

# The Overton Oracle



Volume 13. Issue 9

September 2011

Overton's Free Newspaper - issued monthly

## Happy 25th Birthday, St Mary's School



### St Mary's School Overton was opened

In September 1986.

Many of the children who walked through the doors on that 1st day are now parents themselves.

This September we celebrate **the first quarter century of Overton's** award winning primary school.



Pat Clarke

*Mrs Pat Clarke has been Headmistress since the school opened, She writes -*

Twenty five years! Where have they gone? In this world of constant change there have been many significant happenings over the last twenty five years. In the world of politics, the end of the Cold War and the fall of the Berlin Wall. Nelson Mandela released from prison. Technology particularly has moved on. The school didn't actually open with blackboards and chalk, but with white boards to write on, these now, of course, are interactive whiteboards. Personal Computers were just happening and we certainly didn't have them in school. These days we have a computer suite and computers in every classroom and children have tremendous technology skills. Whereas once we had encyclopaedias in schools, we have the World Wide Web with access to all sorts of information. Children's games and television programmes in the eighties were Knight Rider and the A Team and the new board game was Trivial Pursuit and video games were just beginning. Today children have many more items of technology for their leisure, such as mobile phones, Nintendo DS, iPads etc.



However, in this world of never ending change, I have discovered some things remain constant. When the school opened I asked parents to say in one word what they wanted for their children from St. Mary's School.

The pupils in 1986 in the opening ceremony built a wall of these words; caring, sharing, trust, respect, confidence and many more. St. Mary's School has just commissioned a mural to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the school, and our pupils without any prompting, have suggested the exact same words to be on the mural.

Many things change, but obviously values and beliefs do not.

**Please do come and join us in our celebrations in September.**

5<sup>th</sup> September unveiling of the mural – front of the school 2:45 pm.

16<sup>th</sup> September – Open Day for the community to visit the school to see it working

17<sup>th</sup> September – Grand Bonanza and Pageant starting 1:30pm- 4:30pm.

17<sup>th</sup> September - Family evening with food and live band and fireworks starting 7:00pm.

## But if you attended the old Overton School

If you attended the old Overton School in the 1960's, 1970's or 1980's then dig out those old school photographs and memorabilia and come along to the White Horse on **Saturday 1st October** for a School Reunion. The evening starts from 7 pm onwards and food will be available by pre booking with the White Horse.

The first reunion was a great success so come along meet and exchange stories with your old school friends and see which path life has taken them down. For more info contact Gordon Whitfield on 07971805066



## Overton Traffic Calming Campaign

Overton Community Council and MP Susan Elan Jones have been in correspondence with Wrexham County Borough Council (WCBC) regarding the rural speed review and where Overton was placed in the route prioritisation list. WCBC clarified the scoring criteria and even though we disputed the year that Overton had been allocated for the speed review, they would not agree to change it (Overton's year is 2013).

Consideration was given to having village signs manufactured (stating Overton welcomes careful drivers) for all four entry roads, but at a cost of £1,000 in total and advice given that these are not effective, it was agreed by Overton Community Council that this would not be pursued.

The Government are currently looking at measures to reduce time-consuming and costly bureaucracy for councils wanting to use 20 mph schemes. Although some of the changes apply to 20 mph areas outside schools, the changes may have a positive outcome for Overton requesting a 40 mph buffer zone and could end up costing us less. There appears to be a move towards 'painted on' road signs as an alternative to expensive upright signs and having the signs on one side of the road rather than two.

May I reassure members and residents that Overton Community Council will continue to monitor the situation and put the case forward for buffer zones as a matter of course. Should you have queries or questions regarding this matter please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk on 01978 710 055.

