

# News and Views

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

November 2004

## PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

From Parish Councillor Sarah Mills and Clerk Laura Harley.

### Parish Council Meeting

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 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 7:00pm Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November
- Finance & General Purposes 7.30pm 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

Agendas and planning applications are displayed on the events notice-board. All public are welcome to any of these meetings.

### Parish Council Questionnaire

Please take this opportunity to have your say about village projects that are being planned by Overton Parish Council by filling out the enclosed insert, on the back of the dog mess poster. Completed questionnaires can be posted into the Community Centre by 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2004. To tempt you to respond (and if you decide to include your name and phone number/email address on the form) you will be entered into the draw to receive a £25 voucher for use in a shop of your choice in Overton. So please help us to help you by completing the form.

### Overton Village Website Forum

Overton Parish Council has agreed to a three-month trial for a forum/discussion board on the Overton website. (see article on page 3).

### Traffic Calming

Although the County Council is responsible for traffic matters in this parish, getting any action is a long, slow process, due to limited resources. Now the Borough Council has offered help with a new scheme for "environmental traffic calming." There is limited funding available to deal with roads in villages where speeding or levels of traffic have affected the quality of life.

### Police Response Times

Once again, parishioners have been complaining about the lack of police response to complaints. PC Swallow urged parishioners to **always** ring the 08450454545 number to report problems with parking obstruction, nuisance issues and other matters. It is not always possible for the police to respond immediately in some cases – but the call will be logged, which ensures that repeated offences will be noted.

### Spending Your Money

The Parish Council is currently discussing how to spend your money, for the benefit of the community, and has compiled a list of possible projects. Some require long term planning and others require large expenditure. So, please

take a look at the leaflet in this month's *News and Views* – your views will help us prioritise.

### Road Safety on the B3400

In recent weeks this road has again been the scene of some shocking accidents. The county council initiated a review of safety some years ago covering the entire route from Andover to Basingstoke but no comprehensive application of safety measures seems to have taken place. Instead, haphazard introduction of 40 or 50mph speed limits have been applied at Andover Down, Hurstbourne Priors and west of Newfound, leaving sections of the route with the national speed limit for single carriageway roads - 60mph. However, every road user should drive at an appropriate speed for the road environment and weather conditions, within the stated speed limit. With frosty and foggy weather to be expected over the coming months the B3400 becomes even more dangerous; with many newcomers to the area do take especial care on this road and on the C29, between Overton and the A303, which is another local road with an unenviable accident level.

### Did you know....?

The Disability Act came into effect last month which means that the Parish Council must always consider the needs of disabled people. The refurbishment plans for the village halls have all included provisions for disabled users and the website has been designed to help the partially sighted.

## OVERTON VICTORIAN SHEEPFAIR

From David Backers

After retaining some monies to provide seed capital for a future fair, the Overton Sheepfair Committee has agreed that £4000 from the 2004 Victorian Sheepfair profits should be made available to the village. Bids are invited from local good causes and organisations which are based in the village, are open to Overtonians, and are principally for the benefit of Overton, its people or environment. Full details will be made available with the application forms. Briefly, bids may be made for any amount up to a maximum of £1000 for specific items or projects which must be planned to start in 2005. If the total request for funds exceeds the amount available each award will be reduced pro-rata at the discretion of the committee. For example, if the bids total £8000 then all applicants will receive half the amount requested. However, the committee may decide to ballot Overtonians, if a pro-rata reduction would result in grants being too small. It is intended that grants will be made no later than mid-March 2005. The decision of the Overton Sheepfair Committee in all matters is final. In particular it reserves the right to refuse without explanation any bid which it considers to be ineligible or inappropriate. Application forms will be available from Mr. Peter Baker in the Fireplace Shop in the High Street from 15<sup>th</sup> November, and the closing date for applications will be 15<sup>th</sup> December.

Queries should be addressed to me ☎ 770793 (during evenings and weekends only, please). Please note that Sheepfair mugs and tea towels are still available from the Fireplace Shop. The proceeds from these sales will be donated to the proposed garden at the rear of St. Mary's Hall.

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## INFLUENZA AND PNEUMONIA

*From Overton Surgery.*

### FLU

Flu is a highly infectious illness caused by the influenza virus. It tends to start suddenly with symptoms such as fever, chills, headache, aching muscles and feeling generally unwell, together with a cough or sore throat. Flu is spread by coughs and sneezes from people who are already infected with the virus. For most people flu is a nasty experience but for some it can lead to serious illness. Flu vaccination needs to be given every year.

