

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

May 2008

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Parish Council Meetings

Taking place in the Community Centre

Wednesday 14 th May:	Public time	7.00pm
	Main meeting	7.30pm
Tuesday 27 th May:	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.

New Editor for Overton News & Views

This is the last edition to be edited by Teresa Reynolds who has undertaken the task for 12 years.

News items in future should be addressed to Chris Penney, 7 Batten's Avenue, E-mail OvertonNewsViews@aol.com
The deadline is 16th May for the June edition.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting for Overton will take place at 7.45pm on Tuesday 13th May in St Luke's Hall. It has been agreed to discuss issues arising from the Have Your Say questionnaire and will centre on traffic and road issues around the parish. A representative from Hampshire County Council will be attending to inform parishioners of how the S106 monies (contributions from the developers of the new houses at Overton Hill and Foxdown) will be spent on the roads around Overton. It is also hoped to discuss Speed Indicator Devices and how to develop a 'Roads Policy' for Overton. The evening will finish with a light buffet and glass of wine. This should be an informative evening with some lively debate – all parishioners are welcome to attend – so please come along.

Footpath 4 – Flashetts

The Hampshire County Council Rights of Way Team has erected a post and rail fence on the Flashetts footpath in order to restrict access to horse riders. A sign will be erected at the Kingsclere Road end confirming to users that it is a public footpath for walkers only. It is hoped that riders will take note of these measures and cease to use the path.

Moviola – Summer Season

The summer season of films kicks off with 'The Kite Runner' on Friday 16th May. "Definitely Maybe" will be shown on Friday 13th June and 'There Will Be Blood' on 4th July. All films start at 7.30pm. Tickets are available from the Fireplace Shops for £5.00 or on the door for £5.50.

POLICE REPORT

PC Baldwin

BEAT UPDATE - March 2008

I am pleased to report our lowest monthly crime rate since July 2006, the Overton Beat only had **eleven** recorded crimes for the long month of March.

Out of the NINE Police beats that make up the Basingstoke Rural area, we had the 2nd lowest crime rate for the month.

Year to date figures

January	13 (compared to 19 in 2007)
February	12 (compared to 16 in 2007)
March	11 (compared to 18 in 2007)
TOTAL	36 (Compared to 53 in 2007)

Reported Crime

Overton = 184 crimes (down 30.6%)

Assaults/Public Disorder

Overton = 41 crimes (down by 24.1%)

Criminal Damage

Overton = 66 crimes (down by 17.5%)

Vehicle Crime

Overton = 22 crimes (down by 40.5%)

House Burglary

Overton = 6 crimes (down by 50%)

BEAT SURGERY

A regular Police surgery is held in the Parish Office, St Mary's Hall, High Street (see local press or Parish Notice board for details):

Overton Pubwatch

The Overton Pubwatch Association held an emergency meeting on the 9th April to discuss an incident that occurred in a local licensed premises. A unanimous decision was made to ban a local man from every participating pub in the area for a period of 6 months, followed by a 12 month probationary period.

It was made clear at the meeting by all the publicans that they will not tolerate any violence or the threat of violence towards either customers or staff in their premises.

OVERTON BIODIVERSITY SOCIETY.

Ken MacKenzie (Chair, Overton Biodiversity Society)

Overton Biodiversity Action Plan Community Event.

Are you interested in Overton's wildlife? If so, we'd like to invite you to a community wildlife event on Saturday 24th May starting at 12.30 in the Community Centre.

We'll begin with a sandwich and soup lunch followed by an overview of Overton's wildlife habitats, then split into groups to look at habitat maps of the parish and to identify and make comments about interesting areas.

We'd like to make a photographic record of all the major wildlife areas in the parish so we'll finish off the afternoon by allocating areas to different groups. Weather permitting, we'll try to make a start on taking the photos so bring along a digital camera if you have one! For more information please ring 771121

OVERTON REGENCY SHEEPFAIR 2008

Sandy Sykes, Secretary

E-mail: OvertonSheepfair@aol.com or telephone 771233.

Closing Procession. This has played a major part in the enjoyment and success of previous Sheepfair weekends for Overtonians and their friends. Although it is the Overton Regency Sheepfair this year, as far as the procession is concerned we will accept any theme and any style of fancy dress. Entries can be in the form of floats, walking groups, or individuals - so why not join us and help to make the 2008 Procession the best ever? It will start from Sapley Lane Playing Field at 4pm on Sunday 20th July and full details will be given nearer the time.

