

# News and Views

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

March 2004

## PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

From Parish Council Clerk Laura Harley.

### Parish Council Meeting

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2004 in the Community Centre</li><li>• Planning 7:00pm</li><li>• Public time 7:30pm</li><li>• Main meeting 8pm.</li></ul> |
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- Planning 7:30pm Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March
  - Finance & General Purposes 8pm 23<sup>rd</sup> March.
  - St Mary's Hall Management committee meeting 8pm 4<sup>th</sup> March in the Hall.

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

### New Chairman for Parish Council

John Bennett has agreed to be the Chairman of the Parish Council until the Annual Parish Council Meeting at the beginning of May 2004. Sarah Mills who had been Chairman agreed to become Vice-Chairman.

### Overton Website

Steve Robarts attended the recent Parish Council meeting to discuss the future of the Overton website project. It was proposed that a joint sub-committee of the Parish Council be set up to administer the project which would include members of the Parish Council and the Overton Business Association. Portals De La Rue had already made a £250 contribution towards the cost of setting up the website, and it was hoped that funding would also come from both the Parish Council and the Overton Business Association. A provisional website is already up and running and can be viewed at [www.overtonvillage.com](http://www.overtonvillage.com)

### Closure of Bridge Street

Hampshire County Council advises that Bridge Street will be closed (presumably for vehicular traffic only) for a period of two weeks within the three months starting from 15<sup>th</sup> March in order for the reconstruction of the bridge parapet. (This could mean any two weeks between 15<sup>th</sup> March and 15<sup>th</sup> June).

### Car Parking in the Village

With the problem of parking in the village centre worsening, the Parish Council discussed the alternatives that were available to the village which included restricted parking in Winchester Street, the use of the land at the back of St Luke's Hall and the Overton Hill site. Several councillors were unhappy about the distance of Overton Hill from the village, and questioned whether shoppers would use it. Others felt that more effort should be made to encourage people who live in the village to leave their cars at home and use public transport, bicycle or foot. In view of there being few other viable alternatives at present the Parish Council

agreed to ask Cllr Paula Baker to pursue the idea of providing extra parking for the village on the Overton Hill site which already has planning permission for 56 spaces.

### Allotments

The Parish Council agreed to increase the annual rent for an allotment from £3 to the princely sum of £4 – the first rise for many years. There is at least one vacant plot available at the allotment site, which is situated in Woodlands. Please telephone the Clerk if you are interested. The annual Allotment Holders' meeting will take place in the Community Centre on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 7pm.

### St Mary's Hall

Alan Turner, the chairman of the St Mary's Hall Sub-Committee attended the recent Parish Council meeting to report progress on the refurbishment of the hall. The borough council has now passed the planning application and Mr Turner sought approval to pursue accurate costings for all parts of the scheme including disabled toilets, reorganisation of the behind stage rooms to provide a meeting room and a revamp of the fascia, but without the intention to remove the bus shelter mentioned in earlier issues of *News & Views*.

It was also hoped that the garden could be renovated. Mr Turner was optimistic that accurate costs could be provided in ten weeks and it was hoped that information about the St Mary's Hall refurbishment could be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting which will take place at 7.45pm on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April at St Mary's Hall.

### Police Update from PC Chris Swallow

I would like to start this article by thanking my predecessor Paul Green for his work over the years in policing the Overton Section. Paul has now left the beat and is working in Basingstoke as a Police Officer at the borough council. Originally I was due to take over from Paul in mid January but unfortunately this has been delayed. To briefly introduce myself – my name is Chris Swallow and I am married with two children aged 15 and 14 years and live in Basingstoke. I have been a Police Officer for 21 years – all in the Basingstoke Division. For five years I was a beat officer in Brighton Hill and Hatch Warren and have experience dealing with beat issues. For the last year I have been a Section Officer based at Whitchurch Police Station, which covers the Overton patch. I look forward to starting the beat and meeting you all as soon as possible.

### Litter

A regular complaint received by the Parish Council is about litter. To try to combat the problem the Parish Council has decided to employ a litter warden to pick the litter in the centre of the village on Sunday mornings and also to pick the litter weekly at Edward Kersley Playing Field and



dangerous for pregnant women, as it can lead to major damage and even death of her unborn child. Please take the time to pop a carrier bag and a piece of kitchen-roll in your pocket before taking your dog out for a walk. Thank you.

*Gill Smith, Woodlands, Overton*

### Street Collection

Overton fire officers would like to thank all those who contributed to the Fire Service National Benevolent Fund Street collection held on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2003. Despite the poor weather £192 was raised.

