

# News and Views



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

December 2004/ January 2005

## PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

From Parish Councillor Pat Taylor and Clerk Laura Harley.

### Parish Council Meeting

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2004 in the Community Centre and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2005</li><li>Planning 7:00pm</li><li>Public time 7:30pm</li><li>Main meeting 8pm.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Planning 7:30pm Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 05</li><li>Finance &amp; General Purposes 8pm 25<sup>th</sup> January.</li></ul> |
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Agendas and planning applications are displayed on the events notice-board. All public are welcome to any of these meetings.

### Parish Council Vacancy

Interested in local issues? Like to have a say? Then come along to the Parish Council meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> January or contact the Parish Clerk, Laura ☎ 01962 774296.

### Car Parking - Winchester Street

The Parish Council has been asked whether the Borough would consider "restricted parking times" on parts of Winchester Street. There is often no parking available here and it has become fairly difficult to drop off anyone for St. Luke's Hall.

St Luke's Trustees are hoping to get support and planning permission for at least 20 car parking spaces, situated in front of the hall, when the hall is redeveloped. It seems to be an obvious site for central parking. What's your view?

### Environment and Regeneration Grant 2005/6

The Parish Council has been asked to nominate some areas that might benefit from this grant. We consider that an obvious place for this is the path which links Foxdown Hill and the School. At the moment the path, which cuts through the field, is getting overgrown making it difficult to walk, especially with pushchairs. The grant would make improvements to the surface and generally tidy up this area.

### Thank You

The Clerk would like to take the opportunity to thank everybody who has assisted the Parish Council during 2004. This includes Eric Williams, the cleaner at St Mary's Hall, Alan Turner and members of the St Mary's Hall Management Sub Committee, Colin McLaren, Steve Robarts and Mark Winter for all their work on the Overton Village website and to members of the Overton Biodiversity Group. A special thank you as always to Teresa Reynolds, *the News and Views* Editor and to the 38 volunteers who deliver *News and Views* to every house in the village; and to Steve Goodall of Hampshire County Council who regularly attends meetings with Brian Langer about Highway matters.

Recognition must also go to the parish councillors, who work hard on your behalf with little credit and finally to the parishioners, particularly the regulars, who attend Public Time to keep the Parish Council on its toes. If I've forgotten anyone – well thank you too! I look forward to reconvening in 2005 and doing it all again. The first meeting is at 7pm on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2005 in the Community Centre.

### Community Strategy Survey

Thank you for all the responses to the survey, if you have not already returned the completed form to the Community Centre, please do so, as your comments are useful to the Parish Council. A couple of questions have cropped up, answered below:

Little Meadow is the field to the north of the current cemetery, and is owned by the Parish Council. The Overton Biodiversity Group has been successful in obtaining a Lottery grant for works (see article on page 3) and the Parish Council is intending to put aside a contingency of £1,000 to assist with capital costs. There will also be ongoing annual maintenance costs. Little Meadow will have access for all. A "zip line" is an item of playground equipment comprising of a long sloping wire rope down which children (and adults!) can slide.

For the few people who suggested that it might be nice to see a change of councillors; there is currently a vacancy for a parish councillor, and we would be happy to accept an application from any parishioner over 21 for this post.

### Environment Agency Information

For fast information on flood warnings, please ☎ 0845 988 1188 and when prompted enter the quickdial number of the River Test upstream of Chilbolton which is 0122211.

### Did you know...?

The Andover Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) provides an Outreach Service in Whitchurch Town Hall on Tuesdays between 10.00am and 1.00pm. Trained advisors have access to a laptop information system and a large range of regularly updated resources covering a huge variety of topics and situations to help advise on all types of problems – difficulties at work, benefits, landlord responsibilities, repayments to creditors, how to change a name and much, much more. The service is **free, confidential and impartial**. No appointment is necessary, just call in. (Clients with mobility problems will be seen on the ground floor).

### High Street Road and Pavement Repair

The county council has determined it will not replace the surface dressing that was undertaken in 2002 as the road surface does not warrant it. However, it still intends to complete the repairs to the north side pavement between Overton Gallery to opposite the Solicitors. The work done in the vicinity of the Hospice shop earlier this year seems to have been effective in preventing puddling and it is hoped that work on the remaining section will be as successful.

