

News and Views

Issued by Overton Parish Council
Information and Comment on Village Activities

May 2003

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

From Parish Council Clerk Laura Harley and Councillor Brian Langer.

Parish Council Meetings

The format of the first meeting of the new Parish Council will be slightly different to usual. The Annual Parish Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 14th May 2003 at 7:00pm. Public time will take place once the formalities are over – and no later than 8:00pm when parishioners may speak about Overton issues. Consideration of planning applications will be included within the agenda.

Assuming that the new Parish Council continues to hold meetings on the second Wednesday and fourth Tuesday of each month, the committee meetings will take place on Tuesday 27th May starting at 7:30pm with Highways & Byways, 8:00pm Planning and 8:30pm Finance and General Purposes. Please check the noticeboard for details.

The St Mary's Hall AGM will take place on Tuesday 20th May at 8:00pm in St Mary's Hall, (see article below).

The agenda and planning applications for each meeting are displayed on the events notice-board three days before the meeting. Minutes can be found on the notice-board inside the Community Centre.

Parish and Borough Council Elections

The first Parish Council elections since 1991 will take place on 1st May 2003. 17 parishioners are standing for election of which 12 will be voted onto the Parish Council. For your information the candidates are:

Maggie Atkins	Mark Attwell	Pat Baker
Paula Baker	Peter Baker	Stanley Bray
Michael Dawes	Paul Green	Stephen Heaver
Graham Hensman	Sue Johnson	Brian Langer
Sarah Mills	Lucy Sloane Williams	
Stephen Smith	George Stewart	Ian Tilbury.

Details about the candidates can be found on the Events Noticeboard on the side of the public toilets.

Borough elections are also taking place on 1st May. The three candidates are Lucy Sloane Williams (Liberal Democrat), Ian Tilbury (Independent) and Christopher Van der Noot (Conservative).

The elections take place between 8:00am and 9:00pm in St Luke's Hall in Winchester Street – please take the time and trouble to vote. With the new computerised voting system, votes will be counted quickly after the election has closed and the results will be immediately posted onto the borough council's web site.

And many thanks

As Clerk, I would like to thank all the Parish Councillors with whom I have worked over the last four years. All of them put in a lot of time and effort, and have to deal with a vast array of subjects and problems. All the current Parish Councillors are standing for election except for Ken MacKenzie – who will be noted for his sterling work as Chairman of the Village Design Statement Group. Hopefully Ken will continue to be associated with the Parish Council through his work on the Bio Diversity Action Plan.

I would also like to thank John Smith, the "Footpath Tsar" for attending Highways and Byways meetings. Also thanks must go to Teresa Reynolds – the Editor of *News and Views* and all the people who deliver *News and Views* every month. I would also like to acknowledge the members of the St Mary's Hall Management Sub-committee who have really got stuck in with getting the hall back on its feet. If I have missed anyone out – I apologise. I hope that I will be working with many of you again under the "new regime".

Four Years On

From Sue Johnson, Chair, Parish Council.

At the recent Annual Parish Meeting I made the point that standing for election to the Parish Council is a four year commitment. It takes dedication and energy to complete a four year term. I thanked all of those who have stood the test of time and who have added considerably to parish life. I also thanked the clerk on behalf of the all parishioners for her hard work during the lifetime of this Parish Council. She always exceeds her allocated hours and serves the parish unrelentingly.

Planning Matters

Parishioners who have submitted plans or wish to object to planning applications are always welcome to attend planning meetings or public time to put forward their point of view. If any parishioner wishes to view a planning application, they are available from the Clerk – please contact her on the usual number.

Station Car Park Questionnaire

Over 130 were issued during March and April but if you have not received one and do sometimes park at or get taken to/picked up from the station on a Monday to Friday please let Brian Langer know without delay (☎ 770848) so your views can be considered.

Vehicular Access to Front Gardens over highway land (verge)

A reminder that if the proposed access is from an A, B or C road then a formal planning application has to be made to the borough council and the county council's (highway authority) approval obtained as well. If the access is from

any other type of road then a written request needs to be made to the county council (Chief Engineer, Motorway Compound, Hook) for highway authority approval before work commences; a formal planning application to the borough council is not necessary.

Damaged Bridge at Flashetts

A grab handle on one of the bridges over the stream at Flashetts has been damaged – whether by two or four legged animals is uncertain - and reported to the county council's Rights of Way Officer at Basing. It is to be hoped that the repair bill will not be sent to the Parish Council.

