

**Schools  
in  
Oswestry  
and the  
surrounding  
area**

## **Albert Road Board School Oswestry**

Erected in 1880 with a Master's House. Changed its name to **Public Elementary School, Albert Road, Oswestry** c1905, all the staff remained the same, according to the Trade Directories.

### Headteachers

**Alexander Nelson** (1880-1892) & (1895-1905>)

### Early Life and Education

Alexander was born in Blackburn, Lancashire in 1845. The eldest son of William Nelson, a marble cutter, formerly boatman and his wife Jane nee Booth. He had a sister and a brother, Rebecca born 4<sup>th</sup> June 1848 and William b1850. The family moved from Blackburn to Manchester c1848 and on the 1851 Census they are living in 2 Faulkner St., Manchester, Lancashire, where the father is a marble cutter.

Certified School Master

### Career

On the 1871 Census Alexander is lodging with the Hughes family in Oswestry and gives his occupation as school teacher. In the Trade Directories he is shown as the Master in the **British School** for this year. By the 1881 Census he is the Headmaster at Albert Road Board School and is living in the School House, where he remains until 1892. Between 1892 and 1895, it is believed that he was the Headmaster at the **National School**. On the 1901 Census he is living in 44 York St., Oswestry and describes himself as a Certified Schoolmaster. Trade Directories show him as the Headmaster of **Albert Road Board School** 1895-1900 and the **Public Elementary School** in 1905. On the 1911 Census he is living in 42 York St., Oswestry and is now retired.

### Personal Life

On 28<sup>th</sup> October 1875 he married Jane Morgan in Oswestry. She was born 1846 in Frome, Somerset. The couple had no children. Alexander died on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1917 in 44 York St., Oswestry and was survived by his wife Jane.

**Ebenezer Primitive Methodist Chapel & Schoolroom**  
**Castle Street/Chapel Street**  
**Oswestry**

The Primitive Methodists first met in Oswestry in a building in Oakhurst Road, but this soon became too small. A site at the corner of Castle Street and Chapel Street was bought and a chapel, called Ebenezer, erected in 1840. Land for a graveyard was also bought. A schoolroom on adjoining land was built in 1868. In 1890 more land was bought and a new schoolroom was erected, which opened in 1891. In 1898 the chapel and the schoolroom of 1868 were demolished and a new chapel built.

Source [www.users.waitrose.com/~coxfamily/oswespm1.htm](http://www.users.waitrose.com/~coxfamily/oswespm1.htm)

**Holy Trinity C of E Primary School and Nursery**  
**Middleton Road,**  
**Oswestry**  
**SY11 2LF**

Mainstream State School for pupils aged 3-11 years.

Opened September 2009 formed from the merger of **Beech Grove C of E Junior School** and **Oswestry Infant School**.

### **Headteachers**

**Nicholas Turner** (September – April 2013)

#### Early life and education

Born in 1959

Music BA Hons Nottingham University  
University of London, Institute of Education PGCE Primary Education  
Canterbury Cathedral Choir School

#### Career

Worked in London for 20 years as a Class Teacher, eventually becoming the Headteacher of Pinner Wood School (September 2006 – August 2007) before moving to Oswestry in 2007 to Take up the Headteacher post at **Beech Grove C of E Junior School** (September 2007 – August 2009).