However, puddling remains a problem, especially close to the southside shops. Unless parking is banned there for a specific date the council cannot get access to undertake any remedial work.

### Street Lighting

To report a fault, check the defective light number (this is found on the street light column 5 to 6 feet off the ground facing the road) and the road name. Phone 0800 506060 and you will receive a prompt to leave a message. Be sure to state Overton as this number covers all of Hampshire. The light will normally be repaired within 5 working days.

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### UPDATE ON FOXDOWN

*From Borough Councillor Paula Baker.*

Planning permission has been approved for 75 homes on the remainder of the Foxdown site. The sale of the land to Westbury homes was delayed because it was referred to the Secretary of State. The sale will be conditional on Westbury transferring land to a Housing Association for twenty two affordable homes. Kingfisher Housing Association made a bid for funding for these homes, but it was unsuccessful. Westbury has advised the Council that it knows other housing associations that would be able to provide the affordable homes if Kingfisher could not. Contracts have now been exchanged for the sale and it is hoped that there will soon be more progress with the provision of these much needed affordable homes.

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### CONCERT OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC

*From Gill Corbett.*

Overton Choral Society will be giving its annual Concert of Christmas Music on Monday December 20th at 7:30 pm, in St Mary's Hall. This year we will be singing a selection of popular Christmas songs, as well as many old favourites. There will be lots of opportunities to join in the singing, and coffee and mince pies will be served afterwards. There is no entrance charge, but there will be collection on the door which will be donated to a The Rodges' Trust, a charity to provide financial assistance for young people hoping to make a career in the performing arts.

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### ST LUKE'S HALL OVERTON

*From Chris Penney - Hon Secretary.*

If you look at the Charity Commission Website, and click on 1026873, you will find that the main (registered) name of our charity is St Luke's Club Overton.

This is the name we have been using for the past year or so - especially in correspondence with the Charity Commission over the changes to the Constitution that followed the Extraordinary AGM of 15<sup>th</sup> October 2003.

However, if you read a little further on that website, you will see that our charity has also been given a "working name" which is St Luke's Hall Overton. Now that we are listed on the Overton Village website as well, the Trustees have decided that, because the hiring out of the hall is our main activity, it is probably clearer to use our working title in day to day correspondence, including E-mails.

The Charity Commission is quite happy with this and has already amended its records to show our new E-mail address which is SLHallOverton@aol.com

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### TESTBOURNE NEWS

*From Teresa Reynolds, Governor.*

#### Ex-Year 11 Presentation Evening

We had a really enjoyable time at our Presentation Evening on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November, when our ex-Year 11 pupils returned to collect their GCSE certificates. This year we were delighted that certificates and prizes were presented by Jody Scheckter, the 1979 Formula One world Racing Champion, very successful businessman and owner of Laverstoke Park, which he has turned into a high quality organic estate.

#### Remembrance Assembly



A group of Year 10 pupils took responsibility for our Remembrance Day Assembly this year. They had all recently visited the Belgian Battlefields with the History department. We were also represented at the Annual Remembrance Sunday Service and Parade at the War Memorial Park by our Head Boy and Head Girl, Tom Hodgson and Vicky Ferguson, who laid a wreath on behalf of the school.

#### Synagogue Visit

All our pupils follow a short course GCSE RE in Years 10 and 11 ~ and more than 30 of them choose to stay after school in their own time each week so that they complete the full GCSE course. As part of their studies, the Year 10 group recently visited the Reading Synagogue. Pupils found this useful and interesting in helping them understand more about the practices and festivals of another world religion.

#### Shoe Box Appeal



Pupils have again shown their generosity by collecting 65 shoe boxes as part of the Operation Christmas Child Appeal. These boxes will be soon on their way to children in Romanian orphanages.

#### Join Our Christmas Celebrations

This year we will again be holding a Testbourne Carol Service in All Hallows Church. All members of the community are invited to join us for this special evening ~ at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2004.

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### LITTLE TOTS NURSERY

*From Julie Torrible.*

Overton Recreation Centre, Bridge Street.

Opening January 2005.

We are holding an Open Morning on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 11.00am until 1.00pm.

Please feel free to come along and see how a Montessori school works. Staff will be on hand to answer all your questions.

For further details please contact Heather ☎ 0118 9833818 or Julie ☎ 0118 9831554.