B3051 Directional Sign for Overton Mill

There already is a sign stating “*unsuitable for heavy vehicles*” from the Kingsclere direction on the B3051 relating to use of Hilltop Road, part of which is a private road. To emphasise the fact, the county council will be erecting a sign north of the railway bridge directing Portals/De la Rue traffic to the village centre traffic lights and then back up Station Road.

Fly-tipping

This unsightly and unwelcome activity has been occurring for many years at Nutley Bottom on the Overton to Hannington road.

However, it has become particularly bad in recent months. The land by the cross roads is under county council control but the borough council is responsible for clearing away the rubbish, including burnt out vehicles. It is mystifying why people go to such lengths to deposit rubbish when the borough council has a commendable service collecting bulky items free of charge from households. The Parish Council is in discussion with both the borough and county councils with a view to making Nutley Bottom (and other sites prone to abuse) more secure against fly-tipping but this will take some time. The borough council has already advised us that it will take at least a day to clear all the rubbish currently on the site.

ST MARY'S HALL AGM

From Teresa Reynolds, Secretary.

The Management Committee of St Mary's Hall, appointed to run the Hall on behalf of the Parish Council, has put in several months of hard work and will be reporting on its doings at the AGM on Tuesday 20th May at 8pm in the Hall. Some of the committee will be standing down at the meeting and if anyone is interested in becoming a committee member we would like to see you.

All villagers are welcome to attend the meeting.

POLICE REPORT

From PC Paul Green.

Overton has had a very good few months this year as the crime rate has been low and the figures are much better than all the other rural beats in the Basingstoke Division. However do not get complacent because a crime wave could always be just around the corner! I do manage to spend some quality time in Overton village but the most frustrating thing is having to do all my paperwork at Whitchurch Police Station. I am working very hard in trying to get an office in the centre of the village, which would make it much easier

for all of you to talk to me about anything that may be concerning you.

I am hoping to secure the rent of an office at St. Mary's Hall in Overton, but there are a few technicalities to sort out first. Let's hope that this all works out because at the end of the day it will be for your benefit. I am also collaborating with a small working party on the Parish Council in trying to get a CCTV system installed in the centre of Overton. This will be of a great benefit to the local community so I hope the hard work comes to fruition. I do remember what a difference a police office and a CCTV system in Kingsclere made when I was their local police officer a number of years ago.

If there is anything that you wish to discuss then please contact me via Whitchurch Police Station ☎ 08450 454545.

LAVERSTOKE PARK OPEN DAY

From Peter King.

In response to numerous requests Laverstoke Park is pleased to announce an Open Day on Sunday June 15th from 11am-3pm.

Numbers are limited and by invitation only. A nominal charge will be made with all proceeds going to local charities. There will be the opportunity to see some of our rare and special animals at close quarters. Meet most of our team members who will be delighted to answer any questions you may have. Food will be available so you can sample some of our organic produce.

Overton Bio-diversity Group which is carrying out a survey of the estate will also be on hand. We are looking forward to meeting as many local people as possible, let us hope for good weather.

INVITATIONS please keep in touch with your Parish Council for further details.

OVERTON RECREATION CENTRE

From Gordon Baker, Chairman.

Congratulations to all 28 prize winners in the April draw:

The top winners were:

£500 Paul Savory £200 T Churchill

£100 V Faulkner, F Smith, Joyce Giffen.

The next draw will take place on Friday 9th May at 18:30 in the Bridge Street Pavilion.

My thanks to *News & Views* for including our article the other month to attract interest in helping with ORC affairs.

We have appointed Colin Phillimore as Treasurer and Mindy Noble as our Administrator, and wish them both good luck with their involvement with us.

If you want to contact the ORC, perhaps to book facilities for a sports match or a hall for a party, or to become a member, Mindy will be pleased to help you in the first instance. Contact phone numbers are

Mindy Noble 773337

Gordon Baker 770807

OVERTON MOTORING CLUB

From Richard Stawt.

The Club is looking to increase its' membership in the coming year. If you own a classic or vintage car or bike and would like to join please contact Richard Stawt ☎ 770622.

Our next main event is at the School Fête on Sat 14th June.

YOUTH BADMINTON

From Debbie Tomlin.

Time to dust off the badminton racket - youth badminton starts again on Monday 12th May. We will meet on Mondays in St Mary's Hall between 7 and 8pm during term time. The cost is £1 per session and is open to 11 - 16 year olds. Look forward to seeing you there; if you need any further information please contact me, ☎: 770154 or e-mail debbie.tomlin@btinternet.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Book about Overton

Hopefully I will be able to compile and produce my 4th book about Overton within a year. After the last book I received a comment that several people would like an entry, story or photo in any next issue, so this is your chance. I would be pleased to look at any photo / postcard over 10 years old that may be suitable and take a copy; all originals returned asap. If interested phone me ☎ 770233.

