

# 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 2008

## PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

### Parish Council Meetings

#### Taking place in the Community Centre

Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March:	Public time	7.00pm
	Main meeting	7.30pm
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> 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 will be 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.

### Have your Say

Thank you to everyone who 'Had Their Say' in the recently circulated questionnaire. We received 220 responses from the village and 80 from the primary school. The questionnaires have all been analysed and the Parish Council is now considering what actions to take from the information so that a long term strategy can be drawn up for the parish. Here is some general feedback:

- People are very worried about road safety and there is large support for a pedestrian or zebra crossing probably located at the traffic lights and for the speed of cars to be reduced to 20mph and for more speed enforcement.
- Most people would prefer to see no more development for the village except for small pockets of social housing and are generally concerned that the existing infrastructure could not cope with many more people.
- People think that parking in Winchester Street should be restricted and that people who park in the village all day should use the Overton Hill car park.
- Most people recycle at least 50% of their rubbish and many people would like to see more recycling facilities including composting.
- The village is generally considered to be tidy with credit for this being given in some part to Stuart and Steve who work for the parish council and borough council respectively.

### Core Strategy Consultation

The results of the Have your Say consultation will help formulate the Parish Council's responsibility to the Core Strategy Consultation. This will be used to produce the Local Development Framework that will assist in planning housing in the borough council until 2026. The consultation period closes on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2008 – and if you are interested

in making a response, please contact the Forward Planning team at the borough council on 844884 or log onto [www.basingstoke.gov.uk](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk).

### St Mary's Hall News

There are two films left in the Moviola Spring season. To get you into the mood for the Regency theme of the Sheepfair, there is 'The Jane Austen Book Club, (12A) on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March, then 'Into the Wild' (15) on 4<sup>th</sup> April. The films start at 7.30pm and tickets are available from the Fireplace Shop at £4.50 or £5 on the door.

### Murder Mystery

Come along to the ~Murder Mystery Evening on 15<sup>th</sup> March. 'Life's Lottery' is set in a school – so fancy dress in a school theme is encouraged but not compulsory. The evening includes a three course meal and there will be a cash bar available on the night. Tickets are £12 from the Fireplace Shop.

### News and Views Editor

The Parish Council has received several expressions of interest in the post for *News and Views* Editor. If you are interested in contributing towards village life by compiling and editing the Parish Council newsletter and keeping the [overtonvillage.com](http://overtonvillage.com) website up to date, then please contact the Clerk by 14<sup>th</sup> March. This is a paid post which takes about 10 hours a month.

### Recycle your Green Waste

If you wish to compost your green waste, Basingstoke and Deane residents can purchase cut-price home compost bins from only £8 including delivery – either through the website [www.recyclenow.com/compost](http://www.recyclenow.com/compost) or by calling 0845 077 0757 and quoting HCA1. For bulkier items, which may not compost at home, the council provides a garden waste collection service, using sacks. The 2008 service commences on 22<sup>nd</sup> March - sign up through [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/greenwaste](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/greenwaste) or by calling 01256 844844. Residents can take bulky garden waste to their local Household Waste Recycling Centre.

### Deadline Overton News & Views

This will be 16<sup>th</sup> March. Please send your articles to the editor in writing, (typed) or by e-mail. The email address is [NewsandviewsRG25@aol.com](mailto:NewsandviewsRG25@aol.com)

### Overton Welcome Packs

Have you just moved to the village – or do you know someone who has?

What you need is an Overton Welcome Pack – full of useful information about the village – please contact the Clerk.

### Overton Parish Council Grants

Every year the Parish Council makes a number of grants to clubs and societies within the village. This year all applications for grants must be made on the (simple)

application form available from the Clerk. The deadline for receiving applications is 31<sup>st</sup> July for consideration at the August Parish Council meeting.

### **Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC)**

HWRCs are licensed to accept household waste only – and from 14<sup>th</sup> February improved methods of trade waste controls will be enforced as follows:

- Trade waste is normally brought to sites in commercial-type vehicles. Any householder using a commercial vehicle to carry domestic waste to a HWRC will need to apply for a permit. These are available by calling Hantsdirect on 0845 6035634 or visiting [www.hants.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.hants.gov.uk/recycling). Household users using cars do not need to apply for a permit.
  - After 14<sup>th</sup> February 2008, trailers with a carrying capacity over 1.8m x 1.2m (6ft x 4ft) will no longer be able to access HWRCs.
  - Household users will only be able to deposit the equivalent of half a car boot full of soil, rubble and other DIY waste at HWRC once a month.
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### **7TH GRAND OVERTON LITTER PICK**

The Overton Action Group is holding its annual Litter Pick on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March, meeting in the Community Centre car park at 10am. Roads, footpaths and verges within the parish boundary need a clean.