**We advise you to have a flu vaccination if you:**

- Are 65 years or older by 31.03.05 If you have a heart, lung or kidney disease, diabetes or lowered immunity due to disease or treatment, whatever your age

**Patients registered at Overton Surgery** can have their flu vaccination when they see the doctor or nurse for anything during November. Patients not visiting the surgery for other reasons can book an appointment at the flu vaccination clinics by phoning the surgery. Clinics will be held during November 2004.

### PNEUMONIA

Pneumococcal disease can cause pneumonia and meningitis and is a major cause of illness and death, especially amongst the very young, elderly and those with lowered resistance to infection. This vaccine is usually given once in your life. Your GP or practice nurse will advise you if you fall into one of the few categories of people who need more than one.

**We advise you to have a pneumococcal vaccine if:**

- you are 75 years old or older
- whatever your age if you have heart, lung, kidney or liver disease, diabetes, no spleen, cochlear implants or lowered immunity due to disease or treatment

**Patients registered at Overton Surgery** can have their pneumococcal vaccination at the same time as flu vaccination or at any other time during the year by making an appointment or asking for it when they come for other reasons.

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## PRIMARY SCHOOL

*From Rachel Locke, OSA.*

### Bonfire Night, Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> November

Please come along to the bonfire night at Overton Primary School. There will be a spectacular firework display and a large bonfire with sparklers, BBQ food and refreshments for sale. Gates open at 6 pm.

### Quiz Night, Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> November

This evening is open to all. Get together with friends to make up teams of 6 and enter the quiz. Come along and help make this an enjoyable evening.

Tickets for both these events are on sale in the School office. All profits from OSA events are donated to the School.

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## OVERTON BOYS FOOTBALL CLUB

*From Geoff Atkin, Chairman.*

OBFC are pleased to announce that Father Christmas has agreed to tour the village once again this year. Due to his extremely busy schedule, it's going to be earlier than in previous years, on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December. As normal, half the total collection will be given to a local charity, this year Friends of Overton Surgery. Many thanks in anticipation of your support.

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## TESTBOURNE NEWS

*From Teresa Reynolds, Governor.*

We are holding two fundraising events in November, both of which should provide fun and funds:-

The Christmas Fayre, organised by the PTFA, will be on **Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> November** from 10am to 4pm, in the Sports Hall.

There will be a Testbourne Ball on **Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> November**. Tickets cost £15 for which you will get a good evening's entertainment, including a disco and a two-course meal.

All proceeds will go to our Specialist School Appeal. Please do come along and support us. Tickets are available from the School Office ☎ 892061.

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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/59137** Demolition of side extension and front porch. Erection of two-storey side extension, single storey front extension, rear conservatory and associated works including replacement windows at Police House, Winchester Street. No objection.

**BDB/59273** Erection of trellis on existing fence (retrospective) at Rowan House, 1 Southington. No objection.

**BDB/59355** Erection of two-bedroom cottage on land adjacent to Rose Cottage, The Orchard. Objection on the grounds of access, which is steep and narrow. There are already five dwellings accessed off this drive with about 20 parking spaces between them. There is concern that the existing garage of this property is already being used as a dwelling.

**BDB/59342** Erection of single storey rear extension and side chimney at 7 Highfields. No objection.

**BDB/59338** Erection of detached double garage with storage above and revised vehicular access (amendment to planning permission BDB/51225) at Nutley Lodge, Ashe. No objection.

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## OVERTON SOCIETY

*From Valda Stevens*

Did Lucy Keal's article about National Recycling Week in last month's *News and Views* encourage you to think about what you can recycle?

In September Steve Read from Project Integra came to talk to the Overton Society about what happens to our recycling in Hampshire. He gave a fascinating insight into how the various components in our green bins are separated on a huge sloping conveyor belt. Aluminium cans go off to a processing plant in Warrington and paper either to North

Wales or Kent. Glass from our bottle banks goes to a dockside facility in Southampton. Garden waste is shredded and composted. At the moment only two types of plastic items are useful – things with the triangular recycle symbol with either a number 1 or 2 inside it. These plastic items are converted into things like fleece jackets and drain pipes. It is hoped that a market can be found for a wider range of plastics very soon so that all potentially recyclable materials, collected in sufficient quantity, can be turned into new items.

