

# The Overton Oracle

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Overton's Free Newspaper - issued monthly



## ROLL UP, ROLL UP! IT'S THE VILLAGE FETE!



SATURDAY 28th JUNE!!!!



It's the event you've all been waiting for -- the annual Overton village fete. Put the date in your diary - Lots to see and do!

For your entertainment: Wrexham Community Choir; Martial arts display; Historical Re-enactment

to do: Ukanuni Circus work shop; ; Crazy Golf; Technquest;

and see: Vintage motorbikes and cars; Reptile kids;

and also featuring: Lots of stalls; teas and icecream; bar and hog roast/ barbeque.

## Year 6 on Residential Visit

Year 6 at St Mary's have just returned from their annual outdoor adventure residential week at Condover Hall near Shrewsbury. All 20 pupils together with Mr Morris, Mr Williams and Miss Gardner had a fantastic time trying out an incredible variety of different activities, ranging from ab-seiling to fencing and raft building to orienteering.

The children developed their communication and team working skills over the 5 days, giving lots of support to their classmates when needed. Once again the fantastic behaviour and enthusiasm of the children was commented on very favourably by the staff of the centre as the children continue to act as wonderful ambassadors for the school.



## Vanishing potholes



For 3 years Wrexham's road engineers have requested that Overton's High Street should be resurfaced, but when last year it was missed off the Highway Maintenance Report, Overton Community Council decided more action was needed. With the help of County Councillor Lloyd Kenyon, a deputation from OCC went to the WCBC Executive Board Meeting in February to ask questions as to when the road would be repaired, but afterwards felt that they hadn't got a straight answer. But the message got across and you can imagine their delight when a team arrived in May to start working on the road. We have also

heard that once the High Street and Penyllan Street are completed, they will turn their attention to Turning Street. Thanks also to MP Susan Elan Jones & AM Ken Skates for their support and lobbying. A great result!

*Right: The original cobblestones have been revealed near Evans butchers*



## Ramblings From the Reverend

by Rev'd Canon David Child



Recently I was reminded about an interesting fact about Naval Chaplains and it made me think of what happened to me one afternoon when I was a newly qualified young doctor. I'd been appointed house surgeon to the Professor of Surgery and one afternoon he asked me if I'd like to go with him to see a patient on one of the medical wards. Now the Prof was a big man in more ways than one. He was an extreme extrovert. He spoke with a loud voice in a Brummie / American accent (he'd worked in America for some years) and he could put in their place even the most pompous of consultants and often did! He was a great character; I enjoyed working for him and learnt a lot, not surgery that wasn't my forte, but simply how to be a doctor.

We got to this ward, only to find that the Sister was away and the staff nurse had gone for her break. A student nurse was in charge, she looked terrified. But he immediately put her at her ease – he talked to her quietly, he didn't expect her to know who he was, he explained why he was there and asked if it was convenient for him to see the patient. She whispered 'yes' and nodded. He asked if he could look at the patient's notes and if he could use 'her' office. Again a whispered 'yes'. I took in the whole conversation – it was fascinating. He looked at the notes, explained to me the problem and then asked her if he could see the patient. We walked up the long ward together and he asked her some questions. I noticed that they were all very basic and perhaps the most junior of nursing auxiliaries would be able answer them. After he'd talked to patient, examined him and explained things, he then asked again if he could use 'her' office and when he'd finished he thanked her for her kindness and help. She beamed - It made her day. On the way back he asked me as he often did, 'Did you learn anything Dave?' 'Yes sir.'

So what's this to do with naval chaplains? Well unlike the army and the airforce, chaplains in the navy don't have a rank. They assume the rank of the person they're talking to. When they talk to an admiral they're an admiral, when they talk to an able seaman, they're an able seaman. And that's the Christian teaching. Some must of course be leaders, some have to make the big decisions but we are all equal in the sight of God and that is something we should remember in all our dealings.

With every blessing,  
David

**Whitsun Walk around Argoed Lane on 8th June organised by the village's 3 Churches. Meet at 2:30p.m in Dr's Car Park followed by refreshments in the Catholic Hall. Everyone welcome.**

## Country Beat

by PCSO Phil Jones



It's nice to see that High Street and Turning Street are being resurfaced, as well as the installation of speed bumps on School Lane. These measures will improve road safety in the village and also reduce road noise as pot holes can generate noise and vibration through residents homes, especially on Turning Street where large vehicles cause a lot of noise in the early hours.

