

Overton News & Views



www.overtonvillage.com

Information and Comment on Village Activities

June 2009

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

Overton Parish Council Meetings

The main Parish Council meetings are held in the Community Centre at 7.30pm on the **second** Wednesday of each month. The next will be on 10th June.

Please note: Public Time is from 7.00pm to 7.30pm.

Planning meetings are also held in the Community Centre at 7.30pm on the **fourth** Tuesday of each month.

The next will be on 23rd June.

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.

Overton Parish Council Notes

From Laura Harley - Parish Clerk

OPC Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson: At the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 13th May, it was agreed that Alan Whitney should continue as Chairperson and Lucy Sloane Williams as Vice-Chairperson.

Highways & Byways: After 20 years, Brian Langer has decided to stand down as OPC's Highways & Byways Representative. The Parish Council would like to thank Brian for all the time and effort he has spent while in this role, which has now been taken on by Tom Ridler.

However, Brian will continue to be the Public Transport Representative, so queries and complaints about buses and trains should still be directed to him. **(Contact details for Tom, Brian and all other Parish Councillors are shown in the Directory at the foot of page 4 of ON&V)**

Grit bins: Further to the May edition of ON&V, it has been agreed to purchase another 7 grit bins for the village - probably heralding the start of a number of mild winters!

Dog fouling: Further to PC Baldwin's article in the May edition of ON&V, the Parish Council has again received several complaints about dog fouling. It is illegal to allow your dog to foul the pavement or verge on roads where there is a 40mph or lower speed limit. It is particularly unpleasant for the person who walks in it when it has not been cleared up. Remember that if you knowingly allow your dog(s) to foul you could face up to a £1000 fine.

We also ask dog walkers on footpath (5 used by school children from Kingsclere Road to school) to pick up after their dogs foul it - there are bins at both ends of the path.

Planning Applications

Agreed by Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council:

BDB/70336 2 Batten's Avenue. Erection of single-storey side infill extension and construction of pitched roof over existing single-storey rear element, involving insertion of roof lights. Conversion of roof space to living accommodation, involving the insertion of front and rear roof lights.

BDB/70331 20 Copse Road. Erection of a timber-framed double garage.

BDB/70288 Berrydown Court, London Road. Erection of detached three-bay garage with ancillary office and first floor storage space following demolition of existing straw burner and store. Erection of storage barn following demolition of existing, construction of driveway from east entrance to main house and erection of new fence with gates around service yard to east of entrance.

Agreed Planning Applications (continued from column 1)

BDB/69908 Post Office, 15 - 17 Winchester St. Overton. Installation of 1 no. ATM cash dispenser to front elevation
BDB/70205 Lower Ashe Farm, Ashe Lane. Erection of single-storey side extension with chimney.

Police News - Beat Update

From PC3909 Richard Baldwin - Parish Beat Officer

April was another low crime month with only 12 reported crimes. However, we did have two serious arson attacks on cars parked up by the Railway Station this month (14th and 30th). I would strongly advise commuters not to leave their cars parked overnight in the overflow car park up at the station. (Our neighbours over in Whitchurch also suffered two similar attacks in the same period.)

Hot News: a house in Overton was broken into on the morning of Sunday 3rd May sometime between 10.30am and 1.40pm. The house was unoccupied at the time of the forced entry. A small amount of cash was stolen. If anyone saw or heard anything suspicious at the top end of the Village - around the Pound Road/Winchester Street area - at that time, please let me know. Can I remind everyone that you should secure all doors/windows when you go out and **never** leave door/window keys in locks.

Next Police Surgery

This will be on Monday 15th June from 12.00 noon to 2.00pm in the Parish Office at St Mary's Hall.

Rural Mobile Police Office

The Mobile Police Office visits Overton Community Centre car park every Tuesday between 2.30pm and 4.30pm. Station Enquiry Officer Stewart Packham will be on board ready to take your questions or hear concerns.