If you are considering entering, it will help greatly with organising the event if you can let us know as soon as possible, please.

Associated Events during Sheepfair week

We already know about several other village events - such as the ODS play. If you are also arranging an associated event, and can let us know **urgently**, we'll try to include details in the Souvenir Programme which goes to print in mid-May.

Grand Prize Draw and Programme Sales.

Please could you spare just one hour at a time to help on any Saturday morning in May, June or July - and/or during the Sheepfair weekend itself (19th/20th July)? If you can help, and you are aged 18 or over, please let us know. Thank you.

OVERTON SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Nicky Cotterill

Overton School Association would like to thank all those parents who helped at the Easter School Discos and everyone who came along to the Easter Trail. It was a successful morning and we would like to make it an annual event.

Overton School Fête

The school fete will be held on Saturday 7th June 2008. There will be side stalls, BBQ, children's attractions, farm animals, car boot sale, raffle, displays in the main arena and lots more. Please come along and enjoy the fun. If anyone is interested in booking a slot for the car boot sale please telephone Nicky Cotterill on 770958 or if you would like to run your own side stall/ help on a stall please contact Naomi Conneely on 773207.

NAOMI HOUSE Tea @ 3

Pat Bain

This year, the Basingstoke Fundraising Committee for Naomi House has decided to hold the Tea @ 3 event during the Sheepfair. This will take place in St Mary's Hall garden from 10 till 6 on both days, so we are looking for anyone who could lend a hand in the kitchen, serving teas or collecting crockery in the garden. So if you feel you could spare a little time, and help raise funds for your local children's hospice, please contact Pat Bain on 771433. The more volunteers, the more we can spread the workload and all enjoy the rest of the weekend's activities. Even if you feel that your domestic skills preclude you from donning your pinny, then please come and support us anyway.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please note that letters can only be printed if contributors are prepared to put their names to them.

Lambing Weekend

Despite the changeable weather we raised £1450 for the NSPCC at the Northington Farm Lambing weekend.

We would like to extend our most grateful thanks to Mr and Mrs Crosbie Dawson for allowing us to hold this event on their farm for the eleventh year.

We would also like to thank Mr and Mrs Coates for the use of their field for parking, all the other volunteers who helped us in so many ways and everyone who came.

Sue Bobin and Inge Hunter.

Children's Society Theatre-Romeo & Juliet

The Original Theatre Company is coming to Overton on Saturday 21st June to perform Shakespeare's R & J, an adaptation by Joe Calarco, which was first performed in the West End in 2003. This production will be performed in a lakeside setting at Turrill House, Southington.

The gardens will be open for picnics from 6pm and the performance starts at 7.45pm. Tickets available from Overton Fireplaces, or Melanie Prater 01635 291341.

Garden Open Days

The Gardens will be open on Wednesday 11th June and Sunday 15th June in aid of the NE Hants branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association at Turrill House, Southington, Overton from 2 to 6pm. Entrance: Adults £2.50 Children free. Teas and Plant Sales.

No dogs - Bring wellies if wet!

For further information phone 01276 447399 or 07798 891223. Please come and support the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

Hilary Bridgeman.

Overton Garden Society

We are holding our Annual Plant Sale on Saturday 24th May in the Community Centre car park from 9am.

Marion Lambert.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

Brian & Margaret Wheeler

The annual house to house collection will take place 11th - 17th May. Christian Aid works with partners in over 60 of the world's poorest countries, responding to disasters and "fighting" dire poverty, regardless of race or creed.

Whilst we are concerned at the price of fuel, and look to bio-fuels as part of the solution, millions are hungry because they cannot afford the global increase in the price of cereals and rice - or lack clean water because of drought or floods. Christian Aid considers these as the most important issues for action today - for those in need and for the future of everyone, including our children. We thank you for your support, which has always been generous.

PLANT SALE

Saturday 31st May 10am-1pm

on the drive at Elmdale House, Southington. In aid of St Mary's Church. Bedding plants, perennials and shrubs, herbs and loads more. *Enquiries: Diana Hughes 770338.*

TESTBOURNE NEWS

Teresa Reynolds, Governor.

