

# The Overton Oracle

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May 2013

Overton's Free Newspaper - issued monthly



## Local girls win Gold

Overton girls Dani Jones and Thea Sheridan along with their friend Becky Ashurst recently competed for Wales in the 2013 Acrobatic Celtic Cup which was held at the Sport Wales National Centre in Cardiff earlier in April.

The girls came first in their category which helped the Welsh team achieve a gold medal in the Grade 2 Partnerships.

The medal presentation was held later that evening at the Acrobatic Celtic Cup Banquet held at the Millennium Lounge in the Millennium Stadium. The girl's mums, Debbie and Sharon are both absolutely over the moon and very proud of their daughters. All the girls attend Abbey Road Acro Club on the Wrexham Industrial estate.



*Photos of the girls taken during the competition at the Sport Wales National Stadium, Cardiff*



## Is this the oldest school photo?

An email has been received from Wendy Wellsted who has been researching her family history and found the Overton village website. She contacted the Oracle to say that her great grandfather James Wellsted was the Foreman Joiner for the Bryn y Pys estate and lived in the "new lodge" at the entrance to the avenue on Wrexham Road from when it was built in 1875. By 1892 he and his wife had 11 children!

Wendy also sent her grandfather's school photo taken in the late 1880s. The school building is a different shape to the one that was demolished in 1987 but closer examination shows the brick decoration under the eaves and over the window is identical to pictures taken before Overton School was demolished. Is it possible that the school started small and was then extended? The schoolmaster and schoolmistress were William and Elizabeth Falkner.

Anyone else got a copy of this picture?



THE ROYAL BRITISH  
LEGION



The Overton British Legion branch will be holding their annual Coffee Morning at the Village Hall on Saturday June 1<sup>st</sup> from 10.30am to 12 noon. Entrance 50p. Stalls £5. To book a stall, please contact Jean Williams on 710423. Many of our supporters have worked hard for many years for the Poppy Appeal and we hope to be able to present long service awards at the coffee morning.

## Ramblings From the Reverend **by Rev'd David Child**



I'm sure some of you are like me, in that you find the automated reply service that many firms now use both annoying and frustrating. But I suppose it's a necessary part of modern life and it's something that we have put up with to enjoy the rapid ways we can now communicate with each other.

People have wondered what it would be like if God decided to install a similar system to deal with all our prayers. Maybe it would be something like this - imagine praying and hearing this -

*Thank you for calling our Father's house. Please select one of the following options – Press 1 for requests, Press 2 for confession and forgiveness, Press 3 for thanksgiving and praise, Press 4 for complaints, Press 5 for any other inquiries.'*

And how would you feel if God answered you with that familiar excuse. *'We are sorry all our angels are busy helping other sinners. However your prayer is important to us and will be answered in the order received, so please stay on your knees.'*

And can you imagine getting this sort of response when you call to God in prayer? *'If you would like to speak to the Archangel Gabriel Press 1. For the Archangel Michael Press 2. For the directory of the other angels Press 3. To find a particular loved one or friend who has been assigned to Heaven Press 4. Please enter his or her name, national insurance number, date of birth and their last known post code. For answers to questions about dinosaurs, dark matter, life on other planets and other nagging questions please wait till you arrive here.'*

*This office is closed from 5pm on Fridays and all day on Saturdays. Please note that traditionally Sunday mornings are particularly busy times for all our operators. Please pray again on Mondays from 9 am.'*

You know the most amazing thing about prayer is that what ever your faith - Christian, Muslim, or one of the other world religions or even atheists who sometimes find themselves praying, that you never seem to find the need to tell God who you are.

There's something inside you that tells you that God is so close to you that you don't even have to tell him your name. He really does know you through and through. And that surely means that he loves you too.

With every blessing,  
David

## Lost

Lost on Salop Road during the night of 17<sup>th</sup> April in strong winds - a Green BBQ cover. If found please contact & we will come and collect. Steve Overthrow  
27 Salop Road, Overton 01978 710 561

## COUNTRY BEAT

by PCSO Phil Jones



Hello again,  
Welcome to this month's Country Beat report.

Due to a recent burglary in Overton, this month's report is based on relaying security information which will help protect your home and belongings.