*Jacqueline Maskall*  
Chairman of Overton Community Council

## Overton Church

This poem was written by a Val Menzies, a soldier who was stationed in Overton in 1944 during the second world war. The poem has been kept by Miss Grace James of Pharmacy House, High Street, Overton



*Overton Church  
Quarter by quarter the Overton chime,  
Fulfils its duty by telling the time,  
And when the sweet hymn tunes  
sing out on the air,  
They challenge our apathy and fear or despair.  
Now Overton village is not a big place,  
But its Church stands in dignity,  
beauty and grace,  
So if your heart aches  
and for God's peace you search,  
You'll find it where I did, in Overton Church*

## COUNTRY BEAT

As some of you may know there was a burglary recently in Overton. Please be vigilant and make sure you lock your doors, gates and windows especially as the nights are drawing in.

In surrounding areas there have been lead thefts. My colleagues and I have changed shifts to prevent these thefts, and they have stopped.

I will now take the opportunity to introduce to you "OWL".

What is OWL?

OWL is a means of passing information to you easier and more quickly than ever before.

OWL is an interactive On-line Watch Link that has been developed across various parts of Wales by using computer technology.

You will receive updates of what's happening in your area to help communities prevent and detect crime and be more aware of what's going on in your area. Messages including crime alerts and timely crime prevention advice, are sent out by OWL. The system allows messages to be received by telephone, fax, email, mobile phone, fliers or letter. The scheme is FREE to join...just pop into the police station at Overton and pick up your joining form!

Contact: -

**bethan.large@nthwales.pnn.police.uk**  
**lynne.maurice@nthwales.pnn.police.uk**  
**stephen.o'connell@nthwales.pnn.police.uk**  
**Or telephone 01978 348 425**

## Coffee Morning



Overton Bowling Club  
Coffee Morning  
at Overton Village Hall on  
Saturday 10th September at  
10.30am



Various stalls, Cakes & produce, Bric a Brac, Draw  
Tickets 50p

## The Worlds Biggest Coffee Morning

Take part in the **World's** Biggest Coffee Morning in support of MacMillan Cancer Support by coming along to Overton Catholic Church Hall on



September 30<sup>th</sup> 10-12am

There will also be an exhibition by local artists.

For more information please contact

Richard on 01978 710582,

and we'll look forward to seeing you there.

### Mystery picture

Does anyone know anything about this picture? It was probably taken about 1910 but where? And do you recognise any of the people? The crowd in the background all seem to be watching something, perhaps a race?



### History Group

The next meeting of the History Group is on Tuesday September 27th at 7.30pm upstairs in the White Horse. The meeting will collect memories and pictures of Overton's big houses and those who were in service there, such as Bryn y Pys, Knolton Hall, Gwernheylod, and Llan y cefn.

### Overton V Market Drayton

On Sat 20<sup>th</sup> August, Overton's cricketers took the field in an epic away fixture. Bowling first, it wasn't long before the opposition were in trouble; pace bowler Matthew Lawrenson took two early wickets and more were to follow for the Overton attack. Neil Woolley bagged a five-wicket haul and adding to his previous fine catch, 12 year old Scott Lawrenson took his first league wicket with the captain Ian Woolley taking the catch for him. The target was 104, which was reached by the Overton batsmen in 14 overs, winning by a substantial ten wickets.

Remaining fixtures:  
Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> Frankton Away    10<sup>th</sup> Bridgnorth Home  
17<sup>th</sup> Hales Away    24<sup>th</sup> Conover Home

# Kids Kolumn

by Alice Foster, Lydia Biggs and Lottie Blake



Hi everybody,  
it's the end of  
the summer  
holidays!!  
Grrrrr

### This month's Jokes

What do you call a man with two left feet ?  
*Whatever you like - if he tries to catch you he'll just run round in circles !*

What do I do when I see somebody  
**extremely gorgeous....??**  
*I stare, I smile and when I get tired I put the mirror down!!!!*

Why was the broom late ?  
*It over swept !*

What do you call a man who forgets to put  
his underpants on ?  
*Nicholas !*

What do you get if you cross a sheep and  
a space ship ?  
*Apollo neck woolly jumper !*