*Dave Allen, Overton Fire Station.*

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## TESTBOURNE NEWS

*From Teresa Reynolds, Governor.*

### PCs turn DJs

Members of the local constabulary extended the arm of the law to running a SNAP disco for pupils at Testbourne on the evening of Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February. It is part of a police initiative to develop community links and provide positive activities for young people, whilst at the same time getting over a strong anti-drugs message. About 160 pupils attended a really successful evening. Thank you to members of the local police force who gave up their time to run this event and to Deputy Head Mr Stevens, still rocking after all these years!

### Funding for new projects

We have made a number of improvements to the site in recent years but still have a lot to do. To fund these developments we are considering the sale of two small plots of land which form part of the school site but which are unused and for which no use is envisaged. The sale is subject to a long local consultation process and to the approval of the Secretary of State. A public notice has appeared in the local paper and further information is available from the school office ☎ 892061.

### Exam season already

We have submitted entries for the June exams. To help pupils meet their coursework deadlines we ran a coursework catch-up day in February, which was also a staff training day. 35 pupils came in, in their own time, to make sure work was completed on time. Thank you to parents who supported this extra day.

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## DEADLINE NEWS & VIEWS

This will be 16<sup>th</sup> March. 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](mailto:NewsandviewsRG25@aol.com)

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## OVERTON DRAMATIC SOCIETY

*From Mark Winter.*

Our next show is **A Right Victorian Knees Up** and will be run in association with Overton's Victorian Sheep Fair. Show dates are July 14<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup>, preceding the Sheep Fair weekend. Our rehearsals will commence Tuesday April 13<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the ORC Pavilion and we would love to see some new faces, so please come along with whatever talent you have! For more information on the show or the society contact Graeme Stubbington ☎ 770753 or Maggs Steward ☎ 771457.

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## YOUTH CRICKET SUMMER 2004

*From Peter Tomlin.*

After the success of last summer's cricket coaching, a youth cricket club has been established in Overton. We are currently completing our inaugural season in the U11's Indoor League based at the Dummer Cricket Centre. This summer we are able to offer coaching as well as competitive cricket in the North Hampshire Youth Cricket League. We would like to invite new players of all ages and abilities to join this growing club. Coaching and practice will begin at Bridge Street on Saturday mornings from 17<sup>th</sup> April. All age groups from Year 4 upwards are welcome. For further information please contact Peter Tomlin ☎ 770154.

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## MISSION COFFEE MORNING

*From Jane Waldram.*

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 9.30am in the Community Centre. Proceeds to Wel-Care and other local charities. Gifts of cakes, produce etc and donations are welcome. Come and join us for a cuppa !

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## 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/57267** (amendment) Erection of a sports pavilion with associated parking on site adjoining football ground, London Road. No objection.

**BDB/57526** Erection of a farmhouse with farm offices including a pharmacy. Erection of a cart shed type double garage, log store, loosebox and tack room with storage over at Ashe Warren Farm, Ashe Warren. No objection.

**BDB/57489** Display of two non-illuminated signs (retrospective) at Portals Ltd, Overton Mill. No objection.

**BDB/57633** Erection of a replacement detached single garage at 30 The Green. No objection.

**BDB/57579** Erection of a single storey side extension and a front porch following demolition of utility room/store at 3 Beech Close. No objection.

**BDB/57560/57557 /57559** Construction of a new shop front and installation of shop fascia sign, demolition of internal wall, display of new signage and alterations to shop front at Co-operative Retails Services Ltd, 15-17 Winchester Street. Objection to internally illuminated signage in a Conservation Area. Request that sign is lit externally and that the sign is unlit when the shop is closed.

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## ANOTHER DAFFODIL SUPPER...

*From Jane MacKenzie.*

...will be held at the back hall of the Methodist Church at 7.00pm on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March in aid of Cancer Research UK and The Hospice. Paul Holmes and his quintet have put together a sing-along concert of "Music from London Town" to follow the sit down meal. Eddie Male will be compere! Tickets - £7.50 from Pickwicks, or Jane ☎ 771121. Or come to the church at 8.15pm for just the coffee and concert for £2.00. (Offers of help welcome! ) This was a most enjoyable fundraising evening last year, a tribute to Mrs.Phyllis Male.

