

# News and Views

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

August 2005

## PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

From Parish Councillor Brian Langer and Clerk Laura Harley.

### Parish Council Meetings

#### Taking place in the Community Centre

Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> August:	Planning	7.00pm
	Public time	7.30pm
	Main meeting	8.00pm
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> August:	Planning	7.30pm
	Main meeting	8.00pm

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

### St Mary's Hall Licence

The St Mary's Hall Management Committee has applied to vary the premises licence for St Mary's Hall, High Street, Overton, RG25 3HA.

The committee wishes to enhance the number and types of entertainment that can be performed to include cinema, more stage plays and live music. The committee is also applying to be able to provide hot food after 11.00pm (to serve hot beverages at parties etc) and to supply alcohol. The latter is to allow hirers of the hall to be able to run a bar without having to apply for a Temporary Events Notice. The hall opening hours will also be extended from 23.30 to 00.00 on Saturdays and from 22.00 to 23.00 on Sundays. The application for the Premises Licence has been submitted to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke, RG21 4AH, email [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/licensing](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/licensing).

If you wish to make a representation against this licence, you must do so in writing to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council by 15<sup>th</sup> August 2005.

### Calling all Friends of St Mary's Hall

The St Mary's Hall Management Committee is calling all the Friends of the hall to help out with fund raising and organising forthcoming events. If you can help, please contact Mark Winter ☎ 771457 or come along to the next meeting at 7.30pm on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> August (in the hall).

### Resignation of Parish Councillor

Pat Taylor has decided to resign as a Parish Councillor for Overton. She has however, agreed to continue as the Parish Council's representative on the St Luke's Hall Management Committee, of which she is chairman. The Parish Council would like to thank Pat for all her hard work on the council and wish her every success with the endeavours of the St Luke's Hall committee.

### Highways –HCC's Contractors

There are some jobs in and around Overton that have not been completed, namely repairing the B3400 haunches on

the corner opposite the farm entrance beyond Berrydown Court, the completion of the pavement re-tarring and re-levelling opposite the dry cleaners, providing setts on part of the roundabout within The Green to replace grass churned up by passing vehicles and making secure some granite setts and overcoming related puddling where the setts demarcate the boundary between the main highway and the area for parked cars in Winchester Street.

### Did you know?

That landowners are responsible for ensuring trees and hedges do not overhang roads or pavement, causing an obstruction to pedestrians or vehicles. If landowners do not take on this task, Hampshire County Council can clear obstructions and charge accordingly. In and around Overton this summer there have been many cases where a hedge or tree has obscured road signs and street names or forced pedestrians into the road or at least make them duck if they remain on the pavement. Many of the overhangs consist of brambles and are at eye level – it could be a costly business if someone decides to claim against a landowner if his or her eyesight is damaged by such overgrowth. With the darker evenings approaching, foliage around street lights becomes an issue and again it is the adjacent landowner who has the obligation to keep the lamp unmasked. Dead trees are also a hazard and need to be removed and clearing out ditches to help roadside surface water escape is again the responsibility of adjacent landowners and not the highway authority.

### Ashe Crossroads Telephone Kiosk

This was under threat of removal some months ago and BT has now written to advise that they intend to alter the kiosk from a payphone to a cashless payment phone. It has a very low usage but it is thought it may still be of use to the community. If you have any comments to make on this proposal you must submit them **by 30<sup>th</sup> August** to Rick Thompson, Project Liaison Officer, BT Payphones, PP 06A21, Delta Point, 35 Wellesley Road, Croydon, CR9 2YZ.

### Victory Celebrations September 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>

Tickets are available from the OMI from 1st August. Saturday or Sunday £2 each. A limited number of tickets are free for parishioners over 70. This includes lunch before the main events. Please enquire at the OMI or call Sue Berry ☎ 07957 431241.

### Do you live near the Station or use it?

There are ongoing discussions with Portals de La Rue (PDLR), the borough and county councils about parking near the station and the use of developers' contributions to upgrade Station Approach to adoptable standards. One imminent development is expected to be the closure by PDLR of the two thirds section of the overflow car park to

allow business units to be built there. Notices will be posted on the gates to warn car users. However, this will again put extra pressure for parking on Station Approach and as the village expands on neighbouring residential roads. The Parish Council can do nothing to regulate parking on Station Approach as it is privately owned by Network Rail. However, the Parish Council is considering seeking a full traffic management study by the borough council, who are now responsible for yellow lining of roads, of the Foxdown, Hilltop Road, Copse Road, Elm Road and Beech Close areas with a view to imposing day time parking restrictions, eg no parking between 12noon and 2pm. This would deter use of those streets by rail commuters. This has been successful in Whitchurch. If you have a view on this proposal please contact the parish clerk by mid August as it is expected to be an agenda item at the 23<sup>rd</sup> August Parish Council committee meeting.