Come To Our Mityana May Ball

We are holding a May Ball on Saturday 10th May to raise funds for this year's visit to Mityana, our twin school in Uganda. Pupils have to raise £1,000 each towards the trip and this is one of their fund-raising ventures. It promises to be an excellent evening, with a local band and bar. Parties may bring their own food if they wish. Tickets for this adult only event cost just £10. So please come along for an enjoyable evening and support this good cause in the process. Tickets are available from Miss Kinsey at school (892061) and you can find more details about the project on www.testbourne-mityana.co.uk. The group has already raised a collective two thousand pounds through two Sainsbury bag-packing sessions and a sponsored litter pick.

Exams

Year 9 pupils are taking their SATs in the week of May 6th and Year 11 will be starting their study leave on May 23rd, then embarking on their GCSEs. We wish them all the best.

Situations Vacant

We have vacancies for two lunchtime supervisors, working from approximately 1.15 to 2.15 Monday to Friday. If you are interested please contact Mary Soper on 892061.

OVERTON RECREATION CENTRE

Colin Parker 771038

Berrydown Developments. ORC is pleased to announce that, subject to planning approval, by September this year, it will be placing a new changing facility adjacent to the existing building which dates from c1970. The old building will remain for storage purposes. This is stage 1 of further improvements at Berrydown and will run concurrently with pitch improvement work on both the old and new pitch areas. Stage 2 of the application will include a second new unit to provide for the additional use of the ground on the new pitch areas. This will include cricket and the second building will be adapted to include scoreboard and refreshment options. The funds from this work will come from the original Berrydown Fund and includes a recent donation of £3000 from Overton Parish Council.

ORC Membership numbers continue to increase. The new 5* scheme now has 140 members. As numbers increase ORC expects to raise the value of monthly prizes. A good number of new 5* members belong to the clubs who will see their ORC levy reduce through a rebate of £50 for every club members who has 5* membership. Memberships are available from **01256 770544**.

Dogs on ORC open spaces. ORC sports grounds, Bridge Street, Town Meadow, Berrydown and Batts Meadow in Laverstoke must all be free from dog fouling so as not endanger the sportsmen and women who use the facilities. Berrydown, as a relatively new sports ground, still attracts dog walkers some of whom allow their animals to exercise across the pitch areas. Most of you will be aware that there are no official Footpaths or Rights of Way across Berrydown. Local farmer and ORC Trustee, Richard Gibbins allows dog walkers, runners and others to use a "permissive" path on his land running E-W near the edge of the sports ground area. ORC would request that dog owners

stick to this path and "poop scoop". Those approaching from Two Gate Lane and using the gated entrance off the B3400 should walk towards the path keeping the leylandii hedge on their left. Dogs should be kept at heel or on a lead. Those of us with children or grandchildren or indeed the adult users of the sports areas would be very concerned if infection occurred from dog fouling whilst playing sport. Please observe and respect the signs on ORC grounds; Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

OVERTON PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

Anne Boyere

Overton Playgroup is holding its annual Open Day on Saturday 17th May from 10am to 12noon. The admission charge of 50p includes a cup of tea or coffee. An occasion for the children who will start Playgroup next year to discover the setting and join in the fun, it's also one of our major fund-raising events so please come and support us! There will be a cake stall, raffle, tombola, face painting etc. We would like to congratulate our Playgroup leader Amanda on being appointed a "Leading Foundation Stage Practitioner", an Early Years practitioner who can lead by example and who is an advocate for early education rooted in play based learning. It will mean that other practitioners will come to visit our settings to see her best practice in action and she will visit and support other settings.

INTER-STREET FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Steve Williams

The Annual Six - a - Side inter street tournament takes place at Bridge Street on **Sunday 8th June**. A maximum of eight players per squad, formed from one or adjoining Overton streets. Entry £5 per player. A real fun event. Entries/enquiries to Colin Phillimore 07887 778236 or Colin.Phillimore@btinternet.com.

CRICKET COACHING FOR BEGINNERS

Peter Tomlin

For the fifth summer in a row, Overton Cricket Club is offering coaching and skills development for young cricketers aged 6 - 8 (School Years 1 to 3). Many of the players from previous summers are now playing competitive cricket for our U9 & U11 teams.

New players are welcome this summer at the ORC, Bridge Street 10:30 until noon every Saturday morning starting 10th May until 12th July. The 10 week course costs just £20. Pre-registration is advisable - please contact Peter Tomlin via email: p.tomlin@btinternet.com.