### Make yourself a treat!

#### Crunchy Ice Cream Sandwiches

Melt 3 tablespoons of butter in a large saucepan over a low heat, and add 30 marshmallows. Stir until the mixture's completely melted and remove from the heat. Stir in ½ cup of peanut butter. Add 4 cups of Rice Krispies and stir until well coated. Using a buttered spatula, press the mixture evenly into a 13" x 9" x 2" greased baking tray. Allow to cool and cut into 24 squares. Next, top 12 of the cereal squares with ice cream and place the remaining squares on top to make delicious little sandwiches. You can then wrap them individually in clingfilm and freeze in an airtight container for up to 6 weeks.

### Lunch Club



The Overton Lunch Club is on Wednesday 14th September at 12.30pm at the White Horse. The menu will be Fish Pie followed by Peach Melba.

To book please ring Gwynneth Austin on 710672.



## Off to the U.S.A .

Jenny England and Sophie Williams have recently set off on an adventure of a lifetime, travelling to Georgia, USA as part of the 2011 – 2012 Georgia Rotary Student Programme (GRSP).

They will be part of a group of approximately 60 students from around the world (more than 20 countries are represented), who have been lucky enough to have been selected during this special year – the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of GRSP. Georgia Rotarians believe that “peace is possible” and through GRSP promote international goodwill through friendship and understanding.

Former pupils of Overton’s St Mary’s Primary, and more recently of the Maelor School, which has a long tradition of links with GRSP, they will also be ambassadors for Wales. During the next year they will both be studying at university – Jenny at Clayton State University, and Sophie at Reinhardt University.

Jenny and Sophie would like to take this opportunity to thank Wrexham Erddig Rotary Club for this wonderful opportunity.

*The Oracle wishes them both well and looks forward to them sending us news on how they are getting on - our new “foreign correspondents”!*



Jenny England



Sophie Williams

### Beer Tasting



After the roaring success of last years Wine Tasting, hosted by the Overton Amateur Dramatic Society and Overton Cricket Club, it has been decided to host a Beer Festival / Beer Tasting provided by Joules and Stonehouse Breweries. (6 beers in total plus a cider).

So put the date in you diary, **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September** at the White Horse Inn at 7:30pm till late.

Tickets are £10 per person to include a hot supper (curry or hot pot) beers, cider or soft drinks.. It will be a jolly good, joint social evening with fun games and a super raffle. Tickets will be limited to 60 and will be on sale mid-August from Woodlands Delicatessen or 780232

### School Bonanza

There will be stalls and activities for everyone including pony rides, bouncy castles, craft stalls, and lots of games a show celebrating 25 years of St Mary’s School. Teas and coffees available all afternoon together with a BBQ and snacks. This year will see the first “Bush Tucker Trial” where children can nominate their Dads (or others!) to eat amazing gooey yucky stuff - or the Dad can pay double not to! There will be a final of the Trial at 4pm followed by the now legendary Tug of War competition. Everyone is then invited back to School for 7pm to hear the children perform in the choir. Food and a bar will run all night and the evening will culminate with a firework display. Please come along and support the Silver Jubilee. All proceeds will be used to purchase additional indoor and outdoor equipment for the children.

### Help us keep

#### **Overton’s streets clean**

It has been reported to Overton Community Council that dog owners are not cleaning up after the dogs, this is especially noticeable in the High Street. Please make sure you always clear up after your dog.

Wrexham County Borough Council’s Dog Warden’s have been notified and will be carrying out checks in the area. They have the authority to issue on the spot fines, and have done in recent months in Overton.

If you notice anything that affects the ‘look’ of the village then contact the number below and a dedicated team at Wrexham County Borough Council will respond to your call.

You can report things like potholes, problems with pavements, dog fouling, litter or faulty streetlights.

