

# Overton News & Views

[www.overtonvillage.com](http://www.overtonvillage.com)

Information and Comment on Village Activities

October 2008

Issued by Overton Parish Council and distributed to Overton and Ashe, Laverstoke and Freefolk

## Overton Parish Council (OPC) Notes

from Laura Harley - Parish Clerk

### Parish Council Meetings

These will take place in Overton Community Centre:

Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October:	Public time	7.00pm
	Main meeting	7.30pm
(3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday**) 21 <sup>st</sup> October:	Planning	7.30pm

The main Parish Council meeting takes place on the **second** Wednesday of each month starting at 7.30pm.

**Please note: Public Time will now be held between 7.00pm and 7.30pm.**

Planning meetings will normally 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 start of the meeting. Agendas and planning applications are displayed on the events notice-board.

### Planning Applications

The following planning applications have been approved by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council

**BDB 68892** Erection of a side porch at 13 London Road

**BDB 68908** Erection of a single storey front extension at 65 Woodlands

**BDB 68800** Erection of a single storey rear extension and construction of a front dormer window at 25 Papermakers

**BDB 68987** Erection of a rear conservatory (part retrospective) at 6 Two Gate Meadow

**BDB 69050** Erection of a single storey front extension with construction of a pitched roof over existing flat roof and insertion of roof light at 11B Woodlands.

**BDB 69057** Removal of Condition 27 of planning permission 56099 related to the installation of infra red activated ultra sonic cat scarers

**BDB 69058** Variation of condition 21 of **BDB 56099** to allow no more than 12 dwelling to be occupied until a scheme for the improvement of the existing sewage disposal system has been submitted and no more than 40 dwellings to be occupied until such improvements have been commissioned

**BDB 69075** Erection of a detached three bay oak framed garage at Ashe Court, Ashe Lane

**BDB 69123** Change of use from offices (class B1 use) to dental surgery (class D1 use) at Entec House

**BDB 69189** Erection of a two storey front extension and single storey rear extension following demolition of existing rear conservatory at 15 King's Meadow

**BDB 69174** Application of Certificate of Lawfulness for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension at 5 Farmers Garden

The following planning application has been refused by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council

**BDB 68850** Erection of a 1 no two bedroom bungalow at 36 Dellands

Please check [www.basingstoke.gov.uk](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk) or on the village notice board for planning applications to be considered by the Parish Council. Plans are available from the Clerk.

### Highways & Transport News from Brian Langer

**Village Shuttle bus service 74:** Although the service is available to all parishioners, it is meant to be used to get people to and from their homes, to shops, station, surgery etc. The 72p fare does not cover more than a complete double loop (Station and Pond Close) around the village; most users would expect to use two single tickets or bus pass equivalent for their specific journey.

Some trips are especially busy, so please don't abuse the facility by taking up a seat for more than one complete circuit - 30 minutes. It might be a good way to avoid the rain and catch up on village gossip, but the continuation of the service depends on paying passengers or the valid use of the bus pass, the cost of which the operator can claim back from the local authority.

### Overton to Micheldever/A303 (the C29) road closure:

Hampshire County Council advises that the section of this road south of the railway bridge through the wood will be closed completely from 24<sup>th</sup> November for five days. This is still provisional and advance warning signs should go up well in advance of the work commencing. Diversions will apply but the nearby country lanes will not be able to accommodate the many large commercial vehicles which use this road from the A303; these will need to come through Overton village centre to access the golf course, farms etc which lie north of the closure. Affected landowners/proprietors are advised to contact relevant enterprises to warn them of this closure.

**Condition of street lighting:** Whenever a street light fails to work, the fault should be reported to the Hampshire County Council (HCC) Call Centre, giving the column number, the street name and the village. The direct number for all highway matters, including Street Lighting, is **0845 603 5633**. Unless it is found to be a major fault, the problem is usually rectified within a week. The Call Centre is open from 8.00am to 8.00pm Monday to Friday and 9.30am to 4.00pm on Saturdays.