### **Parking over Dropped Kerbs**

This was raised by a concerned disabled resident at the July Parish Council meeting and has been highlighted in this newsletter before. Whether in a wheelchair, using a walking stick and having trouble coping with kerbs or pushing a baby buggy, the provision of dropped kerbs to gain easy access to the roadway or footway is a godsend. Unfortunately, those provided around the village are often blocked by parked cars making access by the disabled etc very difficult, if not impossible. We know parking can be difficult but do please consider those folk who rely on dropped kerbs to undertake the tasks so many of us take so much for granted.

### **Overton Hill Housing Development**

Although the start date for the housing is still not known, or whether 60 or 99 properties will be built, the county council has been told that the work on the access road into the site, which was a separate planning application, is expected to start shortly. This will involve construction of a splay to provide the necessary sightlines for traffic exiting the development, a turn right filter lane westbound on B3400 and provision of a bus stop in each direction to serve both this development as well as Two Gate Meadow and The Green. The county council is concerned that 'unresponsive' temporary traffic lights could cause problems with backlogs at peak times especially if they impinge on the operation of the traffic lights at the Community Centre junction. They are seeking assurances that during peak periods the temporary lights are manned.

### **Sustainable Development Grants**

These will shortly be made available worth from £250 to £25,000 for a wide range of projects benefiting the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and those who work in, live in or visit it. Details available from [www.northwessexdowns.org.uk](http://www.northwessexdowns.org.uk) or by phoning Brian Langer (☎ 07818 417665) who represents Hampshire parishes on the AONB's Council of Partners.

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### **OVERTON ART GROUP**

*From Pat Hutchings.*

Annual Exhibition in the Recreation Centre from Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> to Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August. Open from 10am-8pm, 10am-6pm Monday. Admission free. Many paintings for sale.

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### **OVERTON PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB**

*From John Thomas.*

The Photographic Club opens its new season on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm. The club meets at Bridge Street Pavilion on most Friday evenings throughout the autumn and winter months and new members will be made very welcome.

The programme for the coming season includes a demonstration of digital imaging using Photoshop, visiting speakers on such subjects as landscapes, travel and natural history, steam trains, gentlemen from Victorian times, audio visual sequences, exploration of Melbourne & Sydney, pictorial history of the camera, a tour of Chile and various competitions.

For further information contact John Thomas ☎ 770348 or Ian McEvoy ☎ 780969. Website [www.overtonphotographicclub.org.uk](http://www.overtonphotographicclub.org.uk)

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### **POLICE NEWS**

*From PC Richard Baldwin, Overton Beat Officer.*

News of myself starting the Beat were unfortunately slightly premature, Police work always has a funny habit of getting in the way of things and I was unavoidably detained on my "Section Police work" (all 250sq miles). However I am pleased to announce that I officially started on 15<sup>th</sup> July. I will endeavour to make contact with you all individually ASAP - I can then put a face to the name and hopefully remember it on future occasions (its my age you see). I have stated publicly my affinity with Overton and its great community spirit and I look forward in working with you all to continue to make Overton a place to be proud to live and work in.

I am stationed at Whitchurch Police Station and can be contacted by mobile phone on **07776172303**, as always should you wish to report a crime or any other incident please call **0845 0454545**, or in the event of an emergency please call **999**.

Alternatively you can contact me by e-mail on [richard.baldwin@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:richard.baldwin@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)

### **POLICE WARNING**

Recently three local victims have been targetted by thieves, have had their Credit/debit Cards stolen at their place of work and soon after have been contacted by telephone by the thieves who pretend to be calling from the Police to advise them their cards have been stolen and they have caught the individuals responsible. These ruthless persons then ask for the PIN numbers for the cards which they say is in order to get the cards stopped, however what they are really doing or attempting to do is to empty that persons bank account.

Can I please let everybody know that the Police would **NEVER** require a Bank Card PIN number and under NO circumstances should anyone ever give out personal banking details over the telephone - especially if an "Agency" is calling you. My advice would be to end the call, dial 1471 to obtain the last telephone number that called you and then to call the Bank, the Police or the agency that were purportedly calling you in the first instance. If the caller is then proved to be bona fide then fine, however if the caller is Bogus - please alert the Police ASAP.

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## **OVERTON HARRIERS**

*From John Hoare.*

This years Overton 5 mile road race will be held on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. In conjunction with this will be a 2 ½ mile Fun Run and our normal series of childrens races within the confines of Overton Recreation Centre. The childrens races will start at 2.15pm and the Fun Run and 5 mile race at 3.00pm. Entries for the childrens 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 are available on our website [www.overtonharriers.org.uk](http://www.overtonharriers.org.uk) or from John Hoare ☎ 770489. Medals will be awarded to all competitors in the childrens races and Fun Run and mementoes to all finishers in the 5 mile race.