Visitors are welcome at the next Overton Society meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> November, 8pm at the Community Centre. A presentation on the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (which includes part of Overton Parish) will be followed by the Society's AGM.

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## TREASURE ISLAND

*From Jillian Smith.*

Overton Dramatic Society is now well into rehearsals for the Panto, "Treasure Island", a tale of nautical folk, from the book "Treasure Island" by Robert Louis Stevenson and loosely adapted by Alistair Clinton.

The show, directed and produced by Mark Winter and Ray Shepherd, is to be performed at St Mary's Hall, Overton, from Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> - Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November with curtain-up at 7.30pm and at 2.00pm for the Saturday matinee.

Come and join in the fun and see long John Silver, Billy Bones, Widow Hawkins and all, tread the boards. There is a licensed bar and seating is cabaret style.

Tickets at £6.00 and £4.50 concessions, include light refreshment, and are on sale at The "Executive Dry Cleaners", Overton, on Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays. They are also on sale at St Mary's Hall on Saturdays.

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## BASINGSTOKE IN BLOOM 2004

*From Margaret Penney.*

This competition is organised by Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council and the residents of Batten's Avenue (house numbers 1-17) have joined together and entered every year since 1999 in the category for Best-Kept Street. I am delighted to report that we have won First Place for the fourth year in a row!

We were a bit relieved, because the July gales (which also caused damage to the floral columns in Winchester Street) had hurt our hanging baskets and flower troughs just as they were getting into their stride. Fortunately, they revived in time for the judging in the last week of July.

The prizes for all categories were awarded by the Lady Mayor of Basingstoke, who last visited Overton for the SheepFair. This year, instead of one silver cup to share among us, the organisers have been especially thoughtful and given an engraved shield for *each* of the seventeen houses, together with a large, handsome engraved brass plaque to go on an outside wall in the Avenue!

Fellow Overtonians Bob and Mary Reid of Bridge Street were also highly commended for their entry in the Small Front Garden category. We all came away feeling proud that we had done our bit for Overton against all the other villages in the borough, but we would love to have some more healthy competition next year from *inside* the village as well!

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## OVERTON WEBSITE

*From Colin McLaren.*

As part of the ongoing development of the web site we will be launching for a trial period a new bulletin board system for you to post messages, reply to others, offer items for sale in our Classified section, and let us know what topics you think are of interest to the community. If you want to have your say, tell your mates about a local gig, give an opinion on the flower towers, got something to sell, looking for something, lost and found, this is where it will be.

We expect to be up and running early in December so make sure you check it out, and make your contribution. It's your source of everything you need to know about your community.

Don't forget we are still looking for pictures with the word "Overton" in them, so let's see how inventive you can be.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Macmillan Cancer Relief

We raised £120 at our Coffee Morning. Many thanks to everyone who came.

*Janet Davies, Red Lion.*

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## OVERTON RECREATION CENTRE

*From Gordon Baker, Chairman.*

Congratulations to all 28 prize winners in our October draw. The top prize winners were:

£500 A Osmond £200 L Firth  
£100 E Landeg, R Startin, Mrs Greenwood.

To contact the ORC, visit our web site at [www.overtonrc.org.uk](http://www.overtonrc.org.uk) or phone Melanie Wincott ☎ 772956 or ☎ Gordon Baker 770807.

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## LATE NIGHT SHOPPING

*From Overton Business Association.*

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Lights switched on by The King – Elvis Presley, who will go on to a show at the OMI. Carol singing by ODS. Father Christmas will be at HSBC Bank from 5.30pm, for under 11's; Donations gratefully accepted for the NSPCC, in memory of the bank employee who played Santa last year and who died suddenly earlier this year. A further late night shopping evening on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December.

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## LITTLE TOTS NURSERY

*From Julie Torrible, Little Tots Nursery.*

Little Tots Nursery is a well established nursery school situated in Burghfield, Reading, with excellent Ofsted results. We are opening a second nursery in Overton Recreation Centre, commencing January 2005, for children aged 2½ to 5 years. Opening hours will be 9.00am to 12.30pm, term time only.

Little Tots incorporates Montessori teaching skills, offering a very high level of childcare, with mature, caring and experienced staff, providing a happy and safe environment for your child. Nursery Grant Funding available for all children over 3 years old.

Little Tots will be running a **Music Session** incorporating music and movement, singing, rhymes, and story time. Commencing **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November from 10 to 11am**

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Open to all pre-school children. The cost per session will be £3.00 (first session half price)

On Thursday mornings we will run a **Messy Play/Art Session**, commencing **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November 10 to 11.30am** for children aged 18 months and over (children to be accompanied by an adult).