Some lights burn all day (dayburners) and parishioners often comment that this is such a waste of council tax payers' money for the fault not to be sorted. However, HCC pays a lump sum to the electricity supplier for its street lights, so a dayburner does not result in HCC incurring a higher bill; it is nevertheless a poor reflection of the county's stewardship that dayburners remain just that for so long. Some lights are dayburners not because of any fault but because the adjacent landowner hasn't cut back vegetation which shrouds the lamp. If you are guilty in this respect please cut back branches etc so that lighting can improve safety and do a proper job around the village as days get shorter; HCC is entitled to cut wayward branches and send the landowner the bill if the matter isn't attended to.

**Greyhound public house - state of wall:** The leaning state of the currently closed pub's garden wall bordering Greyhound Lane has caused Hampshire County Council concern. They have advised the brewery owners they expect this to be attended to before it collapses onto the highway; this may require some attention to the tree which is pushing the wall outwards.

*(Highways & Transport News continues overleaf)*

*(Highways & Transport News - continued from overleaf)*

**Travel tokens:** Their usage on trains has been commented on before in **ON&V**. With regard to their use on buses, the Borough Council states that its leaflet clearly states that "Users should try and mix change and tokens to give as near as possible the right fare; if you use only tokens, change may not be given." The Operations Manager Stagecoach Bus Andover comments that "As far as acceptance of tokens is concerned, drivers are instructed to treat them in the same manner as cash and change should always be given. The 'reason' given for not doing so - that drivers don't carry as much change as they used to - would be no excuse for not giving change for cash and similarly would not be an acceptable excuse when accepting tokens."

**Station car-parking:** In August the parish council was shocked to learn via Sir George Young MP that Network Rail had decided to withdraw from negotiations with De La Rue over the long term leasing and usage of the overflow car parks due to an inability to mutually agree terms. This has always been a complex topic with many interested parties but it is the parish council's view that other avenues must be explored to regularise the very unsatisfactory nature of car parking at and around the station. These are being worked on after consideration of all the correspondence relating to this unwelcome turn of events at September's parish council meeting which was attended by Phil Dominey, Manager Stakeholder Services at South West Trains. Despite an imminent change of contact at De La Rue, no precipitate action affecting a change of status at the 'overflows' is anticipated in the short term. Nevertheless, **OPC** is liaising with the borough council over possible parking management measures on the nearby residential streets to avoid potential mayhem should the overflows need to be closed.

### Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council

St James Group/Berkeley Homes are holding an exhibition to show their proposed plans for Laverstoke Mill on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2008 from 5.00pm to 8.00pm, and Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2008 from 10.00am to 1.00pm on the first floor of the Mill cottages at Laverstoke Mill. Members of the Parish council will be attending to hear the views of parishioners and local people. For more information contact Rachel Abbott (Clerk) on **892584** or Email at [laverstoke.clerk@btinternet.com](mailto:laverstoke.clerk@btinternet.com)

### Silent telephone calls *from Peter Baker*

It has recently been reported in the national press that silent calls often occur when automated systems used by call centres dial more numbers than staff can deal with. The system abandons the call when there is no agent available, leaving an eerie silence on the line.

Such calls can be particularly distressing for older people or those who fear being stalked. Others have been anxious that burglars are trying to find out whether their property is occupied or not.

**Ofcom** (the telephone regulator) believes the companies behind these calls are mainly involved in telephone marketing, market research, financial services (including debt recovery) and "number scanning" - where phone numbers are checked to see if they are active, to compile lists of contact details that can be sold. Two years ago, **BT** was handling 80,000 complaints a month about silent calls.

### Oakley & Overton Surgery - Influenza News

Patients registered with Oakley and Overton Surgery can now book an appointment at the flu vaccination clinics by phoning the surgery on **770212**

The GPs are pleased to announce that the Health Care Assistants have successfully completed their training to give flu vaccinations and will be fully competent to give flu vaccination according to the Practice Protocol.