Overton's Community Wardens

are Richard Tozer and Lucy Gaitskell on **845508** or Email: community.wardens@basingstoke.gov.uk

Contact Details

My work mobile number is **07776 172303**. If I'm busy, or off-duty, you will be transferred to the Police Control Room (**0845 045 45 45**) where you can leave a message for me or report any matters to the Police Operator.

Alternatively you can contact me by Email at richard.baldwin@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

For all non-emergency calls you can now call 101

Remember - in the event of an Emergency - Call 999

New PCSO for Overton

My name is Sabrina Smith and I have recently joined the Whitchurch Safer Neighbourhood Team as the new Police Community Support Officer for Overton. I will be working closely with PC Richard Baldwin to achieve the highest standard of community safety possible.

I am hoping to attend regularly community events such as the village fete, parish council meetings, coffee mornings etc so that I am able to meet as many of members of the community as possible. I will also be out on the Beat daily, so please do not hesitate to stop and talk to share any thoughts or concerns you may have.

Alternatively, please telephone **0845 045 45 45** or Email me at Sabrina.smith.14407@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting will be at 8.15pm on Thursday 11th June at Portals Sports and Social Club (Public Time will be from 8.00pm to 8.15pm). An update on Freefolk and Laverstoke Village Hall and Portals Sports and Social Club is on the agenda at the meeting and everyone is welcome. **Rachel Abbott, Clerk to the Council, Email laverstoke.clerk@btinternet.com**

Affordable Housing in Overton

New affordable housing is being built in Overton as part of the new developments - 30 affordable homes on Overton Hill and 22 at Foxdown.

I have been asked if there will still be "housing need" here when both developments are finished. Yes, there will - the latest figures from Basingstoke show 103 applicants waiting (and around half of the 55 new homes are already occupied). I am assured that the "local connection" rule is applied robustly, so that only applicants with a genuine connection to Overton are offered affordable homes here. For further information about affordable housing, please contact the Council at (www.basingstoke.gov.uk or on 845250) or me, Cllr Paula Baker, on 771219 or by Email at cllr.paula.baker@basingstoke.gov.uk

Overton Recreation Centre (ORC)

ORC congratulates the winners in the draw held on 8th May. £1000 was won by Mr. Angelo Cambianica, £200 by Richard Hudson and three prizes of £100 by John Thomas, Christopher Oram and Jim Doggett, all Overton.

ORC's Annual Meeting was held 27th April. The audited annual accounts, showing a turnover for 2008 in excess of £100k, were approved and the Inspected Annual Accounts for Overtonpictures.com were also available.

Treasurer Shirley Truscott and General Manager Colin Parker both gave reports which identified areas of progress during the year and for the future

A new Committee for 2009-2010 was voted in and the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks for the work of the outgoing Chairman - after four years in the post, Paul Wheeler announced that he was standing down. His positive report emphasised that the Charity is in a good position to move forward and achieve its future targets and paid particular tribute to the volunteer membership collectors, many of long-standing. A short meeting of the new Management Committee was then held and Steve Williams voted in as new Chairman. **From Colin Parker (771038)**

Overton Library

This year's summer reading challenge is called **Quest Seekers** - more details next month.

We are looking for adult volunteers to help between mid-July and early September, at times to suit. Just a few hours would be helpful.

The latest innovation to be introduced here is automatic notification when your requests reach the library. If we have your email address, it will be used: otherwise a letter will come in the post. Unfortunately the latter is proving rather slow, so please think about using the Email service!

Finally, our Book and DVD sale continues, with new items added regularly, so do come in to see what's available.

From Chris Vane, Library Supervisor

Overton C of E Primary School

Summer term sees the start of Maypole, Longsword and Country dancing again. May Day was celebrated with the crowning of the May Queen and the children are fortunate to have been invited to demonstrate their various skills at the

Winchester Mayfest, the Country Dancing Festival at John Hanson Community School in June and The Overton Scarecrow Festival in July.