Again this year our race has been included in the Hampshire Road Race League and we are expecting a field in excess of 400 runners. So if you are not running please give your support to the athletes during the race.

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## **LAVERSTOKE AND FREEFOLK SENIOR CITIZENS**

*From Mady Oram, Chairman, ☎ 895396.*

On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March we held our first coffee morning in the Portals Sports and Social club where £410.17 was raised - a great success. May I thank everyone who gave cakes, raffle prizes and other goods for the various stalls, it is much appreciated and also for your support on the morning. Also a big thank you to all the committee. On Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July on an overcast day we boarded a coach to Newbury to have some lunch and a look round. We then set off to Kintbury and a horse drawn barge for a trip up the river. The sun came out and it was such a beautiful afternoon, so quiet and relaxing with Bonnie the horse pulling us along. The trip was about 2 hours in which time all the pensioners had afternoon tea with delicious homemade cakes. This was a really good day out which everyone enjoyed. We are now organising a Mystery Trip for the pensioners in September. Our next coffee morning will be held in the Portals Sports & Social Club on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 10am. We would love to see as many of you who can come and have a cup of coffee with us. Flyers will go out before this event for contributions of jumble, white elephant, produce, books etc. If there are any new people who have moved into Laverstoke or Freefolk recently and are eligible to join our club (62 years old and retired) please do give me a call, we would love to see you.

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## **TESTBOURNE NEWS**

*From Teresa Reynolds, Governor.*

### **Performing Arts Status**

Last month came the news that our bid for specialist status in the Performing Arts had been successful. This was the result of countless hours of hard work, bid writing and fund raising, and it was a great relief to hear that we were one of six LEA schools to be awarded specialist status in this round of bidding. 61 of the 71 secondary schools in Hampshire are now specialist schools and it is important that Testbourne shares in the benefits that this can bring in terms of funding, facilities and expertise. This would not have been possible without the generosity and fund-raising efforts of many members of the school and local community. Our thanks go to everyone who contributed to this magnificent effort.

From September additional **Learning Support Assistants** will be needed ~ full or part-time. If you are interested please send the school your details in writing and they will contact you.

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## **ST LUKE'S HALL UPDATE**

*From Chris Penney - Hon Secretary*

The first event for the St Luke's Hall Rebuild Fund - a live music evening with hog roast and bar, on 25<sup>th</sup> June - was a huge success. Thanks to the generosity of many sponsors from Overton, and everyone who joined in the fun, the net profit was £750 - which Overton Parish Council will now match pound for pound to give a grand total of £1,500 from one event.

At the 2005 AGM on 29<sup>th</sup> June, parishioners saw revised designs for the proposed new hall. These took into account many and varied recent suggestions, including those from existing and potential users. "Option 2" found most favour and a copy of this is now on display on the main village noticeboard. The Trustees will discuss these design ideas with B&DBC, to gauge their opinion, before having full plans drawn up for presentation to the village for a final decision at an EAGM in the autumn.

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## **ST MARY'S HALL**

**In Aid of the Refurbishment Fund.**

*From Mags Steward*

You are invited to **The Great Overton Duck Race** on Bank Holiday Monday (29<sup>th</sup> August) at Flashetts. Fun for all the family commences at 12-noon with races throughout the afternoon and The Grand Duck Race Final at 5pm. Fantastic prizes, stalls, BBQ and refreshments. Ducks will be on sale in advance from The Fireplace Shop, High Street and The Faraway Tree, High Street, £1 per duck per race. Entrance free. All proceeds to St Mary's Hall Refurbishment Fund.

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## **OVERTON CHORAL SOCIETY**

*From Lyn Hardy, Publicity Officer*

Those who were able to find time to practice and perform in the Anvil with Basingstoke Choral Society On Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July had a wonderful evening. Several members of the junior choirs said that they wanted very much to sing the whole of both the Te Deum and Carmina Burana and wanted to join Choral Societies. It is nice to hear that young people are interested in choral music. Members of OCS would like to thank Paul, our conductor, Nick, our accompanist and Diana, our secretary for sacrificing their precious time to help us through the rehearsals. OCS resumes on September 5<sup>th</sup> in St Mary's hall, Overton. Our first concert this new season will be to celebrate Trafalgar 200 and will be with Hannington Brass Band on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October in Overton Church. If anyone would like to join us please come to St Mary's Hall at 7:45 on Mondays. You are very welcome.