Richard Oram, Lion Close.

Lambing Weekend is Great Success

The Lambing Weekend held on 12th and 13th April at Northington Farm Overton was a huge success and raised a record £1,500 for the NSPCC.

Sue Bobin, Northington Farm.

LIBRARY NEWS

From Chris Vane, Library Supervisor.

Each month the library is sent a special collection of books, to supplement our normal stock. This month's is called "Go for it" and it is made up of "Firsts"- first novels, first books of their kind, first in a series - so if you're interested in trying authors who are new to you, this is the place to start.

BIO-DIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

There will be an open meeting on Wednesday 4th June at 7:30pm. Look out for more details on posters around the village.

TESTBOURNE NEWS

From Teresa Reynolds, Governor.

New Staff to meet Expansion in Numbers

We have been busy ensuring that we are well staffed for September. It may seem quite a way off but this is definitely interview season. We have already appointed two excellent new teachers for September, one in English and one in Maths, to cater for the expansion in our numbers.

We will, moreover, be recruiting additional Learning Support Assistants to help pupils from September. If you think you might be interested please contact the school, ☎ 892061.

Specialist Status Beckons

A serious focus for our thoughts at present is whether Testbourne should become a "specialist school". We have to date resisted this route, feeling a more general approach may better suit the area we serve. Charles Clarke, the Secretary of State for Education, has however now made it clear that he "expects all schools to become specialist schools" in the long term. This will make for some interesting discussions in the months ahead.

OVERTON BOYS FOOTBALL CLUB

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 4th June 2003, at 7:30pm in the Clubhouse, Overton Recreation Centre. Everyone welcome.

OVERTON HARRIERS

From John Hoare.

This years Overton 5 mile road race will be held on Saturday 6th September 2003. In conjunction with this will be a two mile Fun Run and our normal series of children's races within the confines of Overton Recreation Centre. The children's races will start at 2.00pm and the Fun Run and 5 mile race at 3.00pm. Entries for the children's races will be taken on the day at the Recreation Centre from 1.00pm. If you would like to enter the 5 mile race or Fun Run entry forms will shortly be available on our website www.overton-harriers.freeserve.co.uk or from John Hoare ☎ 770489.

Medals will be awarded to all competitors in the children's races and Fun Run and mementoes to all finishers in the 5 mile race.

DEADLINE NEWS & VIEWS

This will be 16th May. Please send your articles to the editor in writing, on a PC floppy disk or by e-mail. The email address is NewsandviewsRG25@aol.com

GUITAR CLASSES

From Ian Smale.

Guitar classes started in January and have been a lot of fun and it has been great to see progress being made by all. There will be five more classes this term and new people (16 and over) are welcome to join. Call me for more info ☎ 771305 or just turn up. May 14th, June 11th & 25th, July 9th & 16th, Church Rooms 8pm to 9pm.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Readers should note that the comments given are those of the Parish Council; the Borough Council does not necessarily endorse them when arriving at its decisions.

BDB/55196/55197 Construction of a swimming pool and erection of a pool house at Northington House, The Lynch. No objection.

BDB/55326 Erection of first floor rear extension at 52 Winchester Street. Objection – small site in close proximity to other properties.

BDB/55329 Erection of a front porch at 23 Woodlands. No objection.

BDB/53371 Demolition of existing property and the erection of 2 no four bedroom detached houses at 54 Waltham Road. No objection.

OVERTON DRAMATIC SOCIETY

From Jillian Smith.

We are now well into rehearsals for our next production "Starlight Memoirs", a cabaret style show featuring acts from Victorian to modern day. The show runs from 11th-14th June at St Mary's Hall, Overton, curtain-up 7.30pm. Tickets are priced at £5.50 and £4.50 concessions, available from "The Executive Dry Cleaners", from 17th May.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Public Transport Representative Brian Langer.

Buses

Early morning weekday service to Winchester

In response to a request from a parent I enquired of Hampshire Bus whether they would be willing to reschedule the 7.35am bus from Whitchurch to Winchester so it started from Overton. This would have better suited college opening times and provided scholars with more options for the return trip using a Hampshire Bus season ticket.

The Operations Manager at Andover has replied:

This service is operated from our Winchester depot and I am afraid as much as we would like to help, we just do not have the capacity to carry extra passengers in the peak rush.

