

News and Views

Issued by Overton Parish Council and distributed to Overton, Laverstoke and Freefolk.
Information and Comment on Village Activities

February 2004

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

From Parish Clerk Laura Harley .

Parish Council Meeting

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wednesday 11th February 2004 in the Community Centre• Planning 7:00pm• Public time 7:30pm• Main meeting 8pm. |
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- Planning 7:30pm Tuesday 24th February
 - Finance & General Purposes 8pm 24th February.

Agendas and planning applications are displayed on the events notice-board.

High Street North side Pavement

There has been a puddling and property-water penetration problem here for some time, not helped by the fact that the kerbstones are often higher than the pavement itself, so preventing water running off into the road. The county council intends to undertake remedial work one Sunday in February, weather permitting, to minimise disruption.

Parish Council Co-option

At the January meeting of Overton Parish Council, Graham Hensman and John Bennett were co-opted to fill the two councillor vacancies left by Paul Green and Steve Heaver. The Parish Council is pleased to welcome Graham and John, who have both been parish councillors before.

Pavement Displays outside Shops

The Parish Council has written to shop keepers in the village to tell them that it is an offence to display wares on the pavement. Councillors are now to investigate whether any members of the public have an access problem around the village due to possible obstructions.

St Mary's Hall

Plans for refurbishing the hall are displayed on the Events Notice Board and in St Mary's Hall. The Parish Council urges parishioners to look at the plans, and make comment to the Clerk if there are any queries. The council wishes to make parishioners particularly aware that the expenditure on the refurbishment is likely to be funded, in the majority, by a loan, which will be repaid from the precept, and will therefore be funded by you. **The refurbishment work may result in a rise in the precept in future years.**

The Parish Council is also keen to point out that part of the proposal is to remove the bus shelter outside the hall and replace it with a canopy protruding from the hall.

Litter and Grass Cutting

Litter and grass cutting both come up at Public Time on a regular basis. The Parish Council is to invite representatives from the borough council to discuss these issues in an attempt to seek improvements around the village.

Parking on Pavements

It has been noted that cars are now parking on the pavement on the east side of Winchester Street, opposite the Greyhound pub. Causing a partial obstruction of the pavement can result in a fixed penalty fine issued by the police with a total obstruction resulting in the car being removed. If you wish to report such an obstruction, please ring the police ☎ 0845 045 45 45 giving the location and car details, and they will pass on the information to the traffic police.

And talking of the Police...

Just to remind everybody that the nearest police station is in Dance's Lane, Whitchurch and it is open to the public from 9- 10am and 5- 7pm daily. If you need to contact the police station please ring the police switchboard ☎ 0845 045 45 45, and ask to speak to Whitchurch.

Fly tipping/Litter/Dog fouling/Bulky waste

If you spot dumped rubbish, have a perpetual problem with dog fouling, are unhappy about the litter or want the borough council to collect bulky items then please ring ☎ **845474**. Please give as many details as possible to allow the borough council to effectively deal with the problem.

Two Gate Lane

At a recent Parish Council meeting it was suggested that Two Gate Lane be made one-way or even be closed to traffic and become a "Green Lane". We are now seeking the views of parishioners on this matter - please telephone the Clerk if you have any comment.

Litter Pick

Overton Action Group will be holding a litter pick between 10am and 12.00 noon on Sunday 14th March. Please meet at the Community Centre to pick up bags and litter pickers. Refreshments at the Fireplace Shop afterwards.

Future Environment Week

Next autumn we hope to organise an environment week, featuring a variety of linked events. These may cover topics such as compost, litter, water, clean streets, wildlife, etc. If you, or your Group, Club, Society would like to suggest a topic or activity please contact the Clerk.

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

From Mr Marc Bennett, Deputy Headteacher.

As mentioned in the last edition, Jo Baker, Headteacher at Overton Primary School will be retiring at Easter after 31 years at the school. There is now a card and collection box in Floral Inspirations for any ex pupils or wellwishers who would like to sign it, or make a donation. Once again can I remind you to keep this quiet, as Jo Baker has no idea we are doing this. Many thanks.

ST LUKE'S CLUB OVERTON

From Chris Penney, Secretary

As promised, I have now prepared a revised edition of the Constitution which incorporates the seven amendments that were agreed by the Charity Commission and were adopted at the Extraordinary General Meeting (EAGM) held on 15th October 2003.

If you would like a copy of the Constitution, and/or the minutes of the EAGM, please e-mail me at SLClubOverton@aol.com – or you can find both documents in the St Luke's file that is kept in Overton Library.

