

# Overton News & Views

[www.overtonvillage.com](http://www.overtonvillage.com) Information and Comment on Village Activities November 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 12 <sup>th</sup> November:	Public time	7.00pm
	Main meeting	7.30pm
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November:	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.

### Vacancy for Parish Councillor

Overton Parish Council has a vacancy for a new parish councillor. This will require a monthly commitment of one or two evenings for meetings plus a few hours to deal with other matters.

At present, the parish council is concentrating on issues to do with parking and speed limits, implementing its Four Year Strategy and, more recently, responding to the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment which is proposing 550 houses for Overton. If these topics interest you, or you would like to become involved with other parish matters, please contact the Clerk.

### Grants still available

Overton Parish Council still has some funds to donate to local clubs and societies as grants. If you have a project, or an item of equipment that requires funding, please contact the Clerk (contact details at foot of page 4) for a simple application form.

A copy of the latest set of accounts and bank statement must be submitted with the application, which should be received no later than 30<sup>th</sup> November 2008 for consideration at the December OPC meeting.

### Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council

The Parish Council Meeting is on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November at 8.00pm at Portals Sports and Social Club. As from this meeting, 8.00pm to 8.15pm will be Public Time when any members of the public can speak on any matter whether it be an item on the agenda or not.

The Council Meeting will then commence - and members of the public are welcome to stay, but are not allowed to participate or comment (this is purely a meeting for Parish Councillors to discuss items on the agenda).

A polite reminder - please could you bring in dustbins off the roads and pavements as soon as possible on bin days to avoid obstructions. Your help will be appreciated.

For more information contact Rachel Abbott (Clerk) on **892584** or Email at [laverstoke.clerk@btinternet.com](mailto:laverstoke.clerk@btinternet.com)

## New Community Warden in Overton



Hello - I'm **Lucy Gaitskell** and I am the new Community Warden for Overton and Whitchurch, working alongside Richard Tozer.

I love most sports and am a keen netball player. If anyone would like to set up a new sports club in Overton, please let me know - I'd be happy to help!

We're looking forward to helping at the **OBA Late Night Christmas shopping evening** on 28<sup>th</sup> November - but, until then, if you see me around please come and introduce yourself.

If you would like to talk to the wardens about any issues or ideas for the community, please call us on (01256) **845508** or email [community.wardens@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:community.wardens@basingstoke.gov.uk)

## Highways & Transport News

From Brian Langer

**On-street parking:** We all know the problems associated with parking in Overton, caused partly by so many homes having no off-street parking. The parish council knows that, in the past, fire engines, ambulances and the village shuttle bus have had difficulty in getting through congested residential areas - not just the commercial heart of the village. Recently, problems were encountered by the Friday dustcart, which does not have the option of taking an alternative route.

Please be considerate when parking and make sure, **before** you leave your car, that any gap is wide enough for a large vehicle to get through - not just a bike!

Continued problems associated with obstruction of the highway may have to involve the police.

**Grit bins:** These should have been refilled by the county council in recent weeks - but, if the one near you has not, then please contact the council's highways helpline on **0845 603 5633**, stating clearly the exact position of the bin and that it is in Overton.

**Road gritting:** The county council has priority routes for this. In Overton, *Priority 1* covers B3400, B3051, C29 to A303, Station Road to the Mill, Church Road and Court Drove to the school, Sapley Lane, Woodlands, Lion Close and the southern section of Red Lion Lane. *Priority 2* covers Waltham Road, Greyhound Lane, Dellands and Ashe. Any culs-de-sac are unlikely to be attended to until higher priority routes are in good order. The Highways Agency deals with the M3, A303 and A34.

**Surface dressing pavements in The Green:** This is due to be undertaken in late October/early November.

**Streets for People - Roads for Cars:** As part of this **B&DBC** initiative, the parish council applied for 20mph zones on several sections of road in the village centre. The request has been turned down as a result of traffic police objection - not from the local Beat Officer. Details are available from the Clerk.