"Keeping up with your child" workshops have started, focusing on Literacy and Numeracy. An outside facilitator is coming in to school to hold fun, hands-on, workshops discussing terminology used in schools and making some unique resources available to support children at home.

The Key Stage 2 Girls' Football Team played a friendly match with a local school and won more matches than they lost in the pouring rain!!! Well done to the girls, and their teacher, for their commitment.

The children have been working hard towards their mid-May SATS: we wish them all great success.

From Debbie Dennison - Parent Governor

Overton Dramatic Society (ODS)

Seats are selling like hot cakes for our forthcoming production of **The Full Monty** - the musical, which we are staging in St Mary's Hall, from Tuesday 9th to Saturday 13th June, with curtain-up at 7.30pm. If you haven't got your tickets already (price £6.50, or £5.50 concessions), you can get them either at St Mary's Hall on Saturday mornings from 9.00am - 12.00 noon during our set-built sessions, or from The Faraway Tree, High Street (**770333**) during their usual opening hours.

From Jill Smith (770027)

Overton Garden Open Days - June & July

- The gardens will be open at Turrill House, Southington, from 2.00pm - 6.00pm on Wednesday 10th June and Sunday 14th June in aid of the NE Hants branch of the **Motor Neurone Disease Association** - please do come and support **MNDA**. Entrance is £3.00 for Adults (children free). Teas and plant sales. No dogs please. Bring wellies if wet. For further information please telephone **763243** or **07798.891223** **From Hilary Bridgman**

- Hidden Gardens, open again... Come and enjoy **Teas by the Test** - Cream Teas, home-made cakes, etc on Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th July, between 2.00pm and 5.00pm. Entrance via The Old Surgery in Kingsclere Road, opposite Town Mill (follow the arrows). Parking available. Admission £2.00 (children free). All Proceeds to Local Charities. **From Mary Reid and Lyn Macmillan**

- Elvina and Colin Parker will be opening their garden for charity on Sunday 5th July from 12 noon to 4.00pm. There will be tea and home-made cakes and a plant sale at The Garden House, 4 Nightingale Rise, Overton (off Waltham Road - first left past crossroads of Sprents Lane and Two-Gate Lane). **From Elvina Parker**

Overton School Association (OSA)

The Overton Primary School Summer Fête will take place on Saturday 13th June between 12 noon and 2.30pm. We will be having all the usual attractions - fun fair, bouncy castles, car-boot sale, face-painting, tombola, cake and plant stalls - as well as a licensed bar and BBQ, with meat from our local butcher... and of course the children will take the opportunity to show off their sporting, singing and dancing prowess.

Thank you to all the businesses that have donated some fantastic raffle prizes. This is an important fund-raising day for us and your support is invaluable. If you would like to take part in the car boot sale the cost will be £5.00 - just turn up between 11.00am and 12 noon and follow the signs. We look forward to seeing you. **From Emma Payne - Chairman**

Additional copies of ON&V are available each month from:-
The Co-op (in the rack below their notice boards), the Library, Parnell Jordy & Harvey, the Doctors' Surgery. Also - in colour - via www.OvertonVillage.com (click on "Parish Council" first)

This month's cover photo is of swans on the River Test

Overton Scarecrow Festival (and Family Fun weekend) 17th - 19th July

It will be great to see everyone there.

Here's some of what is lined up:

Wheelbarrow Race: It's back! It's nearly 40 years since the first Wheelbarrow Race, which returns on Friday 17th July starting at 7.30 pm in Pound Road and doing the rounds of the local Inns.

Don't miss this fun event which kicks off

The Overton Scarecrow Festival 2009

Scarecrow Rocks I: Friday 17th July at St Luke's Hall, 8.00pm till 11.30pm, with Acoustix, Nina McCann, DJ Codge and DJ Geoff.

