all in Overton.

I suspect that Sarah is Dymphna Jane, perhaps she disliked her birth name and changed it when she emigrated prior to her marriage. On the various censuss the family always lived at Wrexham Rd, Overton, the same address given in 1926 and from the way it is listed close to Pendas House, it appears they lived in Dispensary Row. Elizabeth Wynne was the daughter of Mary Ann Wynne born c1833 in Overton, and living in Turning Street. Her children were Elizabeth born 1859, William c1863, Jane in 1867, Harry c1873. Thomas Evans was the son of William Evans born c1799 in Erbistock, and Margaret born c1815 in Overton.



I would love to know if there is anyone in Overton who recognises this family and whether there are still descendants living in the district. If anyone has any information, I would love to hear from you. Please contact: Jane Glen on janemaryglenn@yahoo.com.au or contact the Overton Oracle which will pass on a message.

Father Christmas comes to Overton



On Saturday December 13th, 2014, between 1pm and 3pm, the Sunflowers charity will be hosting a very exciting event in Overton Scout Hut. Father Christmas will be flying into Overton Park football field by helicopter, to give Seasons Greetings to all the children who want to come and see him. There will be an opportunity to look inside the helicopter and to see Santa and his elf in the grotto. Santa will have a small present for each child who comes to see him.

There will also be a barbecue, cakes, teas and coffees, mulled apple juice, face-painting, a raffle and Christmas crafts for children. Knolton Farmhouse Cheese have very kindly agreed to sponsor this event.

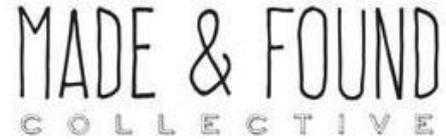
The Sunflowers charity is a support group for parents and carers of children with additional needs. It was set up by local mums in Overton in 2011. We wanted to do something positive out of all having children with additional needs ourselves. We wanted to use our own personal circumstances to do something for each other and the community. We share, support and listen and raise funds and awareness in the local community.

We really hope as many people as possible come and take part in this wonderful, festive occasion. The true spirit of Christmas will be there. Should the weather not be good enough for Father Christmas to come by helicopter, he will come by another magical means.

For further information, donations or offers of help(!) about this event, please contact Kate Davies on 01978 710078 or 07895 176348.

Try a new craft

Hello friends! We're very excited to announce our three inaugural workshops, coming up at Made & Found in the next few weeks. Learn a beautiful watercolour painting technique or a simple yet effective way to weave with the talented June McLaughlin, or come along for some upcycling goodness with Autentico paints and our very own Mrs Feather, (aka Heather Pickering).



To book, please contact the workshop leaders directly (details attached). Booking is on a first-come, first-served basis and space is limited so don't delay. All workshops will be held at Made & Found so we look forward to seeing you then!

The M&F team.

Upcycle with Autentico Paints Date: MONDAY 1 December Time: 11:30am-2:00pm

Workshop leader: Heather Pickering

Breathe new life into tired furniture with on-trend chalk paints. Heather will guide you through the process, from preparation to finish, with demonstrations and hands-on experience so that you can recreate the stunning results at home.

The workshop will include coffee/tea on arrival and a light lunch at Woodlands Cafe. You will also upcycle your own product (provided) to take home.

Cost: £50

TO BOOK, CALL HEATHER ON 07725 161009

OR EMAIL: AITCHMARKETING@BTINTERNET.COM

Magic Weaving Sticks Date: Thursday 4 December Time: 11:00am-1.30pm

Workshop leader: June McLaughlin

Learn to weave very quickly without a loom. These little weaving sticks are actually quite magical and easy to use. During this workshop you will learn how to use these sticks to produce useful small and large items for your home.

All materials are provided.

Cost: £35

TO BOOK, CALL JUNE ON 07780 00206

OR EMAIL: JUNEMCCLAUGHLIN@BTINTERNET.COM

St Mary's Church Plans for New Facilities

St. Mary's Church Council will in the New Year be submitting plans to Grant Awarding Bodies for the provision of Toilet and Catering Facilities in St. Mary's.

These plans include a disabled toilet which will be housed not in the church but in a traditional timber framed extension to the North door entrance. This will also provide disabled access to the church.

The new Catering facilities will be in the form of a 'Kitchen in a Cupboard' which will be situated in the rear of the church. It will provide all the catering facilities we need and when closed will look like closed book case.