**Flu** is a highly infectious illness caused by the influenza virus. It tends to start suddenly with symptoms such as fever, chills, headache, aching muscles and feeling generally unwell, together with a cough or sore throat.

**Flu** is spread by coughs and sneezes from people already infected with the virus. For most people flu is a nasty experience but for some it can lead to serious illness.

**Flu vaccination needs to be given every year.**

**Flu vaccination is for:**

- People 65 years or older
- All those over 6 months old with: chronic heart, lung, liver or kidney disease; asthma that requires the use of inhaled steroids; diabetes; lowered immunity due to disease or treatment; stroke or TIA; multiple sclerosis; central nervous system disease; immunosuppression
- Carers in receipt of a carer's allowance, or those who are the main carer for a disabled or elderly person whose welfare would be at risk if the carer fell ill. (At GP's discretion)

### Overton Flu clinics - proposed dates/times

Mornings (9.00am - 12noon) on 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> October plus 4<sup>th</sup> November. Afternoons (2.00pm - 5.00pm) on 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> October plus 6<sup>th</sup> November.

### Police News

*from PC Richard Baldwin*

**Rogue Traders:** A local resident was approached on 4<sup>th</sup> September by two well turned out, burly "workmen", purporting to be from "Highways" who noted that part of her drive needed attention; they had some leftover material which would "do the job" while still usable.

She let them do some work while she was away from the house and, a short time after she returned, they came back and demanded payment. She began to query which highways workforce they came from - borough or county etc - to which they replied "Oh not that highways, we're highways improvements".

She did not hand over any money but they left threatening to come back and dig it all up. Needless to say she is mortified that she fell for the scam and has notified the police. She advises that the men drove a black pick up truck with side stripes, but she did not get the registration number.

They may still be in the area. Any approaches or sightings should be reported to the police on **999** and Trading Standards Quick Response Team on **01962 833666**. Any information would be gratefully received.

### Yellow Pages Directories *from Jacky Lessware*

If you no longer wish to have Yellow Pages left at your door, you should ring **0800 671444**

*from The Editor*

I also understand, from a recent article in the Basingstoke Gazette, that Yellow Pages directories cannot go in household green bins (due to the special printing ink used). However, you can take previous editions to special recycling banks at Morrisons in Worting Road or Sainsbury's at Hatch Warren.

## Basingstoke Fairtrade Group

Would you like to do something positive about reducing inequalities in our world? Does it matter to you that most of the price you pay for something is going to the 'middle man' rather than to the person who produced it? If you buy goods with the Fairtrade mark you know that the farmer in the developing world has received a fair price for their products. This helps producers to support their families and invest in a better future, so that they can work their own way out of poverty.

You will have noticed in recent years that our local supermarkets and other shops have been increasing the range of Fairtrade goods stocked. As well as bananas, tea, coffee and chocolate, you can now buy Fairtrade wine, muesli bars, sugar, flowers and lots more. Martin Luther King once said: "Before you've finished your breakfast, you'll have relied on half the world."

The Basingstoke Fairtrade Group aims to promote Fairtrade in the borough. It does this through events such as Fairtrade Fortnight and educational activities in schools, churches etc. Members of the Group are currently surveying shops and catering outlets to find out if they sell Fairtrade goods and, if not, offer them advice about how they can make the switch. Within the next few months the Group expects to publish a directory indicating where you can buy Fairtrade goods in the borough. If you are a retail or catering outlet, already selling Fairtrade products, please contact us to ensure your name appears in this.