#### Personal Life

Spouse Sue

**Jane Quinn** (Acting) (May 2013 – December 2013)

**Pam Edwards** (January 2014 –

## **National School**

### **Welsh Walls**

### **Oswestry**

Built in 1841 by local builder, James Vaughan of Beatrice Street, to plans (available in Shropshire Archives) drawn by the local pioneer Thomas Penson Jnr of Willow Street, on land that belonged to Colonel Gatacre. The property is built in gothic style, constructed of loosely coursed limestone, most likely from a local quarry, with dressed quoins and surrounds to windows and doors along with decorative finials and chimney stacks and contained a residence for the headmaster, but as further teaching accommodation as required it was later converted into classrooms. The last of the masters to reside upon the premises was **James Feather**. The cost of the school being defrayed by public subscription, grants of £38 from the council of education, £200 from the National Society and £700 from the funds of St. Oswald's Sunday School. It was created a Church of England School in 1872 and re-named **Oswestry Trinity Church School**, but continued to be known as the **National School**. The school opened in 1841 and first catered for 220 boys, 180 girls and 150 infants, with integral accommodation for the Headmaster. On the 1851 Census the **National School** premises are a Private Commercial School, with the Head of the Household being Edward Wynne Snr, a former Excise Officer. His son, Edward Wynne Jnr is the National Schoolmaster. In around 1932 Kempthorne House was constructed to the north of the main school to form further classrooms and facilities for pupils. On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November 1951 the Infants Department moved to the newly opened **Oswestry Infant School**, leaving more space for the Juniors. When the school closed in c1970, the pupils transferred to the newly built **Beech Grove C of E Junior School**. Initially the premises were used to accommodate the 6<sup>th</sup> Forms of the **Boys & Girls High Schools** and part of the premises was used by **Fitzalan Comprehensive School** as overflow accommodation up to at least 1987. During 1986/87 some of **Woodside Primary School** pupils also used the premises after the arson attack which destroyed virtually the whole school, while the new school was being built. The premise lay empty before it was purchased in 1993 by the current owners and opened as The Walls Restaurant in December 1993, this closed in December 2015 due to the owners' retirement. They plan to convert the building into housing as at August 2016.

### **Headteachers**

**Edward Wynne Jnr (<1851>)**

#### Early Life and Education

Baptised in Newtown, Montgomeryshire, Wales on 9<sup>th</sup> March 1828. The eldest son of Edward Wynne, an Excise Officer and his wife Elizabeth nee Arnold. He had 2 brothers, Walter William b1830 and Richard b1832. On the 1841 Census the family are living in Eastbourne, Sussex, where the father is an Excise Officer.

#### Career

On the 1851 Census Edward Jnr is the National Schoolmaster in Oswestry. By the 1861 Census he is no longer teaching and has joined the ministry as the Curate in Walcot, Somerset. It is believed about this time he was appointed Vicar of the new Parish of St Paul's, Haggerston, Middlesex. Moving onto to become Vicar of Hatcham, Deptford, London by the 1871 Census and Forest Gate, West Ham, Essex by the 1891 Census.

### Personal Life

On 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1862 he married Agnes Mary Lea in St Paul's, Haggerston, Middlesex. She was born on 27<sup>th</sup> September 1842 in Everton Street, Everton, Liverpool, Lancashire. The couple had 1 son, Edward Horace b1864 in 17 Delamere Street, Haggerston, Middlesex. Edward Jnr died before 1901 and was survived by his wife Agnes Mary.

### **Samuel Shepley Lees (c1854-c1857)**

#### Early Life and Education

Born on 8<sup>th</sup> February 1828 in Dukinfield, Cheshire, son of William Harrison (a/k/a Harry) Lees, a spinner and his wife Mary nee Shepley. He was christened on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1828 in United Bretheren or Moravian, Dukinfield, Cheshire. He had 5 siblings Sarah June 1823, Margaret 20<sup>th</sup> July 1825, Elizabeth 16<sup>th</sup> April 1830, William 21<sup>st</sup> October 1832 and Ann 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1833. On the 1841 Census the family are living in Oxford Road, Stockport, Cheshire.

National Schoolmaster Certificated

#### Career

On the 1851 Census, Samuel is a visitor in Northumberland Street, Toxteth Park, Lancashire, where his occupation is given as School Master. On the 1861 Census, although married, his family are not with him and Samuel is a boarder in Wargrave, Newton-in-Makerfield, Lancashire, where his occupation is given as National Schoolmaster Certificated. His wife and 3 children are resident with his father in Dukinfield, Cheshire. It is likely that shortly after the census his family joined him in Wargrave. On the 1871 Census, Samuel has left teaching and the family are living in Windle, Lancashire where his occupation is given as Music Seller, Carver & Gilder. On the 1881 Census, the family are living in Great George Street, Salford, Lancashire where Samuel is now a Brewery Manager. On the 1891 Census, the family are living in Lord Street, Broughton, Lancashire and Samuel is a Shipper's Book Keeper. The 1911 Census shows Samuel living in 16 Eltham Street, Levenshulme, Manchester, where he is a Retired Book Keeper.

#### Personal Life

On 29<sup>th</sup> December 1852 he married Mary Oldham in St John's, Dukinfield, Cheshire. She was born 1829 in Stalybridge, Cheshire. The couple had 10 children, Hannah Oldham b1854, Samuel Oldham b1856, Ada b1857, Mary O b1862, James Oldham b1864, Margaret A b1866, Bertha Oldham b1870 and William Shepley b1874. plus 2 unknown, who died before 1911. Samuel died in 1914.