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## PLAYGROUP NEWS

*From Emma Twamley*

February saw a visit from OFSTED to carry out an inspection on our Community Centre setting and we are quietly confident about the results! We are now turning our attentions to gaining Accreditation through the Pre-School Learning Alliance. Over the past year the staff and committee have been working towards this and we are looking forward to the high standards of care and education that we offer your children being formally recognised. We are currently planning our sessions for next year and still have places available. **All children now receive 5 sessions a week FREE from 3 years** funded by the government. If you are interested in your child attending the playgroup or would like some more information please call Amanda our leader ☎ 770370 or come in and see her on a Thursday morning to secure your place. We will also be holding an OPEN DAY/COFFEE MORNING on Saturday March 27<sup>th</sup> from 10-12. The Playroom will be open for you to look around and staff will be on hand to answer any queries you may have. With the Overton Sheepfair fast approaching, we are now beginning to plan our part in this great event. If anyone can help us with some form of transport to use as a float or would like to be involved with Playgroup activities that weekend we would be very grateful. Please contact Emma Twamley ☎ 770826 if you can help.

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## LIBRARY NEWS

*From Chris Vane, Library Supervisor.*

As you can imagine, we are asked lots of questions each week in the Library. Some are easy to answer, either from our book stock or via the Internet, and others are more challenging. Some weeks ago I was asked where mobile phones could be recycled; now I have the answer! Phones can be re-used or recycled for charity by ActionAid. Further details and special freepost envelopes are available now in the library.

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## NSPCC

*From Sue Bobin & Inge Hunter*

Spring is coming and so are the lambs. NSPCC Lambing Days on Good Friday and Easter Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> April, 12noon – 4pm. Admission £2.50 – children under 12 free. James and Jackie Crosbie-Dawson have again generously invited the public to two Lambing Days at Northington Farm, the Lynch off Southington Lane, in aid of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Come and enjoy an afternoon on the farm seeing the newborn lambs. Refreshments will be available. Mr and Mrs Crosbie-Dawson and the NSPCC would like to draw to visitors attention that disease can be transferred between animals and humans. Any contact is at visitors own

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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, John Bennett, 64 Woodlands, ☎ 771144, email john@hid.cc, or Vice Chairman Sarah Mills, 37 Red Lion Lane, ☎ 772069 or Clerk to the Council Laura Harley, Oak Tree Lodge, Roundwood, Micheldever, Winchester, Hants. SO21 3BA, ☎ 01962 774296, email laura.harley@virgin.net.

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risk. Mr and Mrs Crosbie-Dawson and the NSPCC do not accept liability for any illness or accidents that may occur. For further information about the days ☎ 770078. Information on this number will only be available prior to the event. On Easter Saturday only ☎ 850002.

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## FOSTER CARERS NEEDED

*From the Family Link Scheme*

GIVE a little TIME make a BIG difference!! Make a **real difference** to the lives of disabled children and their families by giving them a break.

Become a short break carer providing short breaks on a regular basis - this can be anything from a few hours a week to a weekend a month.

**We need all sorts of people!** You could be working, retired or unemployed, with or without children, single or with a partner. You do not need any particular experience or qualifications. You'll be given training, support and an allowance.

Call our **Family Link Scheme Co-ordinators** now for more information - Susan Glover ☎ 01256 362074, Rosemary McCann & Jane Brown ☎ 01420 544349.

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## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

*From Public Transport Representative Brian Langer.*

### AIRPORTS

**M25 users - travelling to Heathrow, Luton or Stansted airports?**

Work to provide extra capacity has already started on the stretch of the M25 between the M3 and M4 and this will continue for two years. At present a 40mph speed limit is in place and delays, already serious at many times of the day, will worsen. A cheap flight from an airport accessed via the M25 doesn't turn out that cheap if you miss it with no recompense from the airline!

### More flights from Southampton airport

Until recently Southampton airport did not have a reputation as a cheap airline airport but the arrival of *flybe* – formerly British European – is changing that. More aircraft heading in and out of the airport now overfly Overton with their headlights prominent at night as they head towards Micheldever and Twyford, lining up for their airport approach. They are heard here too which is not the case of those using Heathrow or Gatwick. Other airlines use the airport and from February the following destinations could be reached:

UK, Channel Isles and Ireland: Aberdeen, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds/Bradford, Manchester, Newcastle, Alderney, Guernsey, Jersey, Cork and Dublin.  
Benelux: Amsterdam, Brussels;  
France and Switzerland: Bergerac, Chambery, Paris, Toulouse and Geneva;  
Spain: Alicante, Malaga and Murcia;  
Austria and Czech Republic: Salzburg and Prague.

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