1. Always lock the door and close the windows when you go out, even if you'll only be out for a short time.
2. All external doors should have 3 locking points. Mortice locks will add considerable strength to your door - you can buy them at your local DIY store.
3. Window locks can help to stop people getting in, especially in older windows and windows without double glazing.
4. Use deadlocks if you have them - they make it harder for thieves to get out again.
5. If you are thinking of PVC or metal framed doors/windows, make sure they come with good built in locks and a fitted chain, as these can be expensive to add afterwards.
6. Patio doors should have special locks fitted to the top and bottom – ask your DIY store for advice.
7. Don't leave spare keys outside or in a garage or shed. Keep garden sheds and garages locked and think about using a battery-operated shed alarm.
8. Keep car and garage keys out of sight in the house.
9. Don't leave window and door keys in their locks.
10. Always draw your curtains at night and make sure valuable items cannot be easily seen from outside.
11. Sometimes homes are broken into just to get keys to your car.

You can join OWL Online Watch Link for FREE. This is a unique system for alerting you if crime is happening in your area.

If you want to sign up please contact me on the details below and I will complete the registration form for you or do drop in at Overton Station.

Many Thanks,

**PCSO Phil Jones 2858**

Police Community Support Officer

Tel: 01978 348425 or 07854 389056

e-mail: [philip.w.jones@nthwales.pnn.police.uk](mailto:philip.w.jones@nthwales.pnn.police.uk)

**Non urgent calls 101 or in emergency call 999**

*Overton Police Station covering area's Overton, Penley, Hanmer, Bettisfield & Horseman's Green.*

## New School Website



This term we have launched our new school website

<http://stmarys-overton-pri.wrexham.sch.uk/>

which I hope will prove to be popular with pupils, parents and the local community. The site has been created to enable information regarding the school to be easily accessible to as many people as possible and contains lots of important and interesting information. An additional benefit of the website is that it will support us in reducing our environmental impact as we increasingly use electronic information and try to move away from producing excessive amount of paper copies.

A particular 'thank you' needs to be extended to Mr Dave Green who may be known to some as a former teacher and Deputy Headteacher here at St Mary's. Mr Green has invested a considerable amount of his own time and effort in creating our new website, his expertise and support has certainly been invaluable.

Of particular interest to some may be our 'past photos' which is likely to be a fond trip down memory lane. Indeed, if anybody has any 'older' photographs of the school which they would like to share, please let us know and they may be uploaded onto our website in the not to distant future!

*Mr Gary Wyn-Jones (Headteacher)*

## Keep safe

Flintshire & Wrexham Community Safety Partnership will be holding a Bicycle Marking & Community Safety event in Overton on 15th May. This is an ideal opportunity for members of the public to attend these events and obtain information on personal safety and how to keep houses, cars and sheds safe. You will also get the chance to sign up for various free projects which will help reduce crime, or becoming a victim of crime. For more information visit the North Wales Police website or visit us on Twitter / Facebook, or you can also contact us via email: [communitysafety@wrexham.gov.uk](mailto:communitysafety@wrexham.gov.uk) or tel: 01352 702145 for information on events or for crime prevention.

Come along for advice and bring your bike for marking along to Overton Village Hall on 15th May 4pm - 7pm.

*PCSO Bethan Large*

## Lunch Club



The Overton Lunch Club is on Wednesday 8th May at 12.30pm at the White Horse.

The menu will be Brunch Breakfast Grill followed by Rice Pudding and Jam Sauce.

To book please ring Gwynneth Austin on 01978 710672.

# Kids Kolumn

by **Kate Jenkinson, Robyn Rehbock and Charley Middleton**



Hey everybody! Hope you have a great time in the warm May sun...

### Riddles

Q: What's bigger than an elephant but lighter than a feather?

A: The wind!

Q: What is once in a minute, twice in a moment, and never in a thousand years?

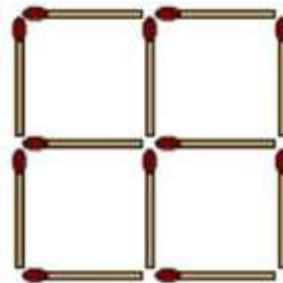
A: The letter M!

Q: What can be swallowed, but could swallow you?

A: Pride!



### Match Puzzle



Lay out this grid of 12 matchsticks, remove two of them so that there are only two squares left.

### Jokes!

Q: Why are ghosts bad liars?