Basingstoke Fairtrade Group meets one evening each month at Basingstoke and Deane Council Offices to plan and co-ordinate activities. If you would like to get involved with this group or find out more, please contact Lucy Martins on (01256) 845620 or by Email at [lucy.martins@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:lucy.martins@basingstoke.gov.uk)

## Forthcoming Events

### St Mary's Hall Film Night Winter Season

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2008 - **Happy-Go-Lucky** (15). The film starts at 7.30pm (doors open from 7.00pm) and is shown in St Mary's Hall, High Street, Overton. Tickets can be bought in advance for £5.00 each from Overton Fireplaces or for £5.50 on the door. Beverages and confectionery are available for purchase. On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November the long-awaited **Mamma Mia** (12A) will be shown. If it is very popular, we could show the film twice at 5.00pm and 7.30pm. Peter Baker (Overton Fireplaces) is keeping a reserve list, so please let him know which performance you would prefer.

### PC Baldwin's next Police Surgery

will be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October between 12noon and 2.00pm in the Parish Office at St Mary's Hall.

### Overton Dramatic Society *from Jill Smith*

To promote our forthcoming pantomime, we will be holding a bazaar in St Mary's Hall from 10.00am - 12noon on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October. The bazaar's entrance fee of 50p includes coffee and there will be all the usual stalls, including a big draw.

Tickets, priced £6.00 (concessions £4.50) will be on sale here for the pantomime - **Cinderella Interstellar** - which will take place in St Mary's Hall at 7.30pm each evening from Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November, plus a matinee at 2.00pm on the 29<sup>th</sup>

The next (November) issue of **Overton News & Views** will be published on **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2008**

**The latest date for receipt of contributions and letters is Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October**

Comments & contributions are welcomed by the Editor, Chris Penney, either **typed** to 7 Batten's Avenue, Overton, RG25 3NL or **Email (WORD attachment, please)** to [OvertonNewsViews@aol.com](mailto:OvertonNewsViews@aol.com)  
The Editor reserves the right not to print articles without giving a reason

## Overton Activities - Regular Reports

### Overton Business Association

All members are requested to attend the next **OBA** meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November at The Honey Pot Restaurant, Winchester Street. Visitors are also very welcome.

For more information, please see contact details below.

### Late Night Christmas Shopping

This year's event will take place on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November, with Shops open from 6.00pm to 9.00pm, Father Christmas at the Community Centre, plus Carol Singers and Fairground.

Nominations are also now invited for the two annual **OBA Awards**. The **OBA Overton Community Award** is available to any individual who has contributed to the community in a significant way - anything from keeping the village tidy, to raising the profile of the village through sporting, academic or any other achievement.

**The OBA Enabling Award** is for a local community group/individual/charity looking to fund a new/ongoing project, campaign, sporting endeavour etc.

Each Award winner is presented with a Certificate and a cheque for £100.

For nomination forms or more information on the **OBA** please visit [www.overtonbusiness.com](http://www.overtonbusiness.com)

Email [chairman@overtonbusiness.com](mailto:chairman@overtonbusiness.com)

or telephone chairman Keith Green on **770907**

### Overton Choral Society *from Lyn Hardy*

A well attended AGM the first week in September kicked off our 2008/9 season. We welcomed new members and, encouragingly, they came back for more the next week.

Rehearsals began with two quite modern works which we will be performing in Winchester Cathedral in May - Vaughn Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem*, a taster of which was very moving, and Karl Jenkins' *The Armed Man*.

For our (now annual) Come and Sing in March we shall be performing Bach's *Magnificat* and Vivaldi's *Gloria* (a well-known and great favourite among many singers).

The small group of members who will be joining in the 40th Anniversary of twinning with Alencon have also been rehearsing a selection of typical British songs, rounds and madrigals: those participating thank our conductor, Paul Timms, for all the additional work he has put into the event.

We welcome all new members and would particularly like to hear from men. Being a good sight reader is not imperative and we can give plenty of help with Choral Line tapes and all members work together as a team.

Our previous years of fund raising brought us closer together, was innovative and raised money for funds - so we aim to continue with this over this coming year.

If anybody would like to know more about our group please do not hesitate to ring me on **397507**

**Overton Library News** *from Chris Vane - Supervisor*

Now we've come to the end of Team Read, our summer reading scheme, we'd like to say a big **thank you** to everyone who took part and to our team of volunteers (Brian, Liz, Pat & Toby) without whom we would have found it difficult to cope!

