

Overton News and Views

www.overtonvillage.com

Issued by Overton Parish Council and distributed to Overton and Ashe, Laverstoke and Freefolk.
Information and Comment on Village Activities March 2007

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

From Parish Clerk Laura Harley and Councillor Brian Langer.

Parish Council Meetings

Taking place in the Community Centre

Wednesday 14 th March:	Public time	7.00pm
	Main meeting	7.30pm
Tuesday 27 th March:	Planning	7.30pm

The main Parish Council meeting takes place on the second Wednesday of each month starting at 7.30pm. **Please note that Public Time will now be held between 7pm and 7.30pm.**

Planning meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month (except December) starting at 7.30pm. The public is welcome to attend these meetings and may discuss any planning matters prior to the meeting from 7.30pm onwards. Agendas and planning applications are displayed on the events notice-board.

Deadline *Overton News & Views*

This will be 16th 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

Welcome Pack for New Residents

Are you new to the village? Would you like a Welcome Pack containing information about Overton? If so please contact the Clerk, 01962 774186.

Borough and Parish Council Elections

These will take place on 3rd May 2007. If you are interested in becoming a parish councillor, forms will be available either from Paula Chatterton at the borough council or from the Clerk. Nominations must be received by the borough council by 4th April 2007.

Street Lighting

Please report faulty street lights to 0800 506060 stating the street name and lamp column number.

Croudace Development

The new housing development will be known as Overton Hill and will be numbered sequentially in a clockwise direction. Show homes should have been open on the site from the end of February.

Parish Plan

The Parish Council has agreed to abandon the idea of the Parish Plan using the prescribed format presented by Community Action Hampshire and Hampshire County Council. It has been agreed to wait until after the elections to consider the way forward.

Hampshire Village of the Year

Overton Parish Council has decided not to enter the competition this year due to the likely change of councillors following the elections. It would like to support entering the competition in 2008 and is interested to hear from anyone who would be prepared to coordinate the application which is usually available in January.

Grants

The Parish Council sets aside a sum of money each year which is available to fund activities and equipment for clubs and societies either within the parish or outside the parish and serving the people of Overton. From 1st April 2007, applicants will be required to complete a short application form and these will be available from the Clerk from the end of March 2007.

The Parish Council is also considering setting aside a sum of money each year to sponsor individual young people towards achieving their goals. More information on this will be available in a future edition of *Overton News and Views*.

Annual Parish Meeting for Overton

This is advance notice that the Annual Parish Meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 18th April 2007 in St Mary's Hall. It is hoped that this will be an informal social event with a couple of brief presentations about pertinent Overton matters and an opportunity for people to see progress with the St Mary's Hall garden. More details will be available in the April edition of *Overton News and Views*. This is a public meeting and anyone from Overton can attend – so please come along.

Logo for Overton

A number of organisations in the village already have a logo – the school, the Sheepfair and the Village Design Statement – but should we have an overarching logo that represents Overton as a whole? It could contain fish (as most of them do) the river, sheep, a roll of banknotes, a motto or some other representation of the parish. If you have some ideas or could draw something up for the Parish Council, please contact the Clerk.

Parking on Grass Verges

We have received a complaint from a parishioner about cars parking on the grass verges around the village and making an unsightly mess. Car owners do not have a right to park on the highway verges and should seek approval from Hampshire County Council if they wish to do so. The county council reserves the right to hold any transgressor liable for reinstatement costs if the verges are damaged.

Vandalism at the Station

It is not the first time the station has suffered mindless vandalism but during February several windows were broken at the waiting shelter. Monitoring unsavoury activities at the station is not easy as no residential properties overlook the site and the nearby business units are not in use out of office hours. De La Rue's mill, with its 24

hour a day working, overlooks the site but it would be a matter of luck if someone looked out of window just as the vandalism occurred. Nevertheless, if anyone does notice anything suspicious please call the British Transport Police on 0800 40 50 40 or the Hampshire Police on 0845 045 45 45 and ask them to inform BTP.