OVERTON DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Jill Smith

The Beggar's Opera Spring Bazaar

We will be holding a spring sale on Saturday 17th May at St Mary's Hall, from 10am until 12 noon. There will be lots of stalls including plants, cakes and bric a brac. Tickets for the forthcoming show 'The Beggar's Opera', which takes place from 14th - 18th July, will be on sale priced at £4.50 and £6. 'The Beggar's Opera' is like a bawdy 18th Century Pantomime with a mixture of comedy, melodrama and popular songs of the day.

LIBRARY NEWS

Chris Vane, Library Supervisor.

The new circulating collection has just arrived. It's called **BREATHING PLACES**, and it comprises books, stories and poems about nature, wildlife and the environment – ideal for Spring.

We are open as usual while the Community Centre is being refurbished.

U3A OVERTON AND WHITCHURCH

Diana Goodwin

University of the Third Age: What is it all about?

Hear about this lively daytime group. It's never too late to expand your horizons, sharing your knowledge, experience and talents with others and learn from them in friendly surroundings. In St Mary's Hall, on Wednesday 21st May 10am – 12noon, everyone welcome.

For further information call: 771855.

BEECH TREE CARE HOME

At Beech Tree we have a procedure in place for the residents to be evacuated to St Luke's Hall in an emergency.

We are asking the kind people of the village if they would be able to help. We are setting up a telephone tree and if anyone can help please call us on 771353. Many thanks.

FRIENDS OF OAKLEY AND OVERTON SURGERIES

Sue Carter

The Annual General Meeting will be held at St Leonard's Centre, Oakley on Wednesday 11th June, at 8pm: Speaker - Geoffrey Clee "From workhouse to welfare - the story of the poor-law infirmary".

This is a Group with Charitable Status to oversee the effective use of bequests made to the Oakley and Overton Practice for the benefit of the patients.

All patients over 18 who are registered with the Oakley and Overton Practice are invited to attend.

The Annual Accounts will be available for inspection at Oakley and Overton Surgeries from 4th June. Nominations for membership of the Executive Committee should be submitted to the Chairman by 28th May, and must be supported by at least 2 patients over 18 years of age.

Notice of any resolutions to be considered should be given to the Chairman by 28th May, and must be tabled by not less than 10 patients over 18 years of age.

Comments and contributions for *Overton News and Views* are welcomed by the editor, Chris Penney, 7 Batten's Avenue, e-mail OvertonNewsviews@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:

Parish Council Chairman	Alan Whitney	770174	e-mail alan-whitney@hotmail.co.uk
Vice Chairman	Lucy Sloane Williams	770607	e-mail lucysloanewilliams@btinternet.com
Parish Councillors			
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

For more information contact

The Chairman Colin Parker 771038
or the Secretary Sue Carter 770681.

OVERTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Debbie Dennison

The school has now received the Ofsted report following the visit by inspectors in March. We are delighted to report that the conclusion of their visit was an improvement in the overall grading to Satisfactory, the inspectors recognising "a rapidly improving school". The school was adjudged as Good in two of the four main categories and we were pleased to hear the inspectors' comment that "unsatisfactory teaching has been eliminated". They acknowledge that progress is now satisfactory for all children and standards are rising rapidly because of the effective teaching strategies being used. Mrs. Wyeth and her team are to be congratulated on this excellent result, a testament to the hard work and dedication of the whole team.

LAVERSTOKE AND FREEFOLK PARISH COUNCIL

Invites you to attend the Annual Parish Meeting at the Portals Sports and Social Club. Thursday 22nd May at 8pm. All electors of the parish are invited to attend. For further information please contact the Parish Clerk - Rachel Abbott on 01256 892584 Email Rachel_Abbott@btinternet.com

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Public Transport Representative Brian Langer.

Spring Bank Holiday 26 May

Trains will operate a normal service on the Saturday and Sunday and a Saturday service will operate on the Monday. Check with 0845 7 48 49 50 for engineering works that may affect your journey.

Bus services 74, 76 and 86 will operate as normal on the Saturday and Sunday and a Sunday service will operate on the Monday.

Important steam visits on 1 June

Steam locomotives - an LMS Coronation class and GNER A4- not usually seen in Overton will be taking part in a commemorative trip (60 years since the locomotive exchanges following rail nationalisation) from London to Exeter and return on June 1st. This should be the highlight of visits by steam locomotives this year. Full timings from the Steam Dreams website.
