



# Overton News & Views



[www.overtonvillage.com](http://www.overtonvillage.com) Information and Comment on Village Activities **December 2008/January 2009**  
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:

Wed. 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2008 and Wed. 14 <sup>th</sup> January 2009	Public time	7.00pm
	Main meeting	7.30pm
**Tues. 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2009	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 is from 7.00pm to 7.30pm.

Planning meetings will be 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.

### Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Christmas is a good time to thank all the people who help out the parish council during the course of a year: ...Chris Penney, who has so ably taken over the role of Editor of **ON&V** ...Brian Wheeler and the 40 volunteers who deliver the copies each month ...Stuart Pike, on his quest to keep Overton village litter-free! ...all the "regulars" who attend Public Time (7.00pm on the second Wednesday of each month) to keep the parish council on its toes - everyone is welcome to attend so we'd like to see more of you there in 2009 ...and Mark Winter, Keith Green and Virginia Langer who sit on the Overton Media Group.

Overton is a fantastic and vibrant place to live, with lots of lovely people - and the members of Overton Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a **very Happy Christmas and a (hopefully) prosperous New Year.**

**Overton Village centre parking:** A draft plan for revising parking in the centre of the village has recently been considered by the parish council. The aim is to introduce limited time parking in Winchester Street, to ensure that all-day parkers use the Overton Hill car park (please use it - it is free and only takes a couple of minutes to walk down to the village). This will free up spaces for short-term parkers and residents.

The ongoing future use of the London Road car park, and the existing time restrictions in the High Street, were also considered - as well as the displacement effect that might occur if parking restrictions are introduced. The parish council is intending to set up a small working group to formulate a plan for village centre parking prior to consulting with the village - if you are interested in being a member please contact the Clerk.

**Overton Station parking:** The parish council has agreed to take no further part in trying to formalise the car parking at the station. It is, however, working with the borough council to produce a parking scheme to protect the residents living around the station from *(This article continues in the next column)*

"fly-parking" in the event that the car park is closed by De La Rue, or that SWT/Network Rail start to charge for parking. It is hoped that a draft plan will be ready for consultation with residents at the beginning of 2009.

### SHLAA

The parish council would like to thank everybody who responded to the SHLAA consultation - at the last count 130 of the 350 responses received by the borough council were from Overton!

### Parish council budget for 2009/10

The parish council intends to raise slightly the precept. As there has been an increase in houses in the parish, there should be little change to householders' bills. The parish council intends to undertake small projects, (such as replacing a notice board and providing recycling litter bins in the village centre during the year) as well as starting to investigate bigger projects (such as a site for a new cemetery/allotments and building a dirt track for pedal cycles at Sapley Lane Playing Field). Some funding for projects could be met from Reserves and the parish council will also be actively seeking funding from other sources.

### Freedom of Information Act

Overton Parish Council has agreed a Model Publication Scheme (specifying information that is available to the public) and complaints procedure. These will shortly be available on the website.

### The Older Driver Skills Scheme

Hampshire County Council is running an appraisal scheme for people who have been driving for a number of years and wish to update their skills or gain confidence. The appraisal is delivered from the person's home by trained instructors at a cost of £25.00 and takes one-and-a-half hours to complete. Please contact the Road Safety Office on **01962 874600** or email [road.safety@hants.gov.uk](mailto:road.safety@hants.gov.uk) for further details.

### Planning

The following applications have been **approved** by the Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council:

- BDB 69117** - Southley Farm: erection of single storey side extension to existing buildings to enclose existing trailer washing area
- BDB 68370** - Overton Pharmacy: erection of single storey rear extension
- BDB 69206** - 38 The Green: erection of detached garage/store
- BDB 69286** - Dellands House: erection of two storey side extension
- BDB 69301** - Overton Mill: installation of water storage tank
- BDB 69153** - 15 High Street: display of 1 no internally-illuminated menu sign:

The following applications have been **refused** by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council:

- BDB 68997** - Berrydown Garage: erection of dwelling
- BDB 69211** - 4 Poultons Road: erection of single storey rear extension
- BDB 69153** - 15 High Street: display of 1 no externally illuminated fascia sign and 1 no internally illuminated projecting sign

**Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council**

Council meetings will be on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2008 and Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2009 starting at 8.00pm.

Public time is from 8.00pm until 8.15pm, with the Council meeting commencing at 8.15pm.