On 24th April the Overton environmental visual audit was conducted. The audit team walked around the whole of Overton village and noted jobs that required repair or updating, these included damaged road name signs, pot holes in the road, dropped and blocked roadside water gully's and water which was pooling. I'm happy to report that a lot of these problems were rectified very quickly, so thanks to Kevin Watkins who is the new Wrexham Council Street Scene Supervisor for the area.

I have been off recently on annual leave and also on a course, however I'm happy to say that there hasn't been any major problems in Overton. PCSO's Maurice and Ahmed have been covering so thanks to them.

**Cold Calling information:** Cold calling is where anyone calls door to door, offering to sell or buy items, carry out work, or offer any other service including giving you quotes. It can promote goods and services that are over-priced and of poor quality and can even be a cover for criminal activity. Please report any persons cold calling at your home by dialling 101. Officers can be despatched to check their details to see if they are legitimate. The majority of legitimate businesses will contact the police to say they are conducting door to door canvassing/sales in the area, however some do not so they need to be checked out.

We are looking forward to attending the forthcoming Overton Village fete. We will bring along a police car and some police uniform for you to try on and sit in the car. We will also be open for any problems you have had, and any information you want to pass to us; its all in strict confidence.

I've had good feedback regarding the measures we carried out by St Mary's school, parking problems have reduced significantly. This will help road safety in the area; the newly installed speed bumps will also help matters.

I look forward to seeing you out and about in this lovely weather. Please feel free to call me on my blackberry number below if you need to talk about something or you need to pass on information. My email address is also displayed below, I will answer you as soon as possible.

Thank you  
PCSO Phil Jones 2858  
Tel: 01978 348425 or 07854 389056  
[philip.w.jones@nthwales.pnn.police.uk](mailto:philip.w.jones@nthwales.pnn.police.uk)



## Red Cross Garden Fair

On Saturday June 14<sup>th</sup> the Shropshire Branch of the British Red Cross is holding a Garden Fair at Sansaw Hall near Clive. There will be great shopping opportunities, including specialist plant stalls, food stalls and a marquee with stalls selling home, garden and gift items. Children will be kept busy with various entertainments such as a bouncy castle, a climbing wall and segways, and crafts and fun provided by the Shropshire Wildlife Trust. Lunches, tea, coffee and cakes will be served in the stableyard and a pimps tent is being sponsored by Tanners Wines. Various talks and demonstrations are taking place throughout the day and James Thompson, owner of Sansaw, will be conducting guided walks around the property.

Money raised by the Shropshire Red Cross is spent in the local area supporting young carers, providing help for people just out of hospital, hiring medical equipment and a new venture of supporting the Fire Brigade by providing help for people at house fires. The Garden Event is being sponsored by Savills Estate Agents, Andrew Connolly Wealth Management, The British Ironworks & TLO, The event starts at 10.00am and finishes at 4.00pm.

For more information, please call 07738 340581.



## New look Plassey

Last year the Plassey Bar & Restaurant was taken over and is now under new management by James Horrigan. The unique and quirky restaurant is set within a cow shippon and offers a great atmosphere, and fantastic food.

Under new management it has become much more relaxed and the menu has changed, now offering excellent local and Welsh produce made to highest of standards with lunch specials from £5.95 and evening specials from £7.95. All food is homemade and freshly prepared. Families are welcome and new for summer 2014 is the new fantastic Welsh Fort outdoor play area.

The Hayloft suite is the perfect function suite for Weddings, Christenings, birthday parties, anniversaries and funerals. The chefs are happy to do food demonstrations for free for groups in the Hayloft suite, providing dinner is taken in the restaurant, and this is proving very successful with groups such as W.I's. There is also live singing on the first Friday of every month which is proving a great success.

## Coffee shop make-over

Welcome to the reopened new-look Woodlands Coffee Shop.

The new colourful décor, lighting and furniture is still home to good coffee and tea, freshly made

cakes and delicious breakfasts and light lunches.

Although occupying a smaller area, the shop still specialises in selling local produce, selling Smiths fresh bread, local eggs and Home Farm bacon and gammon. New for summer are irresistible Woodland Wacky thick shakes!



## Parkside Drop-in



Overton Community Council invites you to 'drop in' on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June between 12pm to 3pm in the Parkside community room. Come along and talk to us about any issues you have or questions you would like to ask regarding Overton and the surrounding area. Your County and Community Councillors and your PCSO will be there and want to hear about your concerns. Come in and meet the people who are your voice.