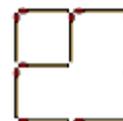
A: *Because you can see right through them.*

Q: What dog can jump higher than a building?

A: *Any dog, buildings can't jump.*

Q: What has 4 legs but can't walk?

A: *A Chair!*



Here is the solution



## Overton May Cricket Fixtures

Saturday 4th - Hinstock - Home

Saturday 11th - Ludlow - Home

Saturday 18th - Hodnet/Peplow - Away

Saturday 25th - Wem - Home



All games commence 1.30pm

*We always welcome new players, come along and meet the players if you are interested*

## 50 years on

On the 10<sup>th</sup> April Dave Austin and 6 other former RAF Firemen met at the National Memorial Arboretum Staffordshire, to lay a wreath in recognition and remembrance of those who lost their lives 50 years ago in the tragedy at Royal Air Force El-Adem, Libya in 1963. All 7 RAF Firemen were in attendance at the crash. Together they read out the following tribute “We lay this tribute in remembrance of Flight Sergeant Frank Denby and Senior Aircraftsman David Marshall, who’s names tragically entered our lives 50 years ago on the 13<sup>th</sup> April 1963, though we do not know them, nor do they know us...but today and everyday, we remember them”



On the 13th April 1963 just like any other night the crash tenders had roared into action proceeding to their respective standby positions adjacent to the runway. Thick fog hid the airfield. After several minutes Ginger Lindsay, driver of the DP 2 thought he heard a bang and felt a bump, he reported this to the tower and requested permission to go to the end of the runway to investigate, Tom Maxwell controller that night denied the request and told Lindsay to hold his position. Minutes passed and Ginger knowing that he could not be seen from the tower, left his position and drove to the end of the runway. The overdue Beverley XB268 had indeed arrived on time only to land short of the runway, hit a concrete bunker and burst into flames just 100yds outside the perimeter fence. With no RT equipment and to the horror of the pilot screaming at the crash gate, Lindsay had no alternative other than turn his crash vehicle around and go back to the ‘squawk’ box to raise the alarm.

Very soon every fireman on the station was heading to the crash scene to lend a hand. I remember a great buddy of mine Maurice Webb and myself up to our necks in foam searching for bodies with the wreckage burning around us, and as Maurice recently said “We were 20 year old bits of kids doing a man's job and we thought nothing of it, because it was our job”. Sadly the accident had claimed the lives of 2 men.

A few days later, the controller Tom Maxwell was repatriated back home, before leaving he visited the Crash Crew that had been on duty the night of the accident, and gave each member of our crew (7 in total) a packet of cigarettes as a thank you. Some weeks later, and as a direct result of events that took place on the night of the crash, every emergency vehicle was fitted with radio transmitting equipment, a major contribution to future safety.

*Dave (Taff) Austin, C Crew, RAF El-Adem. 1962-63.*

## An Earnest Performance



At the part of the last play, Ann Kynaston, Overton Amateur Dramatics longest serving member, expressed a desire to play Oscar Wilde's indomitable Lady Bracknell as her swansong. As Vice president of the Society she is to be obeyed and so to packed audiences in April, Overton Am Drams presented the 3 act play “The Importance of being Earnest”.

The curtains opened for each act to reveal a selection of delightful

sets organised by Clive Hellingman, heralding and evening of Wilde's wit and much laughter. Director Sheila Miller splendidly led her cast of Mike Done, Stephen Deyes, Ann Kynaston, Sue England, Sarah Hellingham, Stephen Sorfleet plus 2 butlers! David Hughes and Alan Edwards. More colour pictures are on Page 6.



## No smoke without fire

Some of you may have seen some grey and white smoke in the skies over Overton recently. This was not another election for a new Pope nor Steve trialling his new carvery.

It was in fact the result of a small fire at The White Horse Inn. Two 1100 litre wheelie bins caught fire and as a result the Fire Brigade were called and dealt with the situation. The cause of the blaze still remains a mystery. We are glad to report however that apart from a few overhanging bushes that were burnt nobody was injured.

Jane and Steve would like to thank the Fire Brigade, their customers on the evening and their staff for their swift actions on bringing the incident under control safely. A fire officer commented that the fire could have been a whole lot worse had the bins been stored closer to the building.