On behalf of Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council, we wish everyone in Laverstoke and Freefolk a very Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

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

**Christmas & New Year Rubbish/Recycling collections**

*Please note these revised dates, to avoid being missed:*

The collection due on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> December 2008 will be made instead on **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> December:**

The collection due on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2009 will be made instead on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January:**

The collection due on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2009 will be made instead on **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> January**

Normal collections resume from the week beginning Monday 12th January. For more information about the rubbish/recycling collections call the contact centre on 844844 or see the website at [www.basingstoke.gov.uk](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk)

**Police News**

*From PC Richard Baldwin*

**Wheelie Bins:** I have received complaints locally of domestic wheelie bins causing traffic obstructions on village roads (in particular along Waltham Road). I would like to remind all Overton residents that, once the refuse collection has taken place on any given Friday, they should remove their empty bin(s) from the highway as soon as possible.

**Push Bikes:** I have also had complaints of push bikes been ridden on pavements - and in the Community Centre pedestrian area - by adults as well as children. Pavements are *not* the place for cycling and any culprits could face a fine if caught doing so.

**PC Richard Baldwin's next Police Surgery**

will be held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2009 between 12noon and 2.00pm in the Parish Office at St Mary's Hall.

**Basingstoke Man fined for noise nuisance**

**B&DBC** recently prosecuted a Black Dam resident at Basingstoke Magistrates' Court. The plaintiff - who had caused numerous issues for residents from playing music too loudly and who had breached a noise abatement notice served in August - didn't attend the hearing and was found guilty of all offences. He was fined £525.00, plus £939.21 costs and a £15.00 victim surcharge.

The court also granted a forfeiture order in relation to all the equipment that was causing the problem, which had to be seized in September after further complaints.

Cabinet Member for the Environment and Climate Change, Cllr Anne Court, said: *"This sort of behaviour will not be tolerated. Residents need to be aware that if they cause others a nuisance they will be prosecuted"*

For more information on noise nuisance, you can visit the website [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/noisenuisance](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/noisenuisance) or ring 844844 or e-mail [pollution@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:pollution@basingstoke.gov.uk)

**Overton Business Association (OBA) News**

The next OBA meeting is on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2009, but *not* at The Honey Pot Restaurant, because they will be closed at that time of year. The venue will be advised and posted on the OBA website. Members please put this date in your diary and we look forward to seeing you. Visitors are always welcome. For more details please visit the website at [www.overtonbusiness.com](http://www.overtonbusiness.com) or telephone Chairman Keith Green on 770907

**Forthcoming Events****Overton Folk Club**

Our first meeting has yet to take place (at 8.00pm on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December in the Red Lion skittle alley) but we have had a great response and are expecting a full house. The next meeting after that will be another singaround on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January (same venue, same time) - all singers and musicians are welcome.

If we are oversubscribed, we will be looking for a bigger venue after that. For the latest information email us at [overtonfolkclub@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:overtonfolkclub@hotmail.co.uk) or ring 770384 or look out for posters around the village.

**St Mary's Hall Overton****Film Night Winter Season:**

On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December *The Duchess* (12A) will be shown in St Mary's Hall at 7.30pm. Advance tickets are priced £5.00 each from Overton Fireplaces (£5.50 on the door). Beverages and confectionery are available for purchase. The first film of 2009 will be on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January - please watch out on notice boards for further details.

**Ensemble Champagne:**

A string quartet, whose aim is to provide an engaging and relaxed evening of classical music at 7.30pm on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2009. Tickets are £7.00 (£5.00 for children) to include a glass of "champagne" (not for children) and are available from the Fireplace Shop.

**Three day-long workshops:**

**Silver Workshop** - £35.00 on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2009 - from 10.00am to 4.30pm.

**Mosaic Workshop** - £22.00 on a Saturday (date to be confirmed) from 10.00am - 4.00pm.

**Watercolour Workshop** - £20.00 on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2009 - from 10.00am to 4.00pm.

Places are limited - so, to book a space or for further details, please contact Laura Harley on 01962 774296

**Nativity Procession with Carols**

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm through Overton, starting at the Methodist Church in Winchester Street and ending with a nativity tableau at the Community Centre, where refreshments will be served.

Everyone is invited to dress in nativity costumes. (Some children's costumes will be available to borrow from 6.00pm at the Methodist Church: contact Marian Sweet on 770672) All proceeds will go to The Children's Society.