Also as promised, a complex timer switch has been fitted into the heating circuit at St Luke's Hall, which should prevent a recurrence of the problems that regrettably occurred last November.

SO WHAT IS A SHEEPFAIR?

From David Backers.

On Saturday and Sunday, 17-18th July, there will be a SheepFair in Overton. If you were not here for the last fair in 2000 then it may come as a surprise.

The fair is held in Winchester Street between the traffic lights and Greyhound Lane. It will be closed to traffic and cleared of cars (we will find parking space for the residents of Winchester Street).

We don't want to give too much away yet, but expect something for everyone from 2 to 102! The street will be packed with stalls, entertainments and events. Look for a story-teller, singers, dancers, fun fairs, a parade, food and drink, and much, much more.

We expect additional events will be organised each evening (we stop at 6pm) and there will also be things going on in the days before.

We want you to dress up. This year's theme is Victorian but you can be anything you want from stone age to space age! If you don't want to dress up, then just relax with your family and friends and have fun.

How much will it cost? Nothing! Entry is free, thanks to the very generous sponsorship from Portals. Just walk down and enjoy yourselves. How much you spend there is up to you and the skill of the stallholders!

Any profits the organising committee make will be split between the next SheepFair and Overton.

The Committee needs your help to make the event a success. Whether you are retired, commute or work locally, whether you are young or old, you can help us. We need people who can help us both now (do you know about marketing, merchandising, websites? Can you deliver leaflets or give spare time to talk to people?) and at the event (to help get things ready and act as marshals, etc).

Contact David Backers ☎ 770793 evenings/weekends, Peter Baker in the Fireplace Shop ☎ 770007 or Chris Penney in Business Connections ☎ 773377.

P.S. There **will** also be some sheep, somewhere.

OVERTON BEER FESTIVAL (2004)

From Paul Larkham.

An open meeting and discussion on the future of the ever popular CAMRA Hampshire Downs (Overton) Beer Festival will be held at 8pm on Wednesday 11th February, in the White Hart, Overton. The festival, run by CAMRA, just gets better and better but it needs some willing helpers to

ensure its continued success. All who have any interest in the future of this event, or have some ideas to suggest, or would just like to listen in, are welcome to attend (whether CAMRA members or not). Details from local CAMRA branch chairman - John ☎ 01256 892650 - or email jpb.design@virgin.net

EXERCISE TO MUSIC CLASSES

From Caroline Mills

Monday 7:30-8:30pm, St Mary's Church Rooms -aerobics with conditioning

Weds 9:15-10:15am, St Luke's Hall-body conditioning

Friday 9:15-10:15am, St Luke's Hall - aerobics with conditioning

All classes are £4.00 per class or £38.00 for 10 sessions.

For further details please ☎ 01256 397742.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dog Mess

I have lived at The Green for 12 years and for the last 6 have been constantly putting up with dog fouling on the path outside my house. Just recently it has got very bad and I have even had to wash down the path with soapy water. I have put a sign up on the fence which someone has turned the other way. These people have no respect for the law and are plain ignorant. My neighbours' children have even walked it inside their house which made their mother very angry. At night when you cannot see the fouls you are liable to walk in it. I am hoping someone will take notice of this letter. These people should be prosecuted.

Name withheld.

....More

I would like to express my disgust at seeing people walking their dogs over the new rugby pitch. I saw dogs running loose and fouling the grass. Some had driven to the field by car so had probably come some distance to exercise their dogs. I will ask for warning notices to be erected at the site but surely common decency dictates that these dog owners should find an alternative location to walk their dogs.

H Stickland, Poyntz Rd

The Barth Syndrome Trust

Heartfelt thanks to everybody who contributed so generously in time, money and donations to our Coffee Morning in December. It was an enormous success and we raised an amazing £709.50, a sum which exceeded our expectations and which will help us tremendously in our Family Support, Awareness and Research Programmes. Once again, a big thank you for your wonderful support and our best wishes for a happy and healthy 2004.

Annick Manton.

“Twelfth Night Bash” Success

To everyone who contributed raffle prizes, sold tickets, and of course bought tickets and came along, we'd like to say "Thanks" for making the “Twelfth Night” evening a success (held at St Mary's Hall on 10th January). You will be pleased to hear that with the raffle, donations, and proceeds from ticket sales, we have been able to pass £415 to St. Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire).