(Highway & Transport News continues on page 2)

*(Highway & Transport News continued from page 1)*

**Buses:** Service 74 - Overton local service. After a long period of regular drivers, the service has recently had several new drivers. The contract - which is between the county council (HCC), who support the service financially, and Burghfield Mini-Coaches - lays down the route and any divergence has insurance and legal implications for all concerned. Some well-intentioned but unofficial "diversions" have crept in over the years, to serve people off the contracted route. Discussions with HCC will hopefully resolve the matter.

In the meantime, the contracted route is: High Street lay-by, Harvey's Field (certain journeys only), Woodlands, Lion Close, Sapley Lane, Charledown Road, Poultons Close, Pond Close, Sapley Lane, Winchester Street, HSBC bank, Kingsclere Road, Hilltop Road, Station Approach and Road, Waltham Road, Pound Road, Winchester Street, back to High Street lay-by.

A full timetable is displayed on the public transport notice board on the wall of Overton Fireplaces.

## Forthcoming Events

### Tiddlers Baby and Toddler Group

Come and join us at Laverstoke & Freefolk Village Hall on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November, from 9.30am to 11.30am and make rockets with your child (babies to pre-schoolers) in our craft activity to get ready for bonfire night! The cost is £1.50 per family. For more information, call Mindy on **773337** or just come along.

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

On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November the long-awaited **Mamma Mia** (12A) will be shown **twice** - at 5.00pm and 7.30pm (doors open 30 minutes before each screening).

**The 7.30pm screening is already SOLD OUT.**

Advance tickets for 5.00pm are priced £5.00 each from Overton Fireplaces (£5.50 on the door **if still available**). Beverages and confectionery are available for purchase.

### Autumn Overseas Fair

*From Jane Waldram, Mission Committee (770444)*

This will be held on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November, from 9.30am to 11.30am, in the Community Centre. Cakes, biscuits, savouries, produce, preserves and gifts suitable for Christmas are all welcome (no bric-a-brac please). Raffle as usual. Admission 50p including coffee. Do come and enjoy a cuppa.

Proceeds to the Christian Aid Bihar Floods Appeal.

### Overton Biodiversity Society

*From Ken Mackenzie, Chairman*

**OBS** and the Hampshire Wildlife Trust are holding a work party at "The Chalkies" (Micheldever Spoil Heaps) on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November to cut back scrub that is encroaching on this nationally important wildlife site.

We'll start at 1.00pm with a free soup and sandwich lunch before spending a couple of hours cutting back small willows, birch and other invading species. (If you have your own secateurs/loppers/small bow saw and work gloves - could you bring them with you?)

Since parking at the site is limited we'll try to arrange car sharing: if you're able to come please give me a ring on **771121**. New members would be very welcome. (Sorry - but our insurance policy permits only children over the age of 12 to do any practical work.)

### PC Richard Baldwin's next Police Surgery

will be held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November between 12noon and 2.00pm in the Parish Office at St Mary's Hall.

### Pampered Chef Cooking Demonstration

On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November **Little Tots Montessori Nursery** will host a Pampered Chef Fundraising evening from 8.00pm to 10.00pm in St Mary's Hall, High Street. Come along for a fun evening with tasty treats and Christmas ideas. Try out Pampered Chef's excellent range of innovative and multi-functional kitchen tools. A contribution of all sales will be donated to Little Tots. Bring a bottle and as many friends as you like. For more information please speak to Debbie Cowley on **773010** or Claire Harrison on **892255**

### Kingfisher Day Centre - Registered Charity 298564

*From Julia Cobb*

We are holding our AGM in the Overton Community Centre on Thursday the 20<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm (refreshments provided). Please come along and find out how we provide care, stimulation and respite for our local elderly residents and their families.

We are looking for volunteers to help at our centre, situated in the grounds of Testbourne School, in Whitchurch. We need help with games, serving tea, coffee and lunches and with bus escort duties. We are grateful for any time that can be given. We are open Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9.00am until 3.30pm. If you are interested, or would like to know more, please call me on **893333** or pop into the Centre and enjoy a cup of tea/coffee with our clients.

### The Testbourne Craft and Gift Fair....

.... is on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November from 11.00am until 4.00pm at Testbourne Community School in Whitchurch. We have stalls in the school sports hall offering a wide and exciting range of crafts and gifts for sale as well as the usual raffle and tombola, plus light refreshments served all day. The Fair is organised by the PTFA - this year in aid of the refurbishment of the school library.