**The Combined Overton Churches  
with Overton Dramatic Society**

**Overton Mummers**

*Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear....!*

Are Father Christmas's sons still wreaking havoc on the streets of Overton? Has Little Johnny Jack found housing for his family? Can Father Christmas afford to pay the doctor's fees in these cash-strapped times?

Find out the answers to all these - and more - **on Boxing Day** when Overton Mummers perform their traditional play around the village of Overton. Mummers are easily recognised - they are the ones wearing the latest line in designer wallpaper! Come along and join in the fun at the Community Centre car park at 1.00pm (in St Mary's Hall, if wet) and again outside the Greyhound at 2.00pm (Forthcoming Events continues on page 3)

## Creative Textile Courses in Overton

Following on from the great success of the courses run in September, there will be two more courses in the Overton Community Centre in 2009.

From Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January we will be running a 4-week **Wet Felting Course**. We have two sessions, each of 90 minutes - one at 9.30am and one at 8.00pm. We will be creating a tea cosy or cafetiere cosy from wool rovings, through the process of wet felting. The cost will be £20 plus £5 for materials, payable before the course starts.

From Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March we will be running a 4-week **Quilting Course** (same session times as above). We will be designing, laying out and making a quilted cushion. It would be helpful for this course to bring your own sewing machine, if you have one. The cost will be £20 plus £10 for materials, payable before the course starts.

To sign up, or for further information, please Email Lorna at [textile@raspberry.co.uk](mailto:textile@raspberry.co.uk) or ring 895438

## Overton Activities - Regular Reports

### Overton Choral Society (OCS)

From Lyn Hardy

Together with Overton Primary School, we invite you to join us for our Carol Concert at 7.30pm on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December in St Mary's Hall. Come and sing, (traditional carols), enjoy a mince pie and meet us all.

### Overton Darby and Joan Club

From Jackie Crosbie Dawson (770258)

In spite of the weather, the club had a good summer, with an interesting variety of speakers. The "Summer Outing" stayed at home in St. Mary's Hall Gardens. We also had a tea party at Northington House. The Summer programme ended with the Harvest Festival in October.

We have plenty of room for new members and are also looking for volunteer drivers. We meet in the Community Centre at 1.45pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month.

### Overton Library News

From Chris Vane - Supervisor

Thank you all for your patience while we've been battling with the various stages of the big computer switch over. There have been a few glitches along the way, but we are already discovering benefits of the new system - and hope you will notice them too.

This year's Christmas story time will take place on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 2.00pm, with Christmas stories, crafts and activities, all suitable for under 7s. We will be issuing tickets - they are free, but will act as a memory-jogger as well as giving us a guide to how many children to expect!

We are also having a colouring competition throughout December, so please ask the staff for details.

We have book tokens on sale, as well as a range of Hampshire Lavender goods, for last-minute presents!

### Overton C of E Primary School

Many families attended the opening of the new playground which promotes healthy lifestyles and outdoor curriculum opportunities. The children can enjoy a trim trail, tyre park and imaginative play area. Gazebos can be used as outside classrooms and waiting areas for parents each day.

Our annual Parents' Meeting, with presentations by staff and governors, focused on the school's achievements and ways for parents to support their children's learning.

Headteachers from other schools have been to see our creative curriculum in action, and Mrs Wyeth & Mrs Brooks were invited to talk about it to a group of Basingstoke headteachers. This sharing of expertise has been well received and helps promote the school's good reputation.

(This article continues in the next column)

Collecting pennies, naming the bear and Mufti day - all ideas of the School Council - raised £680 for Children in Need and charitable projects in Zimbabwe. Mrs Maxwell recently visited school to hold beading workshops and give the children a presentation of the work being done supporting schools and orphanages in Zimbabwe.

Bonfire night on 8<sup>th</sup> November was a success despite bad weather. Thank you to everyone involved in the organisation of the event and to everyone who came.

Book Week had a theme of recycling. Each class had a drama workshop, useful objects were created from recycled materials and surveys were made to find out what pupils recycled! The week finished with Book Character Day where children dressed up as a favourite book character. The prize winners (best in each class) included Peter Pan's crocodile and The Invisible Man! The staff also dressed up in various guises and a fun day was had by all!

### Overton Recreation Centre (ORC)

From Colin Parker (771038)

ORC congratulates the main winners in the November Draw: David Morris (£1000), Chris Lewis (£200), and Nick Hussey, Mrs. Hewetson-Brown and Keiran Newman who each receive £100. The full set of Draw results can be viewed in the ORC notice board on the wall in the square near the bus stop.