Come, have fun and be active. Please bring an apron!!

Cost per session £3.50 (first session half price)

If you would like further information about the nursery or fun sessions, please contact Heather ☎ 0118 9833813 or Julie ☎ 0118 9831554.

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## QUIT SMOKING CLINIC

*From Pam McDoom.*

Stopping can be easier than you think with your own free friendly local Quit Smoking Clinic at Overton Community Centre. New seven week clinic starts Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 7pm. ☎ 0845 602 4663 for a place or to find out more.

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## DEADLINE NEWS & VIEWS

This will be 16<sup>th</sup> November. 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.

Don't forget the next issue will cover both December 2004 and January 2005.

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## OVERSEAS MISSION COFFEE MORNING

*From Jane Waldram, Mission Committee.*

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November, 9.30 – 11.30am.

Cakes, biscuits, produce, preserves, surplus bulbs for planting and gifts suitable for Christmas all very welcome. No bric-a-brac please ! Raffle as usual.

Do come and join us and enjoy a cuppa.

**Proceeds to the Darfur, Sudan refugee crisis.**

Admission 50p including coffee.

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## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

*From Public Transport Representative Brian Langer.*

A useful meeting took place with Jim Mortimore, Operations Manager Stagecoach Andover in early September which hopefully will result in a better service to passengers along the service 76/86 routes. In brief the outcome was:

\* **Bus route to go via Basingstoke railway station** - still being reviewed but agreed to gee up a response from Business Development department.

\* **Low loaders:** Andover depot will not get these ahead of Basingstoke or Winchester. The company has until 2015 to comply with the law covering disability access.

\* **Tokens:** hopefully the problem over their acceptance for all fares has been resolved.

\* **Sunday service via Leisure Centre:** the problem of missing out this diversion seems to have been corrected; the

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Comments and contributions for *News and Views* are welcomed by the editor, Teresa Reynolds, The Three Horseshoes, 41 Winchester Street, 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, e-mail john@hid.cc, or Vice Chairman Sarah Mills, 37 Red Lion Lane, e-mail Sarahmills46@hotmail.com or Clerk to the Council Laura Harley, Oak Tree Lodge, Roundwood, Micheldever, Winchester, Hants. SO21 3BA, ☎ 01962 774296, e-mail opc@overtonvillage.com.

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Sunday service needs to have accurate schedules at bus stops.

\* **Duplicate weekday service:** provided to support the busiest services to Basingstoke frequented by students - usually a double decker in operation covering the 7.20am or 7.50am from Andover but some duplicates (they should run no more than five minutes after the scheduled bus) do not seem to operate as soon after the full service as passengers would like. There may be a need to look at an additional duplicate to cover the bus from Overton at around 9am.

\* **Overton re-routing:** it is unlikely that the 76/86 could do either a railway station or Pond Close "loop" without having a serious effect on the schedules, let alone get through narrow roads.

\* **Timing and driver quality:** Concern expressed about the attitude of some drivers but most were helpful. However, the speed achieved by some drivers was nerve-racking and needed to be reviewed. In response to criticisms about early running buses, drivers take the departure time from their ticket machines which are corrected from their module at the depot.

\* **New bus stops in village:** Manager was advised of the two new bus stops to be introduced on Overton Hill to complement the Overton Hill residential development and which would be useful to residents of Two Gate Meadow and The Green. He was also advised of a BDBC proposal to allow buses to use New Street, Basingstoke against the existing traffic flow.

\* **Fare stages in the parish of Overton:** under review to make the entire parish one fare stage, ie Southington to Ashe.

\* **Routes review:** The 76/86 routes were under review for improvement by Stagecoach as they were, for the most part, good revenue earners for the company. Any suggestions for improvements to the existing service and for any new services you would like to see from Overton would be appreciated, eg a combined fare from Overton to the North Hampshire hospital to avoid having to pay again from the bus station.

Ideas please to Brian Langer, 16a Poyntz Road, ☎ 770848.

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## PLAYGROUP NEWS

*From Lorna Bloor.*

We have lots of activities planned for the second half of the Autumn Term, including a sponsored brick build, and the build up to Christmas, especially our Sing-along on 15<sup>th</sup> December.

We still have some Pre-School spaces available for next year. 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 to secure your place.

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