**Call - Pride in your Streets on 01978 298989**

### Medical Practice

Our annual ‘Flu Injections’ will start in the surgery on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October and appointments will be available to book from the beginning of September. Please make sure you book an appointment if you fall into the suggested categories, i.e. over 65 years of age or in any of the ‘at risk’ categories

### Thank you

Dear Friends and Patients, I have been completely overwhelmed by your thoughtfulness over the last few months in sending me hundreds of “Get-Well” and “Happy Retirement” cards and gifts. I am more than overwhelmed by your generous donations to my retirement fund and £2,500 has been divided between my 4 chosen charities. With heartfelt thanks to you all for 48 great years.

*Dr J D McCarter*

On achieving her degree in Early Years Practice, Kay Lawrenson would like to thank family and friends for all their support whilst she has been studying. Thank you for putting up with tears, tantrums and late night phone calls and chocolate supplies and helping make the impossible become possible!

## Overton 2011 visit to La Murette

This year just 9 of us made the journey to Overton's twinned village of La Murette in South East France. If our French friends were disappointed that there were not more of us they were too polite to say and the huge welcome we got was big enough to have covered the whole village.

On arrival we're always greeted by lots of friendly and excited people, some we're meeting for the first time, most are old friends and we've known for 17 years. For every one of us though, it's like staying with



family or close friends. There's lots of the inevitable hugs and kisses although most men make do with a hand-shake! Absent friends are asked after and the usual embarrassing remarks are made about how tall the young people have got since we last saw them. This year there was an extra hope that we had brought the sun with us from North Wales! Yes, rather amazingly, considering the village is just 3 hours from the Mediterranean, July this year had been very wet and the grass was a nice Welsh green to prove it! And though the week was maybe not as hot as usual, on the Thursday, the unaccustomed 35C degree heat had us all in a state of near collapse.

After the friendships, for many of us the food is often a highlight. Figs, peppers, grapes, aubergines grow abundantly in people's gardens and were generously shared. The sausage made by Andre, a retired butcher, from pork raised on his sister's farm was delicious. Andre and his wife Solange stayed down the Cloy several years ago and are very fond of Overton. Sausages were on the menu again when we went on a tour of a mixed organic farm, though this time they had been cooked on a bed of fruit in a still, something more usually used to distil alcohol! The still looked dilapidated but the farmer Jacques assured us that it was in fine working order and continued to be used regularly to convert much of the harvest of cherries, pears and peaches grown on the farm into delicious drinks, not just alcoholic either. Jacques and his dad forced us to taste them all and just to be polite we obliged. At the biggest Exotic Bird Park in Europe we had the extraordinary experience of having parrots, pelicans, vultures, cranes and other unusual birds flap and fly at high speed rather alarmingly just over our heads. A unique experience for us all. These birds are specially trained to respond to commands, lured by promises of tasty morsels. As well as providing a great destination for a day out, the park is also an important research and breeding facility.

At the International Shoe Museum in the town of Romans on the Isere River, we saw shoes from across the ages and our guide told us about the problems early shoemakers had trying to develop a heel which would allow the wearer to walk without falling over! We saw many designer shoes from the 50s and 60s and, from a much earlier time, thigh boots which doubled as handy (or leggy) places to stash an emergency supply of brandy. Later, at a local museum in a former monastery, we sniffed the essential oils of plants, learnt about the region's flowers and had a short talk about the history of the area. After dinner we made our way into the chapel where we were entertained by small band of very talented international musicians.

It rained cats and dogs on the Friday night and it looked like our day lounging in the sun by the lake was in jeopardy but the luck of the Welsh was with us and the sun was peeping through as we piled into the mini-buses on Saturday morning. At Charavines we laid our rugs and paraphernalia under the trees by the lakeshore. Some of us had a swim, most of us splashed our way in canoes across the lake and all of us helped the birthday boy celebrate with champagne and delicious cake thoughtfully provided by our hosts. When it comes to eating and drinking no one beats the French. That evening, the Mayor, Raymond, attended our soiree and his speech reinforced his Council's commitment to the Twinning between our two villages.