### Overton Dramatic Society

*From Jill Smith*

Long, long, ago, in a pantomime far, far, away .... We are now well into rehearsals for **Cinderella Interstellar**. Directed by Alice Ellingham and assisted by Lesley Sims, the show promises to be a spectacular production combining the Cinderella story within the original Star Wars Trilogy. As well as Cinderella and her ugly sisters, Andromeda and Nebula, there is Luke Warmwater - the dashing hero of the Rebel Alliance, who battles against the likes of Lord Bath Spider and the repulsive intergalactic criminal mastermind, Grabba the Butt. Will the Rebel Alliance defeat the Evil Empire? May the sauce be with you .... The show is at St Mary's Hall, Overton, nightly from Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November (curtain up 7.30pm) plus a Saturday matinee at 2.00pm. Tickets are priced at £6.00 (concessions are £4.50 - not available Saturday evening) from the Faraway Tree (**770333**)

### Late Night Christmas Shopping in Overton

This year's Late Night Christmas Shopping Evening will be on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November - please see also the Insert in this issue of **ON&V** for more details and times.

### Agent Funkateur presents Twisted Karaoke

.... on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in St Mary's Hall. Ever wanted to sing with a professional band? Well here's your chance. This karaoke with a twist features local favourite groove-meisters, Agent Funkateur, backing the cream of local vocal talent (that's you!). If you don't fancy singing, just come and enjoy the show. Tickets £5 in advance from The Faraway Tree and Overton Fireplace Shop (£6 on the door). For more information, please email [twistedkaraoke@googlemail.com](mailto:twistedkaraoke@googlemail.com)

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### New ... Overton Folk Club

*From Tom Hanley*

Plans are progressing to set up this new club, which will meet on the first Wednesday of every month.

We hope to book guest artists some months, while other months will be a "come all ye" - an open sing-around giving anyone who wants the opportunity to come along and perform. For sing-arounds there will be a nominal charge of just £1.00 - and we will be holding a raffle during the evening (raffle donations welcome!)

Our first meeting will be a sing-around at 8.00pm on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December in the Red Lion skittle alley. Singers and musicians are very welcome, or just come along and listen. For more details, please telephone me on 770384 or email [tomandgill100@btinternet.com](mailto:tomandgill100@btinternet.com)

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### New .... Overton Slimming World Group

*From Kirsty Robinson*

We only opened in St Luke's Hall on 2<sup>nd</sup> September - and what a start!! It is such a warm and friendly group and we have lost a total of 5 stones so far, by eating loads of food, while still enjoying wine and chocolate!

If you would like more information, please telephone me on 467548 or just come along on Tuesdays at 7.00pm - the group is open 52 weeks a year, for women and men! We will tell you all about our eating plan and *you* decide at the end of the evening if you would like to join us.

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## Overton Activities - Regular Reports

### Overton Business Association

A reminder that new members and visitors are very welcome to join us at our next members' meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November in The Honey Pot Restaurant, Winchester Street.

**Late Night Christmas Shopping** - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November.

For more details please visit [www.overtonbusiness.com](http://www.overtonbusiness.com) or telephone Chairman Keith Green on 770907 or email him at [chairman@overtonbusiness.com](mailto:chairman@overtonbusiness.com)

### OBA Awards 2009

As announced in the October issue of ON&V, nominations are now being invited from anyone in Overton Parish for the two Annual OBA Awards which will be presented at the Late Night Shopping Evening. Nomination forms - which must be completed and returned by 21<sup>st</sup> November - are available on the OBA website, from The Faraway Tree and Crucible.

The **OBA Overton Community Award** of £100 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 other achievement.

The **OBA Enabling Award** is a grant of £100 available to a local community group or individual looking to fund a new/ongoing project, campaign, sporting endeavour etc.

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### ON&V - circulation / spare copies

At the beginning of each month (apart from January) just over 2,000 copies of ON&V are printed for the publishers - Overton Parish Council (OPC). A team of 40 dedicated volunteer parishioners, led by Brian Wheeler, then delivers a copy to every house in the parish.