Overton Hill extension of 30mph limit

The Parish Council understands that HCC will be extending the 30 mph zone eastwards to where the new street lights finish. All street lit roads are assumed by highway law to be 30 mph zones unless signed to the contrary. What length will remain at 40 mph remains to be seen.

Local Speed Limits

The recently formed Hampshire Action Teams are hoping to make a difference to Local Speed Limits by commissioning a public attitude survey to assess the acceptability of lower speed limits and stronger enforcement to achieve compliance against current limits. Despite constant requests from the Parish Council to reduce the speed limits on all the approach roads into Overton, this has never been achieved because the inherent speed of the traffic is already in excess of the existing speed limits. Hopefully this initiative will look at educating the motorist and will eventually lead to the reduction in speed limits that the parish is hoping for. If anyone has any views on the subject of local speed limits, please contact the Clerk.

Graffiti Box

The Parish Council now holds a "graffiti box" full of noxious chemicals for the removal of small areas of graffiti around the parish. If you spot any graffiti, please contact the Clerk.

Potholes

These are repaired by limited patching after being notified to the county council. Unfortunately, without costly digging out and resealing, the problem often soon recurs. Roads such as Woodlands and Hilltop Road currently have such a problem but will be dealt with.

Roadside Drain Covers

Some recent heavy downpours have left these covered in silt, grit etc and incapable of taking the water flow they are supposed to deal with. The top cover 'seal' is considered litter and is the responsibility of the borough council to clear but parked cars often prevent the sweeper from clearing the drain on its periodic visits to Overton. If the drain is actually blocked then it is the county council's responsibility to clear it! So if you see a drain covered with silt etc give it a poke with a stick to clear it and allow water to pass through the next time it rains – it may help prevent water penetration to a property along the street. Thank you.

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/65187 Erection of summer house following demolition of existing at 4 Copse Road. No objection.

BDB/65170 Erection of a two storey side extension at Bramdown House, Burley Lane. No objection.

BDB/65218 Erection of rear conservatory at 54A Waltham Road. No objection.

BDB/65214 Change of house type to allow the replacement of a rooflight with a dormer window and the insertion of two additional roof lights to the north east elevation (amendment to condition 6 of BDB 59355) on land adjacent to Rose Cottage, 4 The Orchard. No objection.

BDB/65242 Insertion of new windows and doors with internal alterations to existing front porch at 19 Poultons Road. No objection.

TESTBOURNE NEWS

Teresa Reynolds, Governor.

Snow

February has been a tough month, with many pupils and staff battling with seasonal illnesses. On one day a peak of 128 out of 762 pupils were absent through illness. The school did however, stay open on the day of the snow, and snowball fun was had on the field.

Shakespeare in Schools

A team of Year 10 pupils presented a thirty-minute performance of *The Tempest* at The Corn Exchange in Newbury, as part of the national Shakespeare in Schools Festival. This has helped Year 9 pupils who are studying *The Tempest* for their SATs in May.

New minibus

The Parents', Teachers' and Friends' Association has been raising funds for a (nearly) new minibus for the school over the past three years and, having reached the target, a minibus has been acquired.



Many thanks to the PTFA for its efforts.

Date for your diary

Following the success of the last evening event the PTFA is holding a Pamper Day (Ladies over 15 only) on Saturday 28th April. There will be a range of treatments to spoil yourself with. Entry is £5 (£4 in advance from the school) and includes light refreshments. If you are interested in providing a stall or treatment contact Gill Mackenzie on 01264 352252.