## MP Drops in

Overton Community Council was delighted to welcome MP Susan Elan Jones, (2nd from left) who is always keen to support events in her Clwyd South constituency, to the drop-in session in the Parish Room in April. The session was well supported with several people coming in to look at the proposals for the children's park at the Playing Fields. Rachel Harris, who is working closely with the council, and Cllr Caroline Rogers had put together an impressive display which they hope to take round to other organisations in the village. The next drop-in session is on Saturday May 18th 10.00 to 11.00am in the Parish Room.



## Congratulations

In March, Kate Jenkinson & Maddie Rouse swam 2.5 km for Comic Relief. That's 100 lengths of Wrexham's pool, and took them 2 whole hours! Altogether they raised £111.50! They want to say thank you to everyone who sponsored them. Although the last 20 lengths were tough they kept in mind all those they were helping and knew that the pain they were going through, they suffered every day.

## Christian Aid Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy

Saturday May 11th 10.30am  
at the Methodist Chapel



The three Churches in the village are organising a Pentecostal walk around the Argoed Lane on 19th May, starting from the car park at 2pm. There will

## Your Letters...

*Dear Editor,*

In the 40 plus years I have resided in Overton I have noticed a gradual increase in the volume of traffic that use the highways of the village, but the biggest increase seems to have been in the last few years, mostly heavy good vehicles. Trying to cross the High Street has become something of a challenge. But my main gripe is the state of the roads. There is not a square metre of road in Overton that has not been baptized by some form of disfigurement. For example the road where I live Turning Street/Bangor Rd has over 30 large pot holes and when our local haulage contractor starts using the road at 5.30am the noise is intense and the vibration literally shakes my property violently. I am not the only one who feels this way. The state of the roads in this village has not appeared overnight but over a long period of neglect. Being a part of WCBC has not helped a lot although we as a village pay one of the highest council taxes in the county. On a national note vehicle owners in this country pay around £50 billion in road tax but only £10 billion is spent on repairs and new roads. Talk about robbery without violence! We deserve better ...

*Ken Roberts*

## Thank you

Thanks to the sale of cakes and raffle tickets at both nights of the fabulous village production of "The Importance of Being Earnest", I raised £438. So I am now at £2070!!! Still a way to go to reach my target for my sponsored climb of Mount Kilimanjaro at the end of June, but all support from the village has been greatly appreciated!!

*Jenny England*

[http://www.hopeheroes.org/jennifer\\_england](http://www.hopeheroes.org/jennifer_england)

## Medical Practice

There are now over 800 reported cases of Measles in the Sth Wales and Powys areas. It is essential that you protect your child from this very serious illness. We offer the MMR vaccination at Overton Practice with our Nursing Team. Please contact reception for further advice, or to book an appointment.

Find more information on

<http://www.patient.co.uk/health/Measles.htm>

## Overton's Precept goes down

I am pleased to advise the Community that the precept for this coming financial year 2013/2014 has gone down. At a time of continual rising costs this is good news. The main reasons for the reduction are as follows: -

**Street lighting** – The Council have precepted for replacement street lights over the last few years but we have been lucky and, only one has had to be replaced in the last 3 years. As a result as a significant buffer has been built up, this year's precept is £4500 less than last year.

**Public Toilets** – The Council precepted for taking full responsibility for the running of the public toilets. However, after significant pressure from many of the Community Council's in WCBC the implementation of the policy to make Community Council's responsible for public toilets in their communities has been deferred. This has led to a saving on this year's precept of £2260.

**Playing Field Machinery Maintenance** – Last year the Council precepted £1250 for a major overhaul of the ride-on lawnmower. In the event the mower was in better condition than estimated and only cost £283 for normal maintenance. We have precepted £250 for on-going maintenance, a saving of £1000.

**Tree Survey** – The Council is responsible for maintaining the trees in the Millennium Meadow. We have been able to reduce the cost to £250 a saving of £650.

**Traffic Calming** – The Council precepted £900 over the last four years towards the repainting the Dragons Teeth on the roads at the four entrances to the village. We now have enough money to carry out the work so there is a saving of £900. However, we will have to delay the work until the roads are repaired as it has been recommended that the painting does not take place on top of the old surface.

**Electoral Charges** – The Council had to precept for an election last year and therefore there is a saving of £1100.

The total of these and other savings is over £11,000 for this next tax year. You will be able to see the effect of these savings by comparing your Council Tax statement from Wrexham County Borough Council with the one from last year.