Trains

Summer schedule South West Trains

This begins on Sunday 18 May and continues to 27 September. There are a few changes from the winter service, the one likely to affect most travellers being the slightly altered timing to the now 1703 Mondays to Fridays from Waterloo due into Overton at 1757. The 2230/2235 "concert/theatre train" from Waterloo arrives in Overton a few minutes earlier than hitherto.

Eastbound all go to Waterloo unless B (Basingstoke) is given.

Monday to Friday:

0559	0637	0704	0743	0821	0848
1002	1118	1218	1318	1418	1518
1618	1648	1720	1826	1848	1927
2053	2138	2313(B)			

Saturday:

0603	0644	0743	0845	0918	0945
1118	1318	1521	1718	1848	1943
2118	2313(B)				

Sunday

0903	1100	1313	1451	1651	1851
2030	2310(B)				

Westbound destination Salisbury unless (E) Exeter St Davids, (G) Gillingham (H) Honiton, (P) Paignton, (PL) Plymouth or (Y) Yeovil Junction shown.

Monday to Friday

0033 (Tues to Fri set down only)	0038 (Mon to set down only)	0728(Y)	0804(P)	0847	0959
1059	1159	1359	1459	1629(Y)	1700
1729(E)	1757(Y)	1825(E)	1907(Y)	1929(E)	2001
2029(H)	2129(E)	2229(G)	2329.		

Saturday

0033(to set down only)	0701(P)	0804(E)	0959	1159	1359
1559	1729(E)	1759	1929(E)	1959	2129(Y)
2329					

Sunday

0033 (to set down only)	0836(P)	1059(P)	1259	1459(Y)	1659(Y)
1859(Y)	1959(E) 2059(Y)	2324			

Steam locomotives

The following are expected to pass through Overton;

7 May *Flying Scotsman* 4472 on a Venice Simplon Orient Express service to Salisbury (☎020 7805 5100);

10 May as above but returning from Salisbury;

21 May 73096 on a Waterloo to Yeovil Junction and return service; (Steam Dreams ☎ 01483 209888)

EXERCISE CLASS

From Caroline Mills

Summer Term: Exercise to Music, St Luke's Hall.

NEW - Wednesday 9.30–10.30am. Low impact aerobics/toning; Friday 9.30–10.30am Hi/Lo aerobics/toning Classes commence Wednesday 7th May. Cost £3.80 per session or £35 for 10. For further details contact Caroline Mills ☎ 397742.

ST MARY'S CHURCH EVENTS

From Ian Boreham.

Walk Wessex

This is an event across the Wessex region, where over 1000 people will be visiting towns and villages to share their faith in Christ, over a period of three weeks in May. A team of ten people, all wearing red sweatshirts will be in Overton for 4 days. As part of this St Mary's church will be hosting the following events...

Syd Little: At 7 30pm on Thursday May 8th in St Mary's Church. An evening of fun, laughter and gripping conversation. Tickets cost £7.50 which includes supper and a glass of wine. Tickets available at Paul's the Barber, or contact Doug Delbridge ☎ 771888.

An Afternoon of Colour: Professional artist and itinerant preacher, Rev'd Daniel Cozens will be showing his work at the ORC in Bridge Street on Friday 9th May at 2 30pm. Daniel has painted in Holland and also on the pavements of Notre Dame in his younger days! He is a very colourful speaker. Cost £2.50 (on the door) Includes a cream tea. Contact Rosemary Trollope ☎ 770341.

Men's Breakfast: Daniel will also be the guest speaker at a Men's Breakfast in the church rooms on Saturday 10th May at 8 30am. Cost £2.50. Contact Peter Sweet ☎ 770672.

Comments and contributions for *News and Views* are welcomed by the editor, Teresa Reynolds, The Three Horseshoes, 41 Winchester Street, ☎ 770248, e-mail newsandviewsRG25@aol.com. The editor reserves the right not to print articles without giving a reason.

For problems or comments about Parish Council matters, contact the Parish Council Chairman, Sue Johnson, 19 Lordsfield Gardens, ☎ 770975 email sue@johnsn.freemove.co.uk or Vice-chairman Lucy Sloane Williams, 1 Riverside Close, RG25 3JU, ☎ 770607, email LucySloaneWilliams@btinternet.com or Clerk to the Council Laura Harley, Oak Tree Lodge, Roundwood, Micheldever, Winchester, Hants. SO21 3BA, ☎ 01962 774296, email laura.harley@virgin.net.