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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/61275** Erection of single storey rear extensions and a detached garage following demolition of existing at 11 Copse Road. No objection.

**BDB/61211** Erection of replacement pool house following demolition of existing at Upper Whitehill Farm. No objection.

**BDB/60835** Amendment to erection of single storey front and rear extension and erection of a chimney to rear elevation at 29 Poyntz Road. No objection.

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## LIBRARY NEWS

*From Chris Vane, Library Supervisor.*

During the school holidays there will be a "Complete & Colour the Picture" competition. There are two age groups - under 6 and 7 - 12 - and there will be prizes! Come and pick up a sheet soon. All entries must be back by 10<sup>th</sup> September. The Reading Voyage also ends on 10<sup>th</sup> September. The presentation of certificates will take place at special times throughout the summer. On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August there will be a session for under 10s. Called Pirate Fun, it runs from 2.15 - 3.15 and there will be stories and activities. Throughout August all our Videos and DVDs will be on special offer - 2 for 1

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## ARKLE LODGE NURSING HOME

### Summer Fayre

*From Sylvie Sintah and Jo Mas.*

August 7<sup>th</sup> 11am - 3pm. Entrance fee £3 adults - £1 children; includes a Bar-b-que. The afternoon includes Ice Creams, Raffle, Tombola, Cake Raffle, Cake and Plant Stalls, Bric-a-brac. Thank you in anticipation.

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## TRAFALGAR CELEBRATION

*From Colin Parker*

There will be a concert to commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7.45pm, in St Mary's Church, Overton.

The Overton Choral Society and the Hannington Silver Band will perform a programme with a nautical flavour. Tickets will go on sale in September from Paul the Barber's Shop in Winchester Street.

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## TIDDLERS

*From James Kater.*

Do you have a new baby, a toddler or a preschooler? Would you like to meet local parents, carers and their children? We are a friendly and welcoming parent run group that meet every Wednesday from 9.30 to 11.30 in the Freefolk and Laverstoke village hall. We have a range of equipment to suit children aged nought to five. There is a weekly craft activity, fruit and a drink for the children and teas and coffees for the adults. Come along and see for yourself or call Joanne ☎ 892216 for more info. Cost: £1, additional children 20p.

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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](mailto: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](mailto:john@hid.cc), or Vice Chairman Sarah Mills, e-mail [Sarahmills46@hotmail.com](mailto:Sarahmills46@hotmail.com) or Clerk to the Council Laura Harley, Oak Tree Lodge, Roundwood, Micheldever, Winchester, Hants. SO21 3BA, ☎ 01962 774186, email [opc@overtonvillage.org.uk](mailto:opc@overtonvillage.org.uk).

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## COMPUTER SKILLS

*From Kathleen, Aldworth Science College.*

The Community Office at the college has been running a computer course at the Overton Community Centre for some time now and a new term is due to start in September. We would like to encourage new students to join us.

**Computing for Beginners** (OCN) (Wordprocessing, Spreadsheets and Introduction to Internet and Email)

Date: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September: Time: 1pm - 3.30pm

Length: 10 weeks: Registration fee: £20 (per 10 weeks)

For further details contact - Kathleen or Clair at The Community Office, Aldworth Science College, Western Way, Basingstoke, RG22 6HA. ☎ 473698 or email [community.info@asc.hants.sch.uk](mailto:community.info@asc.hants.sch.uk)

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## DEADLINE NEWS & VIEWS

This will be 16<sup>th</sup> August. 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 RECREATION CENTRE

*From Debbie Tomlin, Membership Secretary*

Congratulations to M Dennison, the £500 winner and Charmaine Harrison, the £200 winner.

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## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

*From Public Transport Representative Brian Langer.*

### Buses

Late Summer Bank Holiday 29 August

It is expected that a Sunday service will operate on Stagecoach services 76/86.

Countywide Travel service 11 to Peter Symonds College (PSC) and Westgate School, Winchester.

This service will again operate on schooldays only for the autumn term but accommodation is limited and preference will be given to pre-booked passengers via 01256 780079.

Bus (from Basingstoke) departs Overton Community Centre at 0737 arriving PSC at 0805 and Westgate School 0808.

Return journeys dep Westgate school (Tues, Wed, Thurs) at 1505 and PSC at 1508 arriving Overton 1527, or (Mon and Fri only) dep Westgate school at 1535, PSC at 1538 arriving Overton 1557. A further bus leaves Westgate school Mon-Fri at 1638, PSC at 1642 arriving Overton at 1707.

### Trains

Late Summer Bank Holiday 29 August

South West Trains are expected to operate a Saturday service but, as engineering works often take place over holiday weekends, please check with 0845 7 48 49 50 for the most up to date details affecting your journey.