2ND OVERTON BROWNIE PACK

Michelle Le'Warne

We are a happy Brownie pack meeting on Tuesdays 5.30~7pm at Town Meadow hut. We enjoy all sorts of activities and learn a lot about our environment and our rights! We have a trip planned in March to Overton Library to find out how the library works, this will mean that the Brownies will get their Booklovers badge! It will be the final part to one of the Right to badges we are working on. Last year we learned to peel vegetables and fruit and about what food does to our bodies. This all led to the Brownies getting their cooks badges. We had a great summer party and had to have the party indoors with the fans going as it was so hot - hard to believe at the moment! Also in the summer some of our Brownies were lucky enough to go on Brownie camp with one of the Whitchurch Brownie packs and they had a great time. During the year we collected items for the shoe box scheme and learned about where the

boxes were going, which made us all very grateful that we live where we do. We then ended the year with a lovely Christmas party at the Honey Pot restaurant in Overton and Father Christmas put in an appearance and gave us all presents so as you can see we have lots of fun. Call 770454 to find out more.

DAFFODIL SUPPER AND MUSIC

Jane MacKenzie

Another delicious three course meal will be served and followed by a musical medley from Paul Holmes and his merry musicians. The supper raised £570 including donations last year and this year's will be in aid of Cancer Research and MacMillan Nurses again. Saturday 14th April at the Methodist Chapel starting at 7pm. Tickets £8.50 from Pickwicks. Please come and enjoy yourself! If you have a raffle prize to donate please contact 771121.



OVERTON DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Jill Smith

Spring Sale

This will be taking place on Saturday 31st March at St Mary's Hall, from 10am - noon. Entrance fee of 50p includes coffee. There will be all the usual bric a brac, and tickets will be on sale for our next show "**Day of Reckoning**". All sale profits will go towards Testbourne-Mityana 2007.

"**Day of Reckoning**" is a comedy by Pam Valentine. It starts as the summer fête committee meets on a cold January night to discuss arrangements for that year's fête. As committee protocol gives way to bickering and gossip, we begin to see the personalities of those present and much innuendo abounds, especially around the vicar who enjoys more than his share of the communion wine. It is later in the play that the secrets and hidden agendas of these ordinary people unravel.

The play runs from Wednesday 2nd - Saturday 5th May at St Mary's Hall, 7.30pm for 7.45 curtain-up. Tickets, priced at £6 and £4.50 concessions, will be on sale from 2nd April at the Faraway Tree, High Street. Tel 770333.

LIBRARY NEWS

Chris Vane, Library Supervisor.

A planning application relating to the library was posted recently. The internal door will be widened and the new door will have glazed panels and buttons for automatic opening, which should make access easier and safer.

Those of you who hire DVDs and videos will know that we have run out of display space - so during March we will have a sale of deleted items to make room for the new items which come here on a regular basis.

OVERTON CRICKET CLUB

Simon Trott

Indoor Nets

We are currently holding Indoor Nets at the Dummer Cricket Centre. Due to popular demand we have increased the number of nets required which has meant changing to Monday nights, 7pm to 8pm. These are proving a real

success and a lot of fun, at only £2 per person. The sessions are open to all so if you are interested in joining the cricket club this is a great place to start.

Race Night

We are hosting a Race Night 29th June at St Mary's Hall. Tickets are £5 which includes a ploughman. Contact Andy Wake on 771042 or racenight@overtoncricket.com, or visit our website for more information.

Club Kit

We are very close to finalising our Club Playing Kit Range for 2007. The range will include both junior and senior sizes. More information will be available very soon. To keep up to date with all the latest news and events don't forget to visit our website at www.overtoncricket.com

What's On

- 16 March** St Mary's Hall
7.30pm Moviola – The Queen (12A) *
- 24 March** St Mary's Hall
7.30pm London Philharmonic Skiffle Orchestra plus supper
- 27 March 6.30pm - 7.30pm** Community Centre
Allotment Holder's Meeting
- 29 March** Community Centre
7.30pm Parish Wildlife Plan Meeting
- 30 March** starting at Community Centre
7.15pm CAMRA Beer Bus (phone Bob Edwards 771634 to book)
- 31 March** St Mary's Church
Overton Choral Society Easter Concert
- 31 March** St Mary's Hall
10am ODS Spring Sale

* Please note that, by popular request, the film to be shown on 16th March is **The Queen (12A)** tickets £4.50 from Overton Fireplaces or £5 on the door. Tickets also available for the **London Philharmonic Skiffle Orchestra** (£10 including supper) from Overton Fireplaces.