Villagers can volunteer anything from 30 minutes to two hours. All are welcome.

Refreshments will be available afterwards in the Fireplace Shop.

For further information, contact Peter Baker on 770007.

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### **POLICE NEWS**

*PC Richard Baldwin*

#### Overton Train Station car park

Please be aware that a car was recently stolen from the Overton Railway Station car park and two other cars had items stolen from them.

If you park your car in either of the two car parks (main or overflow), please do not leave any valuables on show. If your car is fitted with a security device – please use it. Local Police have stepped up their patrols in the area in an effort to deter any further offences being committed.

If you see anyone acting suspiciously in the area please call Hampshire Police immediately on 0845 045 45 45. **If your car is damaged or broken into up at the station please report it to the British Transport Police on 0800 40 50 40.**

#### Pubwatch

February saw the re-launch of the Overton Pubwatch scheme with members from all local Public Houses in attendance.

A “ring round” service was re-formatted which enables each member of the Overton Pubwatch a communication link to every Public House in the area.

During the meeting a new Chairperson was elected and it was decided to hold further meetings in the event of any person(s) misbehaving in any local pub.

An incident of bad behaviour within any of the Pubwatch premises could lead to an individual receiving a lengthy ban

from ALL pubs and off-licences in Overton, Freefolk & Laverstoke.

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### **FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS AND ART**

*Sheila Boreham*

Following the success of the previous flower festival, St Mary's Church is holding another to coincide with the Sheep Fair weekend. 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> July. This year there will be a theme of “The Greatest Story Ever Told” stories from the bible depicted in flowers. If anyone would like to take part - either a single display or a combined club or organisational effort you would be very welcome. There will also be a Memorial Corner listing names of loved ones. Should anyone like to have the name of a family member or friend added this can be done for a small donation.

For further details and information please contact Sheila Boreham 771981.

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### **TENNIS CLUB**

*Joy MacGregor*

Our first Club night of the Summer season is on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April from 6pm until dusk. Prospective members will be made very welcome, just turn up with your racquet and enjoy a game or two. We meet on Tuesday and Thursday evenings throughout the Summer and have several teams in the Basingstoke & District Tennis League. For further details, ring Bob Pallister on 770643.

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### **WORK AT COMMUNITY CENTRE**

*Paula Baker, Chair, Overton Community Assocn*

Refurbishment of the Centre is underway! New lavatories and a new side entrance are the first phase. Work will last until June. Activities at the Centre will carry on as usual. We are trying to keep disruption to a minimum and hope that visitors to the Centre will bear with us, it'll be lovely when it's finished! The contractors need to use the forecourt, so only essential OCA parking, please. Any comments or questions, please contact me on 771219 or Brenda Shelbourn on 770061.

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### **YOUTH COUNCIL**

*Teresa Reynolds*

Hampshire County Youth Council (HCYC) is a group of

There will also be a (brief!) AGM and an update on progress with the Parish Biodiversity Plan.

The evening will finish with refreshments, a selection of delicious home made cakes and the opportunity to chat to representatives of HART Wildlife and OBS about wildlife issues.

All are welcome to what will be a very enjoyable evening.

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## **TESTBOURNE NEWS**

*Teresa Reynolds, Governor.*

### **English Department Excels**

The English Department has an excellent record of success and this year is no exception. We have recently been able to access a detailed breakdown of our 2007 results, showing how much progress our pupils made between Key Stages.

This is known as our CVA - or Contextual Value Added – score and compares our pupils to pupils in similar contexts.

The figures show that the English department is in the top 5% nationally for the progress their pupils make between coming into the school in Year 7 and leaving in Year 11.

This is a tremendous achievement and also provides pupils with essential skills for the future.

### **Situations Vacant and Help Needed**

We have paid vacancies for Examination Invigilators and are also looking for volunteers who would be willing to sit on admissions appeals panels. Please contact Mary Soper on 892061 for more information.

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## **OVERTON SOCIETY**

*Sue Carter*

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We will be now looking for a suitable venue and to create a programme of events. Any help or suggestions please contact Terry on 770004 or Bob on 771634.

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## OVERTON GARDEN SOCIETY

*Joy MacGregor*

A treat is in store for garden lovers this month when the speaker is lively writer and broadcaster John Negus talking about "Effective Use of Colour".