We will be seeking signatures from individuals and letters of support from parish organizations and will be most grateful for the support of all the community for this venture.

Should you wish to see the plans I shall be available in church on Saturday morning on **December 6th** 10.00 to 11.30 am. Do drop in.

Canon David



Costcutters help school

Devika Tharan, the proprietor of Costcutters in Salop Road has recently raised over £160 for St Mary's primary school, under the Costcutters "Making a Difference Locally" campaign.

Making a Difference Locally is a charity launched by Costcutters to help independently run local stores to add value to their communities. The charity helps the stores achieve this by allowing them to nominate charities or good causes that are local to them to receive a specific donation from us. Donations may be to local sports teams, hospices or one of the many charities operating in the UK.

Messy Church

The theme for our November Messy Church was 'Light' – we made our own version of a stained glass window, baked stained glass window biscuits, lit light bulbs with batteries and wires, made metal candle holders with hammers and nails, painted glass jars for lanterns, made paper lanterns, spiral decorations and 'light' cards. This was followed by refreshments and finished with a short service. Again a good attendance by children and adults.

The theme for our next session on Sunday December 14th is not surprisingly 'Christmas', again in the Scout Hut 3.00 to 5.00 pm. All welcome – please note bring your children in clothes you don't mind them getting messy in!!



Congrats & good luck



Congratulations to Alice Murray who has been shortlisted for Businesswoman of the Year award and also for the title of Entrepreneur of the Year at the 2014 Free2Network Business Awards.

Alice established her company 'Giggles and Games – The Giant Game People, a giant games rental service for weddings, schools, parties or corporate events' in 2012. Two years on and Alice is a full-time entrepreneur growing her business day-by-day, with a packed schedule for 2015 already in place.

Alice will find out if she's won at a black-tie awards ceremony at the St George's Hotel, Llandudno, on Friday 28 November, judged and presented by 'The Apprentice' finalist Saira Khan. Best of luck Alice.

Wildbank's school work

This summer Wildbanks Conservation of Overton has enjoyed working at Gobowen Primary school, building an outdoor classroom with sedum green roof for their Forest School. They also installed tiered seating with integrated storage for outdoor clothing and resources. Situated amongst fruit trees the classroom provides a quiet atmosphere in which pupils are sheltered whilst they learn about their natural; environment.

They were also delighted to return to Borderbrook School (Tallarn Green) to deliver the next phase of improvements courtesy of a lottery grant they applied for on the schools behalf. A range of green projects have included a streamside boardwalk that leads to the schools outdoor classroom.

What's On at the Rainbow



The Rainbow Centre's Christmas Fair is on Saturday 6th December 10.30am to 2.30pm and it is free entry. Father Christmas will be attending and there will be an opportunity for you to leave your letter with him. There will be handmade gifts and cards on sale, decorations, photographs, ceramics, jewelry and textiles, plus festive music and a raffle.

The café will be open and will be serving mulled wine and festive foods.

There will be demonstrations throughout the day -

11.00am Ingenious ways to ice your Christmas cake

12.00pm Floral table decorations

1.00pm Creative ways to dress your Christmas table

2.00pm Come and hear the Madras Adult Choir and afterwards join in with a Christmas sing-along

During December the Enfys Café at the Rainbow Centre is offering meal deals

Deal 1 Get a FREE mince pie with any hot drink

Deal 2 Buy any sandwiches toastie or baked potato and receive a FREE bag of crisps

Option to call your order through and then come and collect it, call 01948 830730 - by 10.30 am

New Oracle website

Don't forget the Overton Oracle has its own website. Each months Oracle is on line - all in colour - and there is space for extra photos and up to date "Whats On" in the village. Have a look at the 'Gallery' where photos from the current edition are available in larger format to download.

The new address is www.overtonoracle.com
We've already had emails for ex-Overtonians in Scotland, Spain and Canada who are keeping up to date on village affairs from the new website

Make sure you check it out



Ellesmere Probus

The next meeting of the Ellesmere Probus Club on December 4th at the Comrades' Club will include a talk by Cynthia Greenwood, who will be speaking on the Great War soldier and poet Wilfred Owen.

More information on the Ellesmere Probus, a club for retired men, is on www.probusclubellesmere.com or call in to the next meeting on December the 4th from 10.00am.

Christmas Music

The Maelor Music Society's Christmas Supper Evening is on Friday 5th December. (There is a separate charge).