Paul & Becci Larkham, Kingsclere Road

Fundraising

Many thanks to everyone who supported the fundraising event for a new oncology ward in Basingstoke on 10th October. The day raised £616.35 and was a great success.
Corinne Cooke, Glebe Meadow.

Christmas Concert

Overton Choral Society was in good voice on December 22nd for its annual concert of Christmas music. A capacity audience, which included Sir George Young, enjoyed a programme of traditional carols and wassails. The concert raised a total of £268.84, which will be donated to the charity "For Dementi" in memory of Tony Trollope, a past president of the Choral Society. Our next concert will be on Saturday April 3rd in St Mary's Church.
Gill Corbett.

A Big Thank You

The Second Overton Brownies would like to give a big Thank You to Teresa and Michael at the Honey Pot Tearooms. We had our end of year Christmas party there and the whole pack had a great time. The food was great and Teresa & Michael even managed to arrange for Father Christmas to come and give out the Christmas presents at the end of the evening.
Michelle Le'Warne, Brown Owl.

TESTBOURNE NEWS

From Teresa Reynolds, Governor.

Help Needed With Our Admissions Appeals

We are looking forward to welcoming a full complement of new Year 7 pupils in September. We are very grateful that so many families in the area have made Testbourne their first choice. This does mean, however, that at the moment we have not been able to offer places to all the children who would like to come here. We will, therefore, be organising Appeal hearings for some of these families and are required by law to set up an Independent Panel, drawn from the local community, to hear these appeals. This is a very important role and we urgently need volunteers who would be willing to give up a day to assist with this. This could be a weekday or a Saturday. The official notice is printed below and we look forward to sending out information to interested residents.

Public Notice

In accordance with the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, the Governors of Testbourne Community School have a duty to give consideration to any individual who wishes to make application to be a lay member of the Independent Discipline Admissions Panel which may, from time to time, need to be convened by Testbourne.

Replies are to be submitted within 14 days of the appearance of this advertisement.

Testbourne Community School, Micheldever Road, Whitchurch, Hants RG28 7JF. ☎ 01256 892061.

HART WILDLIFE

From Susan Green.

HART Wildlife is holding a coffee morning at St Mary's Hall on Saturday 7th February from 9-11.30am. There will be bric-a-brac, cake stall, raffle and lots more.

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/56399 (amendment) Erection of new MOT bay building, extension to existing workshop and extension to existing bungalow forming forecourt toilet building and erection of new Office and Workshop units at Berrydown Garage. Objection on highway grounds and because the site was outside the development boundary.

BDB/57224 Erection of a two storey rear and single storey rear extension and front porch at 11 Poultons Road. No objection.

BDB/56862 Change of use of agricultural building to dairy and storage at Southley Farm House. No objection.

BDB/57225 Erection of rear conservatory at 43 Woodlands. No objection.

BDB/57269 Erection of two storey side extension and rear porch. Creation of vehicular access and off street parking for two vehicles at 68 Winchester Street. No objection.

BDB/56099 Erection of 75 no. dwellings, associated car parking and creation of access on land at Foxdown, Kingsclere Road. Objection.

BDB/57254 Erection of first floor side extension at 14 Waltham Road. No objection.

BDB/57307 Erection of two-storey rear extension at Keepers Cottage, Sapley Lane. No objection.

BDB/57267 Erection of a sports pavilion with associated parking at the site adjoining football ground, London Road. No objection.

BDB/57336 Change of use of agricultural land to residential curtilage and erection of garage/storage building at Well House, Burley Lane. Objection to a change of use from agricultural land to residential curtilage.

BDB/57403 Erection of first floor rear extension and pitched roof over existing flat roofs at 52 Winchester Street. No objection.

BDB/56349 (amendment) Residential development of 99 houses, garages, highway work and associated work at land at OS no 8565 SU5149NE, north of London Road. It was noted that the 2½ storey houses had now been removed from the plan.

BDB/56900 (amendment) Change of use of lower ground floor residential storage areas (for sole use of landlord's storage) to provide 1 no one bedroom apartment and associated external amenity space. Objection – over-development of the site.

BADMINTON CLUB

From Teresa Reynolds.

We play on Thursdays at 8pm-10pm in St Mary's Hall and we need more members. If you can play a little bit and would enjoy a friendly game (and a pint afterwards) please come and join us. Modest membership fee.

LIBRARY NEWS

From Chris Vane, Library Supervisor.

Storytimes started again in January. The dates for the rest of this term are 11th February and 10th March. For those of you who haven't joined us yet, the sessions run from 2.15 - 2.45, and all pre-school children are welcomed, but a parent or

carer must stay in the library. We are planning to have an extra session in the Easter holidays, on 14th April. Watch this space for more details!