This will be at 8pm in the Community Centre on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March - visitors made very welcome.

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## LIBRARY NEWS

*Chris Vane, Library Supervisor.*

The talk in the library is still on 11<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm, but the subject has changed. Unfortunately the original speaker is no longer available. Instead we're welcoming Mark Helyar, and his subject is **INDIAN TIME** – "Climb into a pressure cooker with a dozen people and a radio. Raise the temperature, pump up the volume and take a deep breath. That's India: hot, noisy, crowded... and the most fantastical country imaginable." Colleagues who have heard Mark's talks say that we're very lucky to have secured such a good replacement, so if you haven't booked your place already (tickets are £4), please ask at the library very soon – space is limited!

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## OVERTON PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

*Sally Sellwood*

In February we had our annual review with 2 teaching advisors from HCC Early Education and Childcare Unit. We are pleased to say that we received the highest marks possible both at the community centre and at the school, and are rated as "outstanding" at both our settings. This is a fantastic achievement for Amanda and the team and builds on their Ofsted success last year. It is also a testament to the fact that the team are always thinking about how to develop and improve the Playgroup to ensure that our children have the best possible start.

Also in February the children have enjoyed the spell of sunny weather and had a lot of outside play. A group of parents have been sprucing up the garden at the community centre and building a bug hotel to encourage more wild life into the garden.

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## OVERTON CHORAL SOCIETY

*Lyn Hardy*

Comments and contributions for *Overton 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, please contact:

<b>Parish Council Chairman</b>	Alan Whitney	770174	e-mail <a href="mailto:alan-whitney@hotmail.co.uk">alan-whitney@hotmail.co.uk</a>
<b>Vice Chairman</b>	Lucy Sloane Williams	770607	e-mail <a href="mailto:lucysloanewilliams@btinternet.com">lucysloanewilliams@btinternet.com</a>
<b>Parish Councillors</b>			
Maggie Atkins	770369	Brian Langer	770848 Transport and Highways Rep
Mark Attwell	770472	David Llewellyn	773004
Peter Baker	770007	Paula Baker	771219 also Borough Councillor
Tony Leach	772020	Ian Tilbury	771429 also Borough Councillor
Jacky Lessware	773043	Zoë Taylor	770146

**Clerk to the Council** is Laura Harley, Oak Tree Lodge, Roundwood, Micheldever, Winchester, Hants. SO21 3BA, ☎ 01256 771919, e-mail [opc@overtonvillage.com](mailto:opc@overtonvillage.com)

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Come and Sing Haydn's Creation on Saturday March 8<sup>th</sup> in St Mary's Church. The session starts with a rehearsal for singers and orchestra in the afternoon followed by a break and then a full performance concert in the evening. For a form please email [lyn\\_hardy@hotmail.com](mailto:lyn_hardy@hotmail.com)  
OCS meet on Monday at 7:45pm in St Mary's Hall and we give a warm welcome to any one who would like to join us.

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## LAVERSTOKE & FREEFOLK PARISH COUNCIL

*Avril Lloyd, exiting clerk*

The Parish Council is open to grant requests which are seen as beneficial to the community. To make a request please write to:

Rachel Abbott, Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Clerk, 7 New Barn Farm Cottages, Hurstbourne Priors, Whitchurch, RG28 7RU. Grant applications will be considered at the next meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> March at 8pm at Portals Sports and Social Club in Laverstoke.

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## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

*Public Transport Representative Brian Langer.*

### Easter weekend services

#### **Buses**

Friday 21 March and Monday 24 March- a Sunday service will be operated by Stagecoach:

Saturday 22 (Stagecoach and Burghfield Mini Coaches) and Sunday 23 March (Stagecoach)- normal service

#### **Trains**

Major engineering work taking place in the Clapham Junction area all weekend will affect services to and from Overton. You are advised to call 0845 7 48 49 50 for precise timings or refer to [www.southwesttrains.co.uk](http://www.southwesttrains.co.uk) website.

### National Bus Pass for the over 60s

Basingstoke & Deane BC is offering this as a concessionary fares option, effective 1 April 2008, the other option being tokens which can be used in the borough for train tickets/passes and taxis. As the new bus pass will be useable throughout the country some parishioners have questioned whether they would be allowed to travel weekdays before 9.30am which is the "start time restriction" which other local authorities apply to existing bus passes. BDBC officers have assured me that the pass will be valid before 9.30am irrespective of whether your journey is totally within BDBC boundaries or terminates outside those boundaries, eg in Andover or Winchester.