If your club or society has a programme of events that is open to the wider community – why not forward it to the Clerk and it will be included in the monthly 'What's On'. Please remember to put all events into the Website Diary on www.overtonvillage.com.

LITTLE TOTS MONTESSORI NURSERY SCHOOL

Julie Torrible

We are now open until 3pm on Mondays and Fridays and in the afternoons have been experimenting in science with magnetism, floating and sinking, absorption and movement. Our project this term is transport, some of you may have spotted us armed with clip boards one Friday doing a traffic survey in the middle of Overton. In just half an hour, 142 cars, 40 vans, 14 lorries, 2 bikes, 2 buses and an ambulance were recorded by some very enthusiastic children! The next week we went for a short ride in 2 black taxi cabs. We have made hot air balloons, cars and trains as well as learnt many transport songs and enjoyed some old favourites.

A quick progress report from the garden, the daffodils are up, and we are hoping they will be in flower for mothering Sunday but that rather depends on the weather. Whilst on

the subject of weather, we were one of the few schools open on that snowy day, and the children had fantastic fun building a snow man.

If you would like more information about Little Tots Montessori Nursery school or would like to come and visit please ring Brenda on 07786 294574.

OVERTON CHORAL SOCIETY

Lyn Hardy

Our Spring term started with rehearsals for our Come and Sing Mozart on March 31st in St Mary's Church and our contribution to the Winchester & County Music Festival in Romsey Abbey. We have had more new members join us. Forms are available if singers wish to join us on March 31st. We will rehearse during the afternoon, prior to the concert, and will provide refreshments for all. Young soloists are invited to join us and if they would like to contact me lyn_hardy@hotmail.com ☎ 397507, I will pass your details to our Conductor, Paul Timms. Or he can be emailed direct on pianokeys267@btinternet.com

OVERTON PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP

Diane Wildash

We are thrilled to have been selected by the North Hampshire early education unit to help pilot a scheme in raising children's awareness of technology. The early education unit has equipped Overton Pre-school with a range of ICT resources which the children are currently enjoying. The ICT package includes a laptop computer with a selection of educational software, as well as various musical instruments, programmable/remote control devices, walkie talkies and best of all, a karaoke machine. For further enquiries and information on available places, please contact the play leader, Amanda Igo, ☎ 770370.

OVERTON BIODIVERSITY SOCIETY

Jane MacKenzie

Interested in Overton's Wildlife? Please come along on Thursday 29th March at 7.30 to Overton Community Centre and find out how you can help produce a "Parish Wildlife Plan" for Overton.

There will be a speaker from Hampshire Wildlife Trust talking about the wildlife of NW Hampshire as well as displays on our recently completed tree survey, watervole survey and information boards. The evening will finish with

a very short AGM followed by the usual homemade refreshments and chatting! Members 50p. Non members £1.

Sunday 6th May - official opening of Little Meadow. Community picnic from 12.30 and Grand Opening at 2pm by Kath Doyle, the founding chair of the society. If it's sunny you can check out the human sundial, hunt for more Stone Age flints or look for another shepherd's crown (sea urchin fossil). Fun activities for the whole family.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Sue Carter, Admin Officer

School staff would like to remind dog walkers that they MUST clear up after their dogs. The path outside school has been getting more and more fouled over the last few weeks and this is unpleasant for children, parents and staff (especially the school carpets!)

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Public Transport Representative Brian Langer.

Buses

Service 76/86

It has been confirmed that services 76/86 will operate to a different schedule once the roadworks on the A34 at Whitchurch have been completed in March. Watch the local ~~press~~ notices in buses for the precise date. TT3 1 (de s 1 Tf-,st)4(ap