*David Burton*

*Chairman, Overton Community Council*

## More 'Importance of being Earnest' photos



*Mike Done, Stephen Deyes, Ann Kynaston, Sue England, Sarah Hellingham, Stephen Sorfleet & Sheila Miller*



## WHAT'S ON

### May Diary for St Mary's Services

**Sunday May 5th** 10.00am Family Village Praise

**Thursday May 9th** 7.00am Ascension Day Communion  
on Panorama Mountain above Llangollen

**Sunday May 12th** 11.30am Holy Communion

**Pentecost May 19th** 10.00am Family Communion

**Trinity Sunday May 26th** 11.30am Holy Communion

### May Diary for Methodist Chapel Services

**Sunday evenings** 6.30pm

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

**Saturday May 4th** 10.30am Coffee Morning at Village  
Hall in aid of the Senior Citizens Christmas Party

**Saturday May 4th** 7.30pm Race Night at Overton  
Recreational Club

**Monday May 6th** 12.00 - 3.00pm Welshampton Annual  
Fair & Plant Sale at Welshampton Village Hall

**Wednesday May 8th** 12.30pm Overton Lunch  
Club at the White Horse. Booking required.

**Friday May 10th** Final day for Bags2School Recycle  
Collection. Drop off at Playcentre.

**Saturday May 11th** 10.30am Christian Aid Coffee  
Morning and Bring & Buy at the Methodist Chapel

**Monday May 13th** 10.30am Overton British Legion  
meeting for coffee at Woodlands Deli

**Tuesday May 14th** Overton Community Council  
meeting in the Parish Room. Members of the  
public wishing to speak can do so between  
7.20 – 7.30pm.

**Wednesday May 15th** 4.00 - 7.00pm. Cycle security  
marking at the Village Hall

**Thursday May 16th** 7.30pm Overton WI Meeting in the  
Parish Room. Speaker: Karen Andrews on  
"Victorian Lacemaking" Competition: A lace item

**Friday May 17th** 7.00pm Meal & Psychic Night in aid of  
Playcentre at White Horse. Tickets from 710688

**Saturday May 18th** 10.00 - 11.00am Overton  
Community Council Drop-In in the Parish Room

**Sunday May 19th** 2.00pm Three Churches Pentecostal  
Walk. Meet at the car park. Refreshments

**Tuesday May 28th** 7.30pm Overton Oracle Annual  
General meeting at the White Horse

**Wednesday May 29th** 7.00pm Maelor Music Society  
Annual General meeting at the Hanmer Arms

## FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Congratulations** to Lorren Wallwin & Llewelyn Kember  
on the birth of Tamsin Carys, a new granddaughter for  
Joanne Kember.

**Happy May Birthday** to Grace Sidwell, David Evison,  
Jenny Bellis, Jade Lyndsey Hayward, Jayne Cornes, Mad-  
die Rouse, Henry Buttress, Eleanor McCusker, Luke  
Haynes, Olivia Dodwell, Peter Grindley, Chris Worthington,  
John Dodd, Gail Coupland, Mrs J Dodwell & Janine Austin.

### Coffee Morning & Stalls

Saturday May 4th 10.30 in the Village Hall

*In aid of the Senior Citizens Christmas Party.*

Admission 50p on the door incl. coffee & biscuits



## Thank you

Carol would like to thank all those that bought tickets for  
the Easter Raffle at Woodlands Deli and at Cubs & Bea-  
vers. All proceeds to help Carol's next trip to Africa with  
Ground Level Foundational Trust.

## For Sale

Overton Oracle AGM Tuesday May 28th 7.30pm at the  
White Horse. All welcome. Come and join the team.

### PLEASE REMEMBER

**Copy deadline 20th of the  
month. Get your events  
& news to us early to  
avoid disappointment  
THIS INCLUDES  
ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Leave your contribu-  
tions, & announcements  
at the Corner Shop.**

**Your Oracle Team -  
Chairman & Advertising  
David Burton; Treasurer  
Rob Netzband-Piggott;  
Distribution Cynthia Da-  
vies; 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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distance readers, and we are also on the Web. [www.overton-on-dee.co.uk](http://www.overton-on-dee.co.uk) You can also e-mail us at [overtonoracle@gmail.com](mailto:overtonoracle@gmail.com)

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