## Overton Recreation Centre (ORC)

From Colin Parker (771038)

ORC wishes to congratulate these winners in the draw held on 12<sup>th</sup> September: £1,000 Elizabeth Patterson, £200 Ruth Williams, £100 Barry Mulroy, Ken Bell (all of Overton) and Sheila Shields of Wells-in-the-Field. The winners in the draw held on 10<sup>th</sup> October were: £1,000 Carolyn Jones of Whitchurch, £200 Steve Randall, £100 Caroline Loup, Terry Blackburn (all of Overton) and Nigel Baverstock of Basingstoke.

Membership continues to rise and now stands at over 1,000 more than a year ago, with 2,742 recorded by the end of September - 242 of which were 5 Star members. Thank you all for your support.

ORC is delighted to announce that Shirley Truscott has agreed to join the Committee as Treasurer.

## Overton Society

From Sue Carter

At our next meeting, at 8.00pm on 27<sup>th</sup> November in the Community Centre, our guest speaker will be Alan Turton, who is Curator of Basing House.

During the meeting there will be a very short AGM, when the £5 annual fee becomes due. New members will be warmly welcomed: there is a charge of £2 for non-members to cover costs. There will be a glass of wine and "nibbles" to help the evening along!

## Overton & District U3A

On 17<sup>th</sup> September, it was very exciting to see so many people queuing up to enrol in this new branch of the U3A which has seventeen groups up and running, covering a wide range of interests. The speaker was Mike McTaggart who took us on a fascinating journey through the North-West Passage.

At our next meeting, on 19<sup>th</sup> November, in St Mary's Hall at 10.00am, Bill Sait, a retired local lawyer, will be speaking to us about "The lighter side of the law".

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

## Overton Art Group

We are a group of painters who meet to paint and share ideas every Tuesday from 2.00pm to 4.00pm in the Overton Recreation Centre, Bridge Street. New members welcome. Phone Mary Reid 771265 for more information

## From the Editor

Now that Autumn is well and truly here, with leaves and other garden refuse to be gathered up and disposed of, here is an annual plea from previous issues of **ON&V**:

Please think twice before starting a wet and/or smouldering bonfire - especially during daylight hours, when washing may be drying outdoors, or if the air is clear and still, when an all-pervading "aroma" just hangs over the whole of Overton village.

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

Have you visited this unique **Overton Village** website? Why not try it? - for up-to-the-minute news occurring between the monthly publication dates of **ON&V**, copies of previous issues of **ON&V**, the full Village Diary, a Discussion Forum, ~ and much more!

## Letters To The Editor...

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

### This month's Thank You letters ...

*From Karen and Sarah - 1<sup>st</sup> Overton Guides*

... A big thank you to the very generous people who came to our Macmillan coffee morning on 20<sup>th</sup> September: also to those who donated a cake to sell and donated articles for the table top sale.

*From Adrian, Lauren & Danielle Gibbons*

... Thanks to the tremendous support we received at the **Forget-Me-Not Charity Event** held in September at the **OMI**, we have been able to send a cheque for **£5594** to the **Wessex Cancer Trust** in memory of Sheree Gibbons. Our family would like to thank the many people who attended and enjoyed music from the 14-piece band The Chain Gang with disco support from Stubby and Colin: also those who kindly provided items for our auction and raffle, both of which were generously supported, enabling us to far exceed our target for the event.

*From Maggs Steward and Becci Larkham*

... A big thank you to all the lovely ladies who soaked up the wonderful atmosphere of the **Ladies' Night** and enjoyed the cheese and wine evening in St Mary's Hall on 19<sup>th</sup> September. We raised a massive **£815** for our local branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association. We are planning another Ladies' Evening on 3<sup>rd</sup> April next year, with even more special treatments and attractions - more information follows in the New Year!

### Late News ...

**Overton Regency Sheepfair 2008 - final roundup!**

Following their joint exhibition in St Mary's Hall during **ORSF2008**, Overton Photographic Club has now released its souvenir **DVD**, which is available for purchase, while Richard Waldram is shortly publishing a book (early in November) as a permanent record of his **Overton in Regency Times** exhibition. For more information about

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**ORSF2008**