Now for an apology. As work progresses with the installation of the new, improved, computer system, there will be some disruption to the service. At present, requests can be taken only in branches - not online. In this branch, we are down to one screen only for issue and discharge, so it is inevitable that queues will build up at busy times. We will try to keep smiling, and hope that you will too.....

Recently we were visited by two Overton residents who had only just discovered that Overton has a library - so please spread the word to your friends and neighbours.

**Overton Pre-School News** *from Anne Boyere*

Overton Playgroup held its AGM on 23<sup>rd</sup> September - an occasion to have a glance over the past year. One of the highlights is of course our Ofsted **Outstanding Providers** best level in childcare achieved thanks to our staff's hard work and dedication.

Last year we also received a fantastic help and support which assured the success of our fund-raising events. Overton Playgroup raised £2459 through its open morning, sponsored bike ride and stall at the Regency Sheepfair - and, recently, an added £350 from Mr and Mrs Clark's generosity on their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. With our fund-raising money we bought a Thomas the Tank Engine track and Scooby Doo characters for the school setting and IBM provided the Community Centre setting a new computer for the children.

We are now looking forward to another great year of achievements, learning and fun. Have a good 2008/9 !

**Overton C of E Primary School** *from Debbie Dennison*

A new beginning! The children and staff have returned to school full of enthusiasm for the new school year.

Our Reception children have all started part time and are settling in well to their new environment. Many have attended the Overton Pre-school setting at school and feel very confident about their surroundings. Welcome also to teaching staff Vicky Charlton and Mark Bulpitt.

There has been a Big Summer Clean, so the children have a lovely clean school to come back to as well as new toilets, the choice for which was made by the children through the School Council. There are also new willow sculptures and abstracts outside the entrance which were a product of Arts Week last term.

Congratulations to Mrs Amy Mills (formerly Miss Walshe) on her marriage during the summer holiday: we wish her and her new husband a long and happy life together.

The school was delighted to receive the ICT Mark at the end of last term - a nationally recognised accreditation scheme that recognises achievements in the use of technology. Well done to the staff who have worked hard to achieve this.

The landscape project is progressing well with development of the children's playground including a tyre play area and a children's trim trail. Gazebos are being erected on the field outside to provide a facility for outdoor classroom and waiting areas for parents. Overton School Association is hosting a Grand Opening with barbecue to celebrate on October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5.30pm.

It will not be long before Bonfire Night is upon us. In order to ensure that the occasion proceeds as smoothly as possible, we would like to remind you of some important matters relating to the bonfire construction. Please would anyone wishing to leave material for the bonfire contact either Tim Henderson (Site Manager) or the School Office (both on **770249**) **before doing so**. There is a barrier across the entrance to the playground to ensure safety for the children and arrangements may need to be made for access. Please also ensure that only appropriate materials are put on the bonfire. Any attempts to dispose of unsuitable items will compromise our ability to host the occasion in future. Thank you.

**Overton & District U3A**

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 10.00am in St Mary's Hall, High Street, Overton.

Mervyn Annettes, who owns the local coach company which takes us on so many of our outings, will be talking about **Life Running a Coach Business**

For further information please contact Diana Goodwin on **771855** or Email [dianaw@tesco.net](mailto:dianaw@tesco.net)

**Testbourne School News**

*from Teresa Reynolds, Governor*

**New staff:** A number of new staff have joined us this year, including: Mr Archer in PE; Miss Clacy in Music/Performing Arts; Mr Ferrier in Special Needs/English; Mrs Pate as Head of Design Technology and Mrs Shearing as Head of Humanities/Geography

**Site Improvements:** Major improvement works have been going on over the summer holiday: Two old laboratories have been gutted and completely refurbished and one classroom has been converted into a demonstration lab. These will provide excellent, modern facilities for Science lessons.