## **James Feather (1859-1891)**

### Early Life and Education

Born on 6<sup>th</sup> March 1824 in Haworth, Yorkshire the eldest child of John Feather, a butcher and his wife Ann nee Barraclough. He was baptised on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1824 in St Michael & All Angels, Haworth, Yorkshire. He had 8 siblings Amelia b1825, Mary b1829, Edwin b1831, Amos John b1832, Ann b1833, William b1833, John b1837, George b1839. On the 1841 Census the family are living in Haworth, Yorkshire, where John describes himself as a manufacturer. Three of the children appear to have died Mary, Amos John and Ann, as they are not on the Census.

### Career

On the 1851 Census James is the National Schoolmaster in Bungay, Suffolk, where it would appear he stayed until c1859. Between the 1861 Census and the 1891 Census he is the National Schoolmaster in Oswestry.

### Personal Life

On 16<sup>th</sup> August 1854 he married Mary Townend in St Peter's Cathedral, Bradford, Yorkshire. She was born 1821 in Cullingworth, Yorkshire. The couple had 4 children, Walter T b1855, Clara T b1857, Edith T b1859 and Laura T b1861. Laura died in 1877. James died on 13<sup>th</sup> August 1896 in Oswestry and was survived by his wife Mary.

## **Alexander Nelson (1892-1895)**

### Early Life and Education

Alexander was born in Blackburn, Lancashire in 1845. The eldest son of William Nelson, a marble cutter, formerly boatman and his wife Jane nee Booth. He had a sister and a brother, Rebecca born 4<sup>th</sup> June 1848 and William b1850. The family moved from Blackburn to Manchester c1848 and on the 1851 Census they are living in 2 Faulkner St., Manchester, Lancashire, where the father is a marble cutter.

Certified School Master

### Career

On the 1871 Census Alexander is lodging with the Hughes family in Oswestry and gives his occupation as school teacher. In the Trade Directories he is shown as the Master in the **British School** for this year. By the 1881 Census he is the Headmaster at **Albert Road Board School** and is living in the School House, where he remains until 1892. Between 1892 and 1895, it is believed that he was the Headmaster at the National School. On the 1901 Census he is living in 44 York St., Oswestry and describes himself as a Certified Schoolmaster. Trade Directories show him as the Headmaster of **Albert Road Board School** 1895-1900 and the

**Public Elementary School** in 1905. On the 1911 Census he is living in 42 York St., Oswestry and is now retired.

### Personal Life

On 28<sup>th</sup> October 1875 he married Jane Morgan in Oswestry. She was born 1846 in Frome, Somerset. The couple had no children. Alexander died on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1917 in 44 York St., Oswestry and was survived by his wife Jane.

**William Henry Worrall** (<1895-1909>)

### Early Life and Education

Christened in All Saints, Runcorn, Cheshire on 24<sup>th</sup> July 1859. The eldest son of Samuel Worrall, a coachman and his wife Mary. He had a sister and a brother, Annie Maria b1861 and Samuel b1863. On the 1861 Census the family are living in Bridgewater St., Runcorn, Cheshire, where the father is a coachman. On the 1871 Census the family are still in Runcorn, but have moved to the High St., the father is now a horseman.

Certified Master Teacher

### Career

On the 1881 Census, William is a Schoolmaster in Dudley, Worcestershire. By c1884 he is the Elementary Schoolmaster at **Morda CE Primary School**, where his wife, Frances is an Assistant. According to the Trade Directories c1895 he is a Certified Master Teacher at the **National School**, by the 1911 Census he has retired and is living in 90 Park Avenue, Oswestry.

### Personal Life

In 1879 he married Frances Cropper. She was born 29<sup>th</sup> January 1860 in Liverpool, Lancashire. The couple had 5 children, Samuel b1880, Sarah Jane b1884, Arthur Blandford b1886, Florence Lilian b1895 and William Norman b1899. It would appear that Sarah Jane and Florence Lilian died young, as they do not appear on any census. William died in 15<sup>th</sup> March 1912 in 92 Park Avenue, Oswestry and was survived by his wife Frances.