## Early Years News

St Marys Early Years latest addition to their transition project with Overton Playgroup's pre-school children began with the introduction of forest school sessions. The playgroup children are being ably



mentored by our current nursery class, who are experts at exploring the outdoors and not even the threat of rain stopped them from having lots of fun in the woods, along with Playgroup staff, grandparents and our friend Mrs. Richards, LEA link teacher.

The award of £100 from Keep Wales Tidy 'Wild Weekend' initiative has meant the planting of a new hedging boundary for the extension to the forest school site. This, with the addition of a bespoke outdoor classroom, will begin to link the forest site with the pond. The outcome is awaited of the latest application to the Big Lottery Fund for the addition of a pond dipping deck, bird feeders, a bird hide and regeneration of the pond area in our outdoor education facilities. Thanks to Wildbanks Conservation for their assistance in our bid. *More pictures page 6*

## Balance Buddies

Early Years at St Marys School have been receiving training by Groundwork Wrexham with their 'Pedal Power' initiative and Balance Buddies. Balance Buddies is a fun and enjoyable way of teaching early years school children how to ride a bike.



Balance Buddies use specialist equipment called balance bikes that have no pedals, meaning that children focus on getting their balance right and gain the motor control skills needed to improve their riding without having to understand pedalling as well. When children progress to pedals they no longer have to use stabilizers as they have gained the balance skills needed to ride a conventional bike and have lots of active fun with their friends too.

## One of the many

Edward Haynes of Overton was a Stoker 1<sup>st</sup> Class on HMS Black Prince which was involved in The Battle of Jutland on 31<sup>st</sup> May 1916. The cruiser *Black Prince* which, at the first meeting of the two main fleets had followed her flagship, *Defence*, into action had been left behind by the Grand Fleet's turn to the southward after deployment. For some reason which will never be known, she was still at this time far astern of and out of touch with the British fleet; but when a line of battleships was dimly seen ahead, it was no doubt thought that they were the British squadrons. Course was altered to close them. At a bare half-mile range, the German recognition signal flashed out. The horrified Captain Bonham, swung his ship away in a desperate effort to escape, but it was too late.

In the battleship *Thuringen* the same deadly efficient night action procedure that had been displayed at the head of the line went into play. Brilliantly lit by half-a-dozen searchlights, the *Black Prince* was raked from stern to stem by a tornado of shells and lay a helpless wreck before she could even fire a shot in reply. As she drifted down the German line, ship after ship opened up on her, *Thuringen*, *Ostfriesland*, *Nassau* and, finally, as the fleet flagship *Friedrich der Grosse*, added her quota, the *Black Prince* met the same end as the *Defence*, blowing up with a tremendous explosion, vanishing with all hands.. all 857 officers and men .



## Your Letters...

*Dear Editor,*

I, as most people, have noticed much of the traffic calming going on in and around the village. Which most people agree is well over due!

I still feel that we really need firstly a mirror on High Street, on the bad bend when turning into Bangor Road/Turning Street. I use this most mornings and feel sometimes it is a case of edging out and hoping that nothing is coming too quickly around that corner!!

The junction opposite the park (Willow Street & Wrexham Road) is also a very difficult one as at the moment there seems to be trees blocking motorists vision whilst turning right - a junction I now avoid if possible!

Small changes can make a big difference....

Thanks, Jenna Evans

*Dear Editor,*

I was born and bred in Overton but left many years ago. I still see Brian Hamlington when I come down to see my sister in law - Margaret Haynes. I read the Oracle on line and always find it very interesting.

I enjoyed the article about the War Memorial. I am glad to see that WD Stant is doing the refurbishment, they were my first employers when I left Penley School.. I took my children to see the War Memorial a few years ago and pointed out the names of their great, great uncles Stanley Haynes & Edward Haynes on the memorial. I have attached a summary of how Edward died which I hope you find interesting. (see to left)

Keep up the good work at the Oracle.

Kind Regards, Phil (AKA Pip Haynes)

## World War I Commemoration

The Overton Oracle will commemorate those who lost their lives in World War I and are remembered on the Overton War Memorial, with an article about each one on the month that is the centenary of their death. The first will be in the next October Oracle to remember Charles Johnson of Knolton Bryn who died in France 26th October 1914.

We would be grateful for any one can follow Phil Haynes's example and send the Oracle any details, photos or family stories about anyone who is remembered on the WWI part of the Overton War Memorial. There will be a service in St Marys Church on Sunday August 3rd to commemorate the outbreak of WWI; more details to follow.