Membership has again increased to 2779 with a net gain of 27 new members, 252 of whom are 5 Star members.

The Golf Section now boasts an increase to 176 members.

The new ground at Berrydown is being fully used by OUFC and OYFC for both training and matches.

Work has continued on revising the plans for a new building, access way and car park which will be re-submitted to the Borough early in 2009.

ORC thanks all those who continue to support the charity even in these testing times.

### Overton School Association (OSA)

From Emma Payne - Chairman

We have had a busy, but enjoyable, Autumn Term. With help from you, we recently reached a total of £18,000 for the school landscaping project.

Our sights have now moved on to the new school pond, for which we aim to raise £5000 over the next few months. This month, we will be running the bar for **Twisted Karaoke** on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December, in St Mary's Hall - we hope to see you there.

Looking ahead, we are organising a **St Valentine's Day Disco** on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February, also in St Mary's Hall - for grown-ups who ought to know better! So, brush off your party frocks and get ready to dance away the winter blues. We hope you have a great Christmas.

### Overton Pre-School News

From Anne Boyere

The Christmas Singalong (pre-schoolers only) will take place on the afternoon of Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December in the school hall (grand-parents, uncles and aunties welcome!). We are planning the end of term party for Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December.

If you have time to spare, you might consider joining our Voluntary Parent Management Committee. The Playgroup is a charity and many of the "behind the scenes" activities necessary to keep the Playgroup running are carried out by a team of volunteers. We usually meet once every half term on a Tuesday evening and then carry out other tasks as necessary. There are currently a couple of spaces on the committee so if you are interested and would like to find out more please contact Sally Sellwood, our Chair, on 772041 or email [sally.sellwood@googlemail.com](mailto:sally.sellwood@googlemail.com)

Have a very happy Christmas 2008

(Overton Activities - Regular Reports continues on page 4)

## Testbourne School News

From Teresa Reynolds - Governor

**Pupils do good works:** Pupils have shown their thoughtful and generous side in a number of ways recently. A group of fourteen has just returned from a two-week visit to Mityana (our partner school in Uganda) - it was a trip of a lifetime and a real personal challenge for these young people. Closer to home pupils showed great maturity and respect at our Remembrance Assembly on 11<sup>th</sup> November. In the same week, Prefects organised a lunchtime Children in Need Fair raising several hundred pounds in just 50 minutes.

**Christmas Plans:** Our Christmas Concert is at 7.00pm on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December in All Hallows' Church, Whitchurch. It is open to school and the public and we would be very pleased if you would come and join our celebration.

This year we also have our own Testbourne-label Christmas puddings, which can be ordered from Reception on **892061**

**Volunteer Drivers Needed:** Do you have any spare time to drive our mini-bus occasionally - for school or community events? If so, please contact Andy Noyce, Premises Manager or Paul Bushell, Community Manager. We could provide training to help gain the necessary MIDAS qualification.

## Overton & District U3A

The October meeting was well attended and members enjoyed a talk by Mervyn Annettes, who owns the local coach company. He started by sitting with his back to us, a cap on his head and a microphone in his hand, saying "This is how you usually see me!" As you can imagine, the talk - accompanied with slides - continued in an amusing way as he related his early years as an engineer with Vosper, making an oil-pipe laying vehicle for Iraq, then into running buses and coaches for films and for people like us. He does all his own maintenance and has never been refused an MOT certificate!

Members were reminded of the many interest groups now in existence and were encouraged to ask for more. Our next meeting will be at 10.00am on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December in St Mary's Hall, when we shall mark the coming of Christmas with seasonal entertainment and refreshments.

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

## Late News ....

**Overton Cricket Club** has produced a limited edition 2009 desktop calendar, featuring "artistic" pictures of 12 of the finest cricketers that Overton has to offer! For more details, visit [www.overtoncricket.com](http://www.overtoncricket.com) phone Simon Trott on **07595.598096** or email [Simon@overtoncricket.com](mailto:Simon@overtoncricket.com)

**Additional copies of ON&V** are available from:

The Co-op (in the rack below the notice boards), the Library, Parnell Jordy & Harvey, or the Doctors' Surgery.

**ON&V Distributors:** A warm welcome, with thanks, to Adrian Smith, who has joined the team this month.

But a sad and untimely farewell to Bob Edwards, also with thanks - and with sincere condolences to all his family.