OVERTON RECREATION CENTRE

From Gordon Baker, Chairman.

Congratulations to the following prize winners in the January draw:

£500 Ms M Oram £200 B Gee

£100 L Wake, K Thorne, and B Urvoy

We still need new collectors, to visit groups of our members and collect their membership subscriptions. If you have even a small amount of time to spare in the week, we would be very appreciative of an offer to collect from a small number of members. Call Debbie Tomlin for details ☎ 770154, or speak to any ORC committee member.

If you want to contact the ORC, visit our web site at www.overtonrc.org.uk, E-mail admin@overtonrc.org.uk

Contact phone numbers are:

Mindy Noble ☎ 773337,

Gordon Baker ☎ 770807.

Remember, our sports facilities and halls are available for hire at reasonable rates.

PRESCHOOL PLAYGROUP NEWS

From Mindy Noble.

An enormous thank you to Pat and Geoff Green of Charledown Close who for the third year running have donated the money raised from their spectacular Christmas lights to our playgroup. The grand total this year is £900, thanks to all those who donated. The money will be put towards the costs of equipping our new room at the school. For all those who bought tickets in our fundraising balloon race, the winner was Andrew Jones whose balloon was found 98 miles away near Cowbridge, Wales. Andrew has kindly donated his prize of a £10 book token back to playgroup, thank you Andrew!

If you would like to enrol your child in playgroup (it is never too early!) or would like to drop in for a visit please contact our playgroup leader Amanda Igo ☎ 770370.

DEADLINE NEWS & VIEWS

This will be 16th February. 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

BIODIVERSITY SOCIETY NEWS

From Kath and Jane.

The Open Evening/AGM (short!) will be on 24th March at 7.30 for 8pm in the Community Centre. Come and see the exhibition of local wildlife photos which have been collected over the last months. There is still time for last minute entries (up to 4 entries per person.) Collect your card mount/entry form from the Hospice Shop and return by the end of Feb. There are no children's entries yet so youngsters get snapping, you could be a winner!

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 Clerk Laura Harley, Oak Tree Lodge, Roundwood, Micheldever, Winchester, Hants. SO21 3BA, ☎ 01962 774296, email laura.harley@virgin.net.

We will be displaying some hedgerow survey results and other 'evolving documents!'showing what the group has been working on over the last year. The wildlife diaries being kept are really interesting, thank you to everyone doing them and keeping Peter Hutchins busy recording the data. Please do come and share your ideas too. We hope you will consider becoming a member of the society and further the cause of the **conservation, protection and appreciation of our wildlife heritage**. (Do you know where all those Hummingbird Hawk Moths are now?) Come and find out!

Other dates for your diaries. (More details to follow)

24th March **Open Evening** - light refreshments
7.30pm in Community Centre (C.C.)

30th April **Test and Itchen Landcare Project** talk
by Alison Cross (C.C.)

2nd May **Guided Spring Flower Coppice Walk** at
South Litchfield

7th May **Evening Bat Walk** 7.45 from (C.C.)

22nd May **National Moth Night Event!?!?** In a
garden somewhere deep in Overton!

WHITCHURCH SILK MILL

From Stephen Bryer, General Manager.

There is an exhibition of 3 Victorian bridal gowns from Manor House museum, Bury St Edmunds, which would have been woven about 30-50 years after silk weaving began at Whitchurch. The different colour gowns can be viewed until March. For modern day brides the Silk Mill offers the opportunity to have silk woven to their order.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Public Transport Representative Brian Langer.

Trains

Weekend engineering works – Clapham Junction

Weekend journeys have suffered disruption from engineering works for years but this particular work will affect all weekend journeys until May 2004. Train diversions and delays are inevitable so always check 08457 48 49 50 before you undertake a weekend journey to London during this period.

Buses

Burghfield Mini Coaches Service 74 (Overton village Shuttle)

Discussions are taking place with Hants County Council, which funds the service, to improve usage and review whether the current figure of 8 route around the village is still appropriate. This service operates on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Although mainly used by the elderly, it is available to anyone and has a standard 70pence fare and a hail and ride facility throughout the route apart from that section of Winchester Street from Pound Road to the traffic lights. Each loop has a service every thirty minutes from 0915 to around midday with the full schedule given on the public transport noticeboard on the Kingsclere Road wall of the Overton Fireplace shop, courtesy of Peter Baker.