**James Gregson** (<1911-6<sup>th</sup> August 1930)

### Early Life and Education

Baptised in St John's, Preston, Lancashire on 29<sup>th</sup> May 1870. The son of George Gregson, a Coach Body Maker and his wife Jane nee Bannister. He had 8 siblings, John b1863, Ann b1865, Ellen b1873, Lucy or Elizabeth b1876, Mary b1878, John b1880, William 1883 and George Edward b1885. Before he is one year old, the family have moved to Wellington, Shropshire, but by c1873 they are living in Northwich, Cheshire and c1876 are back in Wellington, Shropshire, where they remain until c1884. The moves would appear to be



connected with George's occupation as a Coach Body Maker, until c1884 when the family move to Wrexham, Denbighshire, Wales, where George purchases a Tobacconist's Shop in 26 York Street and on the 1891 Census, James is a Student at a Training College.

### Career

On his marriage in 1894 his occupation is School Master, but it is not known where. In 1897 he was appointed Headmaster of Gresford School, Denbighshire, Wales, where he remained until 1911. On the 1901 Census he was living in the Boys School House, Gresford. On the 1911 Census he is living in Edward Street, Oswestry and shows his occupation as Head Teacher (County Council).

### Personal Life

On 24<sup>th</sup> July 1894 he married Margaret Ellen Clarke in St Peter & St Paul's, Kettering, Northamptonshire. She was born in 1871 in Kettering, Northamptonshire. The couple had 1 son, James Clarke b1896. Soon after he came to Oswestry, James was appointed Hon. Secretary of the Old Oswestry United Football Club and he was a keen football supporter. On his retirement James left Oswestry and went to live in Liverpool, where he remained until the death of his wife in January 1952. He then went to live with his only surviving son Jim, in West Derby until his death. James died on 17<sup>th</sup> January 1956 in Gresford, It is not known why he was in Gresford at the time of his death, as his death registration is in Liverpool.

Source Death Notice: BCA 25/01/1956

**Miss M Cuttand** (Headmistress of the Girls Department) (<6<sup>th</sup> August 1930-1945>)

**Miss A Wynne** (Headmistress of the Infants Department) (<6<sup>th</sup> August 1930>)

**Miss M Jones** (Headmistress of the Infants Department (<1951)

### Career

Miss Jones took over as head of **Oswestry Infant School** on its opening on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November 1951.

**David Ieuan Martin- Jones** (<1953>)

### Early Life and Education

David was born on 21<sup>st</sup> August 1914 in Swansea, Glamorgan, Wales. The only child of Benjamin Jones and his wife, Gladys Hannah nee Davies. He was educated at Harwarden Grammar School and graduated from the University of Wales (Bangor).

### Career

He taught at Walthamstow, Harwarden, Penygroes and Porthmadog Secondary Schools before accepting the Headship at Ewelme C of E Junior School in Oxfordshire. In 1953 he took over the Headship at the **National School** and on its closure the Headship of the newly opened **Beech Grove C of E Junior School** until his retirement in 1976.

### Personal Life

Over a period of years he conducted divine services at numerous parish churches in the areas where he taught and at one time studied for ordination. Latterly, however his duties as headmaster precluded his continuing with that work. After his retirement his charitable work included the Rotary Club and the Newspaper for the Blind.

On 6<sup>th</sup> July 1939 he married Enid Evans in London. She was born on 18<sup>th</sup> February 1915 in Linwood Road, Birkenhead, Cheshire. The couple had 4 children.

David died on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1983 in Broadgreen Hospital, Liverpool, Merseyside and was survived by his wife, Enid.

Source BCA 12<sup>th</sup> October 1983  
Ancestry Family Trees

### **Teachers**

**Mrs Thomas** (<1960-1963>)

**Mrs Maisie Evans** (<1958-1963>) (Infants)

**Miss Ruth Pierce** (<1958-1963>) (Juniors)

**Sam Clews** (<1958-1963>) (Juniors)

**Colin Cole** (September 1956-July 1965) (Special Needs)

**Charles Birch** (<1958-1963>) (Juniors)

**William Charles Herbert Kynaston** (January 1955-c1970/71) (Juniors)

### Early Life and Education

Herbert as he was known was born in Oswestry on 26<sup>th</sup> July 1921.

### Career

Before WW2 he worked for a firm of solicitors and during the war was a voluntary paratrooper. Before joining the **National School** in 1955 he previously taught in the Shrewsbury area.

### Personal Life

Herbert married Avis M Nicholls in Oswestry in 1950. He died on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1973 in the Royal Salop Infirmary.



**Oswestry Trinity Church School**  
**(See National School, Welsh Walls)**