We had a great week and yet again a wonderful programme had been laid on for us. We look forward to welcoming our French partners to La Murette next year for another enjoyable visit. Usually around 25 French come over. If you fancy playing an active role in proceedings do come along to our get-togethers in the White Horse or to our events throughout the year. See the Oracle and the Overton website or the Twinning website for details.

*from Georgina Mason*

### Your Letters...

*Dear Editor,*

My 5th generation grandfather, Ellis Roberts, was born in Overton, Wales. It is my mom's desire to visit Wales and find relatives that we can meet when we get there. We are planning a trip in May 1-7, 2012. Ellis Roberts wife's name was Elizabeth Davies.

I can be reached through email [cblizlit2@yahoo.com](mailto:cblizlit2@yahoo.com) (or leave a message in the Oracle envelope at the Corner Shop and we will pass it on)

Many thanks, Christina Litten

CLWYD COMMUNITY CHEST	or O.C.C. COMMUNITY CHEST
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Registered Charity No 516663</b></p> <p>If you are looking for a grant of up to £250 to assist your club or organisation why not consider applying for a Clwyd Community Chest Grant.</p> <p><b>GRANT CRITERIA</b></p> <p>Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council [DVSC] administers the "Community Chest" grants scheme for voluntary and community groups operating within the former County of Clwyd. Grants of up to £250 are made to organisations or groups [who are registered charities or undertake charitable objectives] who work with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Older people</li> <li>• People with a physical disability</li> <li>• People with learning disabilities</li> <li>• People with mental health problems</li> <li>• Children at a disadvantage</li> <li>• Play and recreation facilities for children</li> <li>• Unemployed people who undertake voluntary work</li> <li>• Village hall maintenance</li> <li>• Environmental activities</li> <li>• Cultural activities</li> </ul> <p>Grants of up to £250 are available for purchase of capital items and/or running costs. The Grants Committee meets at least 3 times a year, thus ensuring that groups / organisations do not have to wait too long to hear whether or not their application has been successful. If you need any further help or advice on submitting an application for funding please contact: Clwyd Community Chest, c/o Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council [DVSC], Naylor Leyland Centre, Well Street, Ruthin, LL15 1AF. Tel No: 01824 702441 Fax: 01824 705412, E-mail: <a href="mailto:office@dvsc.co.uk">office@dvsc.co.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.dvsc.co.uk">www.dvsc.co.uk</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The closing date for applications is 31st<sup>th</sup> October 2011.</b></p> <p>Grants may be made by the Overton Community Council towards capital expenditure by local organisations within the area administered by the Community Council. Grants will not be made towards general maintenance or running costs. An application shall be made on a form obtainable from the Clerk to the Community Council.</p> <p>The Community Council reserves the right to request detailed particulars of an applicant's financial position. Any information will be treated in confidence. Funds available for grants are limited and there can be no guarantee of a grant being offered in any particular case.</p> <p>Grants may be made towards the setting-up of a new local organisation, providing the Community Council is satisfied that a proper constitution exists and that the organisation has adopted a programme of fund-raising events for at least one year.</p> <p><b>For further information or an application form and notes please contact the clerk on 01978 710 055 or email: <a href="mailto:occ.clerk@btinternet.com">occ.clerk@btinternet.com</a> or visit the office on a Monday or Wednesday between 9.30am – 1.30pm</b></p>