Entertainment will be provided by Derek Harrison, a local Jazz musician and versatile entertainer from Whittington. He has an extensive repertoire and an enjoyable evening is guaranteed. He will re-visit music and songs associated with WWI and WW2.

Dress accordingly to get "In the Mood"! (optional).

At the moment adverts are not included in the on-line version of the Oracle.

As the archive of Oracle going back many years is available on line this would mean adverts and contact details would be out of date

WHAT'S ON



December Diary for St Mary's Services

- Sunday December 7th** 10.00am Christingle Service
Sunday December 14th 11.30am Holy Communion
 3.00pm Messy Church in Scout Hut
Monday December 15th 10.00am Toddlers Christmas Service
Sunday December 21st 10.00am Family Communion
 6.30 pm Carols by Candlelight
Wednesday Christmas Eve 3.00 pm Crib Service
 11.00 pm 'Midnight' Communion
Thursday Christmas Day 10.00am Christmas Day Communion
Sunday December 28th 10.00am Group Eucharist

December Diary for Overton Methodist Chapel

- Sunday December 7th** 6.30pm Communion, Rev Phil Poole
Sunday December 14th 6.30pm Mr David Pickstone,
Wednesday December 17th 7pm Festival of Carols
Sunday December 21st 2.30pm Carol Service
Christmas Day 9.15am Communion Service, Rev Phil Poole
Sunday December 28th 6.30pm Mr David Young
Tuesday December 2nd 3.30pm Overton Senior Citizens
 Christmas Party in the Village Hall
Thursday December 4th 10.30 - 2.30pm Penley Rainbow
 Lunch & Learn - Glass painting Christmas baubles
Friday December 5th 7.30pm Maelor Music Society
 Christmas Supper Evening with Derek Harrison
Saturday December 6th 10am - 11.30am Plans for toilet &
 catering facilities available to view in St Marys Church
Saturday December 6th 10.30am - 2.30pm Christmas Fair at
 Penley Rainbow Centre. Free entry
Wednesday December 10th 10.30am Overton British Legion
 meeting for coffee at Woodlands Deli and draw of
 the Christmas Raffle
Tuesday December 9th 7.00 for 7.30pm Christmas Bingo at
 Penley Rainbow Centre
Tuesday December 9th 7.30pm Overton Community Council
 meeting in Parish Room. Members of the public
 wishing to speak can do so 7.20-7.30pm.
Wednesday December 10th 12.30pm Overton Christmas
 Lunch Club at The White Horse. Booking required.
Thursday December 11th 7.30pm Overton WI Open Meeting
 In the Village Hall. Speaker: Laura Evison - Flower
 Arranging for Christmas. Competition: A homemade
 Christmas tree decoration
Saturday December 13th 1.00 - 3.00pm Father Christmas at
 the Scout Hut (in aid of Sunflowers)
Monday December 15th 6.30pm Churches Together Carol
 Singing around the Village - meet us in the car park
 behind the Surgery - All Welcome
Friday December 19th 9.00pm Live music at the White Horse
 with Cara Hammond

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy December Birthdays to Sarah Jane Hellingman, Gwyn Owen, Nick Russell, Joseph Thomas, Iris Edwards, Howard Jones, Walter Roberts, Daniella Jones, Carol Morrison, Lisa Edwards, Jill Jones, Mack Phillips, Helen Roberts, Gareth Evans & Amelia Lloyd, and belated happy birthday to Laura Edwards.



Sincere condolences to the family & friends of Michael Leadsome who has passed away recently.
Sincere condolences to the family & friends of Philip Madden.

Congratulations

Granny Nonna Woodward is very thrilled to announce the arrival of her first granddaughter Arabella (Bella) Nonna to proud parents Sophie and George Idicula. Bella arrived on November 7th at 11.06am weighing in at 7lbs11. All are doing well and enjoying life together."



Thank you

We would like to say a massive thank you to Ros who was a true heroine on 18th November when Mum's car caught fire just outside Overton. We had never met Ros before but we were very lucky that she was passing by just as smoke started coming out of the engine. Ros' quick thinking and calmness prevented anything even more dangerous from happening. Thank you Ros!

Rob & Nicole Netzband-Piggott

For sale

PLEASE REMEMBER

Copy deadline Dec 16th for Jan. issue. Get your events & news to us early to avoid disappointment

THIS INCLUDES ADVERTISEMENTS

Leave your contributions, & announcements at the Corner Shop.

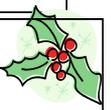
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All articles and advertisements in the Overton Oracle are published in good faith and without prejudice.

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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