**From Jane Waldram for the Mission Committee**

Thank you to all concerned for a magnificent result at the Overseas Autumn Fair on 8<sup>th</sup> November, when £652 was raised for flood victims in Bihar, India.

The next (February 2009) edition of *Overton News & Views* will be published on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2009

The final date for receipt of letters and contributions is Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2009

Please send them to the Editor, Chris Penney, either by Email to [OvertonNewsViews@aol.com](mailto:OvertonNewsViews@aol.com) (WORD attachment, please) or typed to 7 Batten s Avenue, Overton, RG25 3NL

Please note that letters cannot be printed unless contributors are prepared to put their names to them and that the Editor reserves the right not to print articles without giving a reason

## Highways & Transport News

From Brian Langer

**Highways: C29 (Overton to A303/Micheldever Road)**

Work on improving the appalling state of the haunches south of the railway bridge will not now begin until 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2009 and is likely to last for **two** weeks. The county council has been asked not to delay the work in view of the poor state of the road.

However, as part of HCC's contract with Amey, they have to undertake all work estimated to cost below a certain sum and this is one of those jobs; Amey do not have the manpower to start the work earlier.

**Transport: Christmas and New Year services**

**24<sup>th</sup> Dec.** Trains - Saturday service, but will start to close down after 7.00pm; check with **08457 48 49 50**

Buses will close down early; 1940 is the last bus to Basingstoke and the last bus from Basingstoke leaves at 2010

**25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> Dec.** Trains - no service. Buses - no service.

**27<sup>th</sup> Dec.** Trains and buses. Both - Saturday service.

**28<sup>th</sup> Dec.** Trains and buses. Both - Sunday service.

**29<sup>th</sup> Dec.** Trains and buses. Both - Saturday service.

**30<sup>th</sup> Dec.** Trains and buses. Both - Saturday service.

**31<sup>st</sup> Dec.** Trains - Saturday service. Buses - Saturday service but last services as per 24<sup>th</sup> December.

**1<sup>st</sup> Jan.** Trains - Sunday service. Buses - no service.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Jan.** Trains and buses. Both - Saturday service.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Jan.** Trains and buses. Both - Saturday service.

**4<sup>th</sup> Jan.** No trains from Overton; replacement buses will operate from Andover and Winchester to Farnborough and vice versa. Buses (services 76/86) - Sunday service.

On the 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Dec, and on 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan the stations served by the 1420 and 2020 from Waterloo to Yeovil Junction and beyond will alter; check with **08457 48 49 50**

**Trains - New schedules starting 14<sup>th</sup> December**

These have minimal changes for Overton timings. They are the early morning departures to London Waterloo, Mondays to Fridays, which will be at 0549 (arr 0649); 0617 (arr 0714); 0641 (arr 0739). On Saturdays, the first two services will depart at 0549 (arr 0649) and 0618 (arr 0719). The 2335 departure from Waterloo, Mondays to Saturdays, will now arrive in Overton at 0034 the next day - for setting down only.

However, please note that the Cross Country franchise services from Basingstoke to the Midlands, the North and Scotland will primarily be destined for NW England and that passengers for NE England will need to change at Oxford and those for Scotland at Birmingham New Street. This change, which has been opposed by many organisations, has been imposed by the Department for Transport and not the train operator.

**Use of travel tokens on trains**

As a result of "out of area" conductors operating on some services, isolated problem cases have occurred - but the Area Station Manager in Salisbury assures us that problems should not recur.

**And finally ....** Time really has flown in this highly memorable *Overton Regency Sheepfair 2008* year. This is already my seventh attempt - with another news-packed issue - at editing the wealth of contributions I have received from Overtonians since mid-May. My thanks and best wishes for Christmas & 2009 to all contributors and readers - *Chris Penney, Editor*

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

Parish Council Chairman	Alan Whitney	770174	Email <a href="mailto:alan-whitney@hotmail.co.uk">alan-whitney@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Vice-Chairman	Lucy Sloane Williams	770607	Email <a href="mailto:lucysloanewilliams@btinternet.com">lucysloanewilliams@btinternet.com</a>
<b>Parish Councillors</b>			
Maggie Atkins	770369	Brian Langer 770848 Transport and Highways Representative	
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		
Clerk to the Council is Laura Harley, Oak Tree Lodge, Roundwood, Micheldever, Winchester, Hants. SO21 3BA ☎ 771919, Email <a href="mailto:opc@overtonvillage.com">opc@overtonvillage.com</a>			