**Results Roundup:** Overall this year we are pleased to report that we have met our targets at Key Stage 3 and 4, based on information received so far. The targets are set taking account of the academic profile and previous attainment of the cohort and can, therefore, vary from year to year. We know that pupils achieved well in their Key Stage 3 SATs. We did not, however, receive the English results until near the end of the holiday - and we still do not have a full set of Mathematics and Science results, with some individual levels still missing! Until these arrive we still do not have final percentages. At Key Stage 4, 66.5% of pupils achieved 5 A\* - C GCSE passes, very close to our challenging target of 67%!

**Dates For Your Diaries:**

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October, 6:30 - 8:30 pm, Open Evening:  
Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October, **Bugsy Malone** - our first major arts production of the year (tickets on sale in school from the beginning of October).

**Letters To The Editor...**

**Please note that letters cannot be printed unless contributors are prepared to put their names to them**

**Thank you**

*from Norma & Fred Clark*

We would like to send a big thank you to family and friends for all their help and kind donations to celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

A grand total of £700 was raised! £350 was donated to the Darby & Joan Club at their tea party in St Mary's Hall and £350 was presented to Overton Playgroup.

*(Letters to the Editor continues on page 5)*

*(Letters to the Editor - continued from page 4)*

**Thank you** *from Corinne Cook*

**The Cancer Open Day** on 12<sup>th</sup> September raised an amazing £826.75 for cancer in Basingstoke. Without your generosity this would not be possible. Among the winners of the 25 raffle prizes were Jill Surtell, Ian and Louise Tilbury, Christina Batten and Angie Soper-Dyer. My thanks to everyone who purchased raffle tickets or came on the day: to the local shops who supported me: and to Mrs Guy who bakes pies etc every year!

**Thank you** *from Jane MacKenzie*

£1,000 was raised for Water Aid and £680 for Overton Recreation Centre by Overton Methodist Church from the sale of Overton Regency Sheepfair Tea Towels. Huge thanks to everyone for buying them! The final order is selling fast from The Fireplace Shop or from me on **771121**. They make the perfect Christmas gift for old Overtonians or foreign friends.... Hint, hint!

**Thank you** *from St Mary's Hall Management Committee*

**The Great Overton Duck Race** on 25<sup>th</sup> August raised a massive £2191.16 for the funds of St Mary's Hall and Garden facilities. Our thanks go to the many Overton businesses for their kind sponsorship and to you, the Overton people, for your great support and help in making this event such a fantastic success.

Lindsey Braidford scooped the £100 Grand Final prize and Liam Paradine won £50 by entering his duck into the Race Your Own Duck race. If you are missing your own little duck, please do visit Overton Fireplaces where you may be able to be reunited.

Next year's event is planned for Bank Holiday Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2009; we are already looking forward to it.

**Do you play guitar?** *from Matthew Jenkins*

Are you interested in guitars? I am an amateur luthier and build custom acoustic guitars from my workshop within the garden of my Overton home.

If you share my passion for acoustic music, have an interest in seeing how hand-made instruments are built, or would like the opportunity to play and chat about custom-made guitars, please feel free to contact me and arrange an informal visit. Matthew Jenkins on **771356** or Email [m.jenkins1@tinyworld.co.uk](mailto:m.jenkins1@tinyworld.co.uk)

*from David & James Hewetson-Brown, Ashe Warren Farm*

We have recently been reported, by someone in Overton, to the Environment Agency for "illegally dumping untreated sewage sludge" in one of our fields. After a very useful chat with the Environment Agency, it was suggested that I write to **ON&V** to explain the reasons for using sludge - and that it is, in fact, perfectly legal and supported by the Government, Environment Agency and Friends of the Earth under the Safe Sludge Matrix.

*(This letter continues in the next column)*

After flushing the loo, the sewage is thoroughly treated to a highly regulated standard. These processes can include thermal hydrolysis, acid phase digestion, enhanced digestion and thermal destruction!! In this process most of the water is pressed out to leave a semi-solid sludge. Until about 10 years ago, 1/3 of this national product was dumped in the North Sea (but this was stopped by the EU), 1/3 was put into landfill sites and 1/3 was spread on farmland, where it is considered a very good fertiliser, rich in many trace elements including nitrogen and phosphate.