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### PRESCHOOL PLAYGROUP

*From Mindy Noble.*

Do you want the best education for your child? Overton Preschool Playgroup is rated top in all six Ofsted categories. Our belief is that children learn through play. We have professional, qualified staff and places are **FREE** to all children the term after they turn three years through the government nursery voucher scheme. To discuss your child's needs and to arrange a visit please contact our playgroup leader Amanda Igo ☎: 01256 770370.

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## COMMUNITY CENTRE

*From Paula Baker, Chair, OCA.*

Watch out for posters about new activities at the Community Centre in January, including an evening Computer course.

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## DEADLINE NEWS & VIEWS

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

The editor would like to wish all deliverers, contributors and readers a Happy Christmas

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## ARKLE LODGE BAZAAR

*From Sylvie Sintah and Jo Mas*

Christmas Bazaar at Arkle Lodge Nursing Home Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December between 10.00am - 12.00noon.

Admission 50p (which includes tea or coffee & a mince pie). Cake Stall, Tombola, Raffle, Cake Raffle etc.

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## PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

*From Jane Eagleton, Chairman, OSA.*

### Bonfire night

Many thanks to all who came along, the fireworks were wonderful and many of you have commented on what a good evening it was. A huge thank you to all who helped and those who made generous donations to what was a very successful event.

### Carols in the Barn

Once again this will take place in Quidhampton Farm, Overton on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 4.30pm. Please come along and join us for an evening of carols, mulled wine and mince pies.

### Christmas Hampers

Tickets are on sale at school for our Hampers and other marvellous prizes.

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## CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT & SUPPER

*From Jane and Linda.*

7pm on 8<sup>th</sup> January- Methodist back hall - in aid of BASIC (doctor's rapid response team). Tickets £6 from Pickwicks.

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## OVERTON MUMMERS

*From Tom Hanley.*

Overton Mummers will once again be making their traditional Boxing day appearance in the village of Overton (Sunday 26th December). The mummers, mysteriously clad from head to toe in strips of wallpaper and brandishing staffs, perform a centuries old play (with a few modern references!) symbolising the dying of the old year and the birth of the new. You can see the mummers perform at 1pm in the Community Centre car park (or in St Mary's Hall if it is wet), followed by a performance outside the Greyhound pub at around 2pm.

For more information ☎ Tom Hanley on 770384.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Cancer Charities Open Day

Thank you to everyone who supported the day either by buying raffle tickets or coming along on 12<sup>th</sup> November. The day raised £684.73, a marvellous sum; without your support this would not be possible. There were 12 raffle

prizes; 1<sup>st</sup> prize (a Raleigh child's bike) went to Freda & Terry Robinson, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize to Mrs Josie Ashfield, 3<sup>rd</sup> prize to Mrs Gill Francis.

*Corinne Cooke.*

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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/59518** Erection of single storey side and rear extension at 30 Waltham Road. Objection – concern about removal of garage and part of parking space in a road where on street parking is already oversubscribed.

**BDB/59469** Conversion of loft to living accommodation including installation of roof lights and construction of dormer window in front elevation at Faenza, Winchester Street. No objection.

### Retraction

Following comments made in November's *News and Views* regarding planning application BDB/59355, Linda Parker would like it made clear that the garage at 4 The Orchard is not being used as a separate dwelling. A Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council Planning Officer has investigated the matter and is happy that the garage is only being used for the purpose for which it has planning permission.

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## OVERTON ART GROUP

*From Bob Reid*

Sale of paintings in the Community Centre, during late night shopping on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 5.30pm to 8.30pm.

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## LIBRARY NEWS

*From Chris Vane, Library Supervisor.*

Christmas is coming to the Library! Our contribution to the Christmas Shopping evenings on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> December we will be running storytime sessions from 6 - 8pm and the library will stay open too.

We are also having a colouring competition, which started on 23<sup>rd</sup> November and finishes on 11<sup>th</sup> December. The age groups are under 4, 5 - 9 and there will be PRIZES!

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## LOTTERY GRANT

*From Ken MacKenzie, Overton Biodiversity Group.*

We applied in April to the Local Heritage Initiative for financial support and were delighted to hear recently that our request for funding for biodiversity work had been met in full. This will include money for developing the wildlife potential of "Little Meadow" (the field beside the burial ground), developing nature trails, surveying hedgerows and developing community skills in hedgerow planting and nature conservation as well as "promoting the natural heritage of Overton".