## Overton June Cricket Fixtures

7th - Quayside - Away  
14th - Bridgnorth - Home  
21st - Coton Hall - Away  
28th - Ludlow - Away



All games start 1.30pm New members welcome

## Overton Brownie's Irish Trip

Overton-on-Dee Brownies continued our Centenary celebrations, with an amazing trip to Belfast. We stayed at Lorne, which is a Guiding centre on the outskirts of Belfast. Good fun was had by all, with lots of new challenges faced, from trying new foods, to abseiling.

We had a day of activities on site, where with the help of some very enthusiastic instructors, we all had a go at archery, abseiling, zip wire, a treasure hunt & a campfire. We learnt some new songs, and some new phrases from our instructors, who couldn't have been more friendly & welcoming. In fact, everyone we met was fabulous & made us feel very much at home.



## H edge planting

St Mary's School have celebrated an award of £100 from Keep Wales Tidy ~ 'Wild Weekend' initiative to begin to plant a new hedging boundary for the extension to the existing forest school site.

Pictured are members of the Before and After School Club children surveying the new hedging plants and the planting of wild flowers in the hedgerow.



*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****June Diary for St Mary's Services**

**Sunday June 1st** 10.00am Family Village Praise  
**Sunday June 8th** 11:30am Holy Communion  
**Sunday June 15th** 10.00am Family Communion  
**Sunday June 22nd** 11.30am Holy Communion  
**Sunday June 29th** 10.00 Group Service at Erbistock

**June Diary for Chapel Services**

**Sunday June 1st** 6.30pm Rev Richard Sharples  
**Sunday June 8th** 6.30pm Rev Una McLean, Holy Communion  
**Sunday June 15th** 6.30pm Mr Tim Guy  
**Sunday June 22nd** 11.00am All Age Worship, Rev Una McLean

**Sunday June 29th** 6.30pm Rev Una McLean

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

**Thursday June 5th** 10.30 - 2.30pm Penley Rainbow Lunch & Learn - Activity: Decoupage Objects

**Sat 7th & Sun 8th June** 10am to 4pm "Drawing for Beginners" 2 day course with Leo Donaghy at the Village Hall

**Sunday June 8th** Three Village Churches Whitsun Walk around Argoed Lane. Meet 2.30 Surgery car park

**Monday June 9th** 10.30am Overton British Legion meeting for coffee at Woodlands Deli

**Tuesday June 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.

**Wednesday June 11th** 12.30pm Overton Lunch Club at The White Horse. Booking required.

**Friday June 13th** 5pm to 7.30pm Maelor School A level & GCSE Art Exhibition in school library. All welcome

**Saturday June 14th** 10.30am Overton British Legion Coffee Morning at the Village Hall

**Wednesday June 18th** 2.00pm to 3.00pm Overton Community Council Drop-In in the Parish Room

**Thursday June 19th** Overton WI outing to Mulberry Alpacas and New Hall Nurseries. Depart 1.30pm from car park. Competition: A handkerchief

**Friday June 27th** 8pm "Summertime Blues" Evening with Moreland & Arbuckle at Village Hall. Tickets from Corner Shop

**Saturday June 28th** 2.00pm - 5.00pm **OVERTON FETE** at the Playing Fields

**FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Happy June Birthdays** to Marlene Williams, Katharine Crockford, Jill Burton, Sandra Jones, Jenny England, Ken Roberts, Andrew Brookfield, Graham Manley, Colin Bamber, Olivia Phillips, Nicole Netzband-Piggott, Millie Davies, Bob Davies, Stephen Perrin, Tracy and Kayleigh Leech, Ron Towers and Kate Best.



**Sincere condolences** to the family and friends of Steve Lloyd,

**Sincere condolences** to the family and friends of Megan Evans,

**Sincere condolences** to the family and friends of Eileen Mary (Betty) Latham (age 98) of Knolton Farm,

**Sincere condolences** to the family and friends of Andrew Perrin (age 39) who has recently passed away.



Overton British Legion  
Coffee Morning  
Saturday June 14th 10.30am  
in the Village Hall  
Entrance 50p, Stalls, Teas, Raffle



**F o r S a l e****PLEASE REMEMBER**

Copy deadline 20th of the previous month. Get your events & news to us early to avoid disappointment

**THIS INCLUDES ADVERTISEMENTS**

Leave your contributions, & announcements at the Corner Shop.

**Your Oracle Team -**  
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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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