Thames Water produces 245,000 dry tonnes of sewage sludge a year. 70% of this goes to agriculture, a small amount is converted into dry prills, at huge cost, for fertiliser, but the rest goes to landfill or incinerators. The benefits of agricultural use are the reduction in the need for chemical fertilisers, whilst avoiding landfill and incinerators which are hugely costly to the public purse and are detrimental to the environment.

I emphasise the many regulations, scientific analysis and total control involved. In our case the semi-dry material comes from near Heathrow, is tipped for storage in the field and then spread by enormous spreaders all under the direct control of Thames Water and the EA. Once spread it is incorporated as quickly as possible. The downside is that it is not without odour! But please try to appreciate the valuable service farmers are providing and only those with a compost loo have the right to complain, as we all contribute! For further information look at [www.thameswater.co.uk](http://www.thameswater.co.uk)

**[www.overtonvillage.com](http://www.overtonvillage.com)**

If you have an internet connection on your computer, have you used it yet to visit this unique **Overton Village** website? Try it - for up-to-the-minute news between the monthly publication dates of **ON&V**, a full Village Diary, a Discussion Forum - and more!

*And finally ..... Reprinted, with permission, from The Andover Advertiser of Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2008*

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO...FRIDAY, 3 JULY 1908  
OVERTON - THE SUFFRAGETTES

The demand for women's rights has evidently penetrated to Overton, or pretty near to it. Some strong advocate of this movement, evidently on the way from Laverstoke to Overton, has chalked on the pier of the bridge at the top of Rotten Hill the words "Votes for women" then on alternate pillars of the fencing of Laverstoke Park appear the words in chalk "Hyde Park, June 21" and "Votes for women. Do you keep a box?" The original scribe has missed a pillar and "DO YOU?" has been added in capitals. The original scribe has come along again and written underneath "How can you ask?" The great movement which has influenced the whole of modern society will no doubt feel flattered by its recognition in this rather out-of-the-way place.

**For problems or comments about Overton Parish Council matters, please contact:**

**Parish Council Chairman** Alan Whitney **770174** Email [alan-whitney@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alan-whitney@hotmail.co.uk)  
**Vice-Chairman** Lucy Sloane Williams **770607** Email [lucysloanewilliams@btinternet.com](mailto:lucysloanewilliams@btinternet.com)

**Parish Councillors**

Maggie Atkins <b>770369</b>	Brian Langer <b>770848</b> Transport and Highways Representative
Mark Attwell <b>770472</b>	David Llewellyn <b>773004</b>
Peter Baker <b>770007</b>	Paula Baker <b>771219</b> also Borough Councillor
Tony Leach <b>772020</b>	Ian Tilbury <b>771429</b> also Borough Councillor
Jacky Lessware <b>773043</b>	

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

## News Extra -

### Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service Summer Road Safety Campaign

As an emergency service, we are working to meet the modern-day challenge of keeping us all safe on the road: we are campaigning to contribute to the Government's objective of reducing road deaths and serious injuries by 40% (50% for children) by the year 2010.

Driving today is not what it used to be. The roads are more crowded with traffic and everyone seems to be in so much of a hurry to reach their destination. On top of that, the success of online shopping is causing van traffic to be higher than ever, while medical advances are helping our senior citizens to live - and drive - for longer.

In this safety article, you can read about our various campaigns that relate to driving: Speed - both urban and rural; Drink driving; New drivers; Older drivers; Driving for work; Horse sense. Here is some useful advice and some tips on how to be a safer driver.

**Don't use your mobile phone while driving.** Making or receiving a call, even using a hands-free phone, can distract your attention from driving and could lead to an accident.

**Belt up.** Always wear your seat belt, even in the back of the car. Remember that, in a crash, an unbelted rear seat passenger can kill or seriously injure the driver or a front seat passenger.