This is excellent news as it means we will be able to carry out a range of activities in the Parish without requiring substantial financial assistance from either the Parish Council or the Borough Council. A public open evening will be held early in the New Year.

We would like to express our thanks to all within the community who supported our bid.

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## OVERTON RECREATION CENTRE

**From Gordon Baker, Chairman.**

Congratulations to all 28 prize winners in our November draw. The top prize winners were:  
 £500 W Ray £200 J Hodge  
 £100 J Sheldon, B Langer, T Harding  
 Contact phone numbers are Melanie Wincott ☎ 772956, Gordon Baker, ☎ 770807 or e-mail us on chairman@overtonrc.org.uk We still need new collectors. If you can spare a little time each week, please consider helping us – contact Debbie Tomlin ☎ 770154 for details. We have sports facilities and halls available for hire at reasonable rates.

**PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

**From Public Transport Representative Brian Langer.**

**Buses**

**Christmas and New Year services**

Friday 24 Dec Normal weekday service finishing at 8pm;  
Christmas Day and Boxing Day no 76/86 services or Overton village mini bus service 74;  
27 Dec Bank Holiday (Sunday) service on routes 76/86;  
28 Dec Bank Holiday (Sunday) service on routes 76/86  
 no Overton village mini bus service  
 no Countywide Travel bus to and from North Waltham;  
29 Dec Saturday Service;  
30 Dec Normal Thursday service on routes 76/86; 120 to Newbury, 74 Overton village mini bus;  
31 Dec Saturday Service finishing at 8pm on routes 76/86;  
1 Jan No 76/86 or Overton village mini bus services;  
2 and 3 Jan Bank Holiday (Sunday) services on routes 76/86  
4 Jan Normal services on all routes.

**Trains**

Significantly revamped schedule South West Trains – effective 12 December  
 There are major changes affecting Overton as part of a complete overhaul of the South West Trains timetable. Do NOT rely on any out of date timetable you may have at home! Some of the revised timings may not suit regular travellers but, overall, Overton gets a more frequent and regular service especially off peak. The new pocket timetable also gives details (in red print) of which trains will accept cycles.

Eastbound all go to Waterloo unless B (Basingstoke)

**Monday to Friday:**

0549	0619	0642	0719	0749	0819
0849	0918	1018	1118	1218	1318
1418	1518	1618	1718	1818	1918
1958	2058	2158	2258(B)		

**Saturday:**

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, email opc@overtonvillage.com.

0549	0618	0718	0818	0918	1018
1118	1218	1318	1418	1518	1618
1718	1818	1918	1958	2058	2158
2258(B).					

**Sunday:**

0859	1059	1259	1459	1659	1859
2059	2259(B).				

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

**Monday to Friday:** (Most trains leave Waterloo 55 minutes before the times given below.)

0032 (Tues to Fri to set down only)	0049 (Mondays to set down only)	0715(Y)	0805(P)	0845	0945
1045	1145	1245	1345	1445(G)	1545
1645	1715(E)	1745(Y)	1815(E)	1845(Y)	1915(E)
1945	2016(H)	2045	2118(E)	2218(Y)	2318.

**Saturday:**

0032(to set down only)	0715(Y)	0807(P)	0845	0945	1045
1145	1245	1345	1445	1545	1645
1745	1845	1945	2045	2115(Y)	2218(Y)
2318.					

**Sunday:**

0032 (to set down only)	0815(P)	0915(Pl)	1115(Y)	1315(Y)	1515(Y)
1715(Y)	1915(Y)	2115(Y)	2315.		

**Day return facility on 0849 Mondays to Fridays service to Waterloo**

For many years, since a train leaving at around 0900 was discontinued, passengers from Overton have been given dispensation to buy cheap day return tickets on this train. This facility remains despite the introduction of a 0918 service.

**Christmas and New Year services (South West Trains)**

24 Dec Normal Friday service but network closing down by mid evening;  
 Christmas Day and Boxing Day No services;  
 27 Dec Major engineering works between Waterloo and Wimbledon with a change of train likely at Basingstoke;  
 28 29 30 31 Dec A Saturday service with a few minor alterations;  
 1 Jan Reduced Saturday service from around 0800  
 2 Jan Sunday service  
 3 Jan Saturday service  
 4 Jan Normal weekday service