## WHAT'S ON

### September Diary for St Mary's Services

- Sunday September 4th** 11:30am Holy Eucharist
- Sunday September 11th** 10:30am Rector David Lewis's last service in Overton St Mary's, followed by lunch in Village Hall, (booking list in back of church)
- Sunday September 18th** 11:30am Holy Eucharist
- Sunday September 25th** 10:00am Family Eucharist (followed by coffee)
- Methodist Chapel Services, Sunday evenings** 6.30pm
- Friday September 2nd** The Michael Burks Band at Overton Village Hall
- Saturday September 3rd** The Village Produce Show & Handicraft Show. Doors open at 2.30 pm for viewing. Presentation of Prizes at 4.00pm
- Monday September 5th** 2.45pm Unveiling of St Mary's 25th anniversary Mural – front of the school .
- Saturday September 10th** 10.30am Bowling Club Coffee morning at Village Hall. Various stalls, Cakes & produce, Bric a Brac, Draw. Tickets 50p
- Saturday September 10th** 7.30p, Beer Tasting Evening in the White Horse. Tickets £10
- Tuesday September 13th** Overton Community Council meeting in the Parish Room. Members of the public wishing to speak can do so between 7.20 – 7.30pm.
- Wednesday September 14th** 12.30pm Overton Lunch Club at the White Horse. Booking required.
- Thursday September 15th** 7.30 pm Overton WI meeting at the Parish Room. Speaker, Mr Trevor Wilford on "Vron Choir". Competition: A Local Postcard
- Friday September 16th** St Mary's School Open Day for the community to visit school to see it at work.
- Saturday September 17<sup>th</sup>** St Mary's School Bonanza
- Monday September 26th** 7.30pm Overton British Legion meeting at the Recreational Club
- Tuesday September 27th** 7.30pm History Group meeting upstairs at White Horse. All welcome
- Friday September 30th** 10 - 12pm Coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support at the Catholic Church Hall plus an exhibition of local artists
- Saturday 1st October 7pm** Overton School reunion for those who attended in the 60's, 70's or 80's at the White Horse.

OVERTON TWINNING - would like to thank all those who built and displayed their scarecrows. We had many wonderful appreciative comments.

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.

**The Overton Oracle is printed and supported by Prontaprint, Wrexham. Tel. No. 01978 664726  
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Useful telephone numbers; **POLICE: 0845 6071002**

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## FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Congratulations** to new Overton Residents Kevin and Sarah Lloyd on the birth of their baby daughter Matilda, a play mate to 4yr old Maddie.

**Happy September Birthdays** to Brian Hamlington, Euan Stevenson, Val Stevenson, Ross Morrison, David (Wavy) Williams, Melissa Haynes, Mary Smitheram, Charlotte Eve, Pauline Lynch. Geoff Pritchard, Kayleigh Grindley, and Simon, Marian, Haf and Aoife Edwards. Belated happy 70th to Martin Barnfather and to Freda Jones who is 99 yrs young.

Congratulations to Laura Marks on your 18th Birthday with lots of love Mum, Paul, Fran, Dafydd, Carla and Jazmin and Nan and Ian.

Happy 70th birthday wishes to Myra Worthington for Sept 5th from all her family.

Happy 70th Birthday to Dave Austin. Lots of love from Stella, Janet & Stephen XXX

Sincere condolences to Carol, Ross and James Morrison on the very sad loss of husband and father Chris Morrison.

## For Sale

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Jo-Ann Rodenhurst on gaining her Bachelor of Arts Honours Degree in Sociology, Criminology and Criminal Justice at Bangor University. Love from Mum, Dad and Nan.



*The Rodenhurst family with Jo-Ann at her graduation*

## Erddig on the TV

Look out for local National Trust property Erddig on television. On September 7th, 7.30pm BBC1 Erddig will play host to the programme "National Treasures Live" with presenters Dan Snow and Sian Williams. Look out for the editor of the Overton Oracle at work!

### PLEASE REMEMBER

**Copy deadline 20th of the 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 -

**Chairman & Advertising David Burton; Secretary Nicole Netzband; Treasurer Rob Piggott; Distribution Cynthia Davies; Sean Clarke, & Euan Stevenson.**

**Editor - Jill Burton.**

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