**Don't drink and drive.** Any alcohol, even a small amount, can impair your driving - so to be a safe driver: don't drink and drive.

**Don't drive under the influence of drugs** - whether prescribed medication or illegal substances - it's just as dangerous as driving when drunk and also against the law!

**Slow down.** At 35 mph you are twice as likely to kill someone you hit as at 30 mph.

**Pedestrians.** Children, adults and the elderly can act impulsively: take care everywhere. Take extra care near buses and ice cream vans when children might be around.

**Take a break.** Falling asleep at the wheel is thought to be a major factor in more than 10% of road accidents and up to 20% on motorways and similar roads. Plan to stop for at least a 15minute break every two hours on a long journey.

**Walk safely.** When crossing a road, always use a pedestrian crossing if there is one nearby. Help others to see you by wearing fluorescent or reflective clothing in poor light conditions.

**Anticipate.** Observe and anticipate other road users. Use your mirrors regularly and don't forget to glance into your blind area before altering your course. Motorcyclists, in particular, are often not seen.

**Look out for motorcyclists.** They represent less than 1% of road traffic but account for 18% of deaths and serious injuries and are 40 times more likely to be killed than a car driver.

**Use child seats.** Make sure children under 150 cms tall (about 5ft) use a child restraint suitable for their size. Check they fit properly every trip.

**Keep your distance.** Always keep a two-second gap between you and the car in front.

**Tom Carr - Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service**

## **Does Overton Need More Houses?**

### **Potential Large Scale Development in Overton and Laverstoke**

The Borough Council has published a Draft "Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment" (SHLAA) for consultation. This is a necessary part of its work towards a Local Development Framework, which will set planning policy for our area until 2026. The Parish Council intends to hold a public meeting (see over).

#### What does a Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment do?

- Identifies POTENTIAL housing sites and assesses what the potential scale of new housing is and when a site is to be developed
- Identifies as many sites as possible for housing potential and to meet housing needs for the first 10 YEARS OF THE PLAN
- Provides evidence on whether green field sites will be needed to meet Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's housing requirement
- Highlights actions needed or policy changes required ensuring that sites will become deliverable.

**The SHLAA is proposing that Overton has the capacity to take another 550 houses between 2013 and 2017 on the following sites:**

- **200 units on Overton Hill**
- **150 units on the Great North Field in Kingsclere Road (north of the cemetery)**
- **200 units at Two Gate Lane**

The SHLAA also identifies a potential 85 homes at Laverstoke Mill and 470 for Whitchurch

#### **Can Overton sustain a 25% increase in the housing stock considering:**

- The housing now being built is not yet fully occupied so we cannot judge its impact on village infrastructure
- The capacity of the local primary and secondary schools
- The capacity of the surgery
- The antiquated road network and existing problems with parking in the centre of the village, together with the increased impact on the B3400 particularly from additional housing proposed to the west of Overton
- The lack of formal parking at the station
- The limited capacity of the existing foul drainage system
- The existing leisure facilities including sports fields
- The lack of a new, modern village hall
- The future lack of burial space in the cemetery
- The existing lack of allotments
- The limited bus service, especially at weekends and evenings

For more information on the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment

- Go online to [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/planning/ldf/SHLAA](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/planning/ldf/SHLAA)  
- specific information about Overton is on pages 12-13 of Appendix 5.  
A comment form is also available
- View the document in Overton Library

The consultation is for a period of 6 weeks between  
FRIDAY 19th SEPTEMBER and FRIDAY 31st OCTOBER

Overton Parish Council urges parishioners to make individual  
representation to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council  
- comment forms will be available in the Co-op and the Library

**Overton Parish Council intends to hold  
a public meeting about the SHLAA  
at 7.30pm  
on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2008  
in St Mary's Hall  
when the draft response to the  
proposed housing will be discussed  
prior to it being sent to  
Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council**

**Parishioners are welcome to attend and  
join the discussion**