Scarecrow Rocks II: Saturday 18th at ORC Pavilion in Bridge Street, 7.30pm till 11.30pm, with The Fortunate, The Cookie Monsters, Bullit and Skidmarx.

Advance Tickets for both events are £5.00 each (£6.00 on the night) from The Fireplace Shop, other local shops, and Colin Phillimore (771127)

Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th July: from noon each day at Overton Recreation Centre, Bridge Street: Fun events, children's rides and attractions, wide range of stalls. Adult admission by lucky programme. Kids under 16 free. Programmes (£1.00) on sale at The Fireplace shop, The Men's Room, Overton Deli and other local stores.

Come on - let's show what Overton can do!

Overton & District U3A

On Wednesday 15th April local farmer, James Crosbie-Dawson, spoke to us about his and his family's life on the farm. He spoke of the many changes which have taken place over the years.....but, there is still English weather! Some of you may have noticed the attractive strips around the field edges, full of wild flowers, but may not have noticed the ground nesting birds. Please keep dogs on a lead at this time of year when walking these areas.

At our next meeting, at 10.00am on Wednesday 17th June in St Mary's Hall, Peter Wells will be speaking about **The World of Precious Metals.**

Monthly meetings are free to members: for a small charge of £3.00 visitors are always welcome. Refreshments are available for everyone at 50p each. For further information please contact **Diana Goodwin** on 771855 or Email dianaw@tesco.net *From Jacky Lessware*

St Mary's Hall Overton

Film Night: The Reader (15) will be shown at 7.30pm on Friday 19th June. Tickets are available from The Fireplace Shop for £5.00 in advance (£5.50 on the door).

Twisted Karaoke - with Agent Funkateur: on Saturday 27th June Overton's favourite funk band returns to St Mary's Hall with more live karaoke mayhem. If you ever wanted to sing on stage with a professional band, this is your chance. Door and bar open 7.30pm. Tickets at £7.00 (adults) £5.00 (concessions) from The Fireplace Shop or Adrian Zolotuhin adrian@thebetterbutton.com (771883)

Get practicing: it's going to be a busy night!

St Luke's Hall Overton - 2009 AGM

This will take place at 7.30pm for 7.45pm on Thursday 25th June in St Luke's Hall, Winchester Street. All residents (aged 16 and over) of the parish of Overton are welcome to attend. The Trustees will present the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2008 and report on recent progress of the agreed proposal for an "Enhanced Refurbishment" of the existing hall. *From Pat Taylor - Chairman*

Overton Pre-School

In April, the children took part in a sponsored treasure hunt to raise money for the Playgroup. We had a great turnout and the children had lots of fun finding letters and objects hidden around Overton School grounds.

On Saturday 27th June from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon we will be holding an open "Fun" morning at the Playgroup in

the Overton Community Centre setting. Among the entertainments will be our fantastic raffle and tombola, a cake stall, genuine French crêpes for sale, face painting, and a pebble painting competition. We hope this event will be of interest to you or anyone you know who has children due to start Playgroup soon. Please phone Amanda on 770370 for further details. *From Anouska Colledge*

Overton Garden Society (OGS)

Unfortunately, due to inclement weather, the evening visit on 14th May to Weir House, Alresford was cancelled. Our next meeting on 11th June is for members only.

On Thursday 9th July a visit has been arranged to Spring Pond, Laverstoke Lane, leaving the Community Centre at 6.15 pm. The cost of £5.00 a person includes light refreshments. *From Bob Gardner - Chairman*

St Mary's Church Fête

This will be held on Saturday 11th July from 1.00pm - 4.00pm in the Old Rectory Garden, Bridge Street, by kind permission of Humphrey and Vanessa Miller.

Come for a BBQ lunch, enjoy loads of attractions, stalls and sideshows - and stay for afternoon tea or strawberries and cream. *From George Lihou*

Keep Fit in Overton!

Keep Fit Classes are held in St Mary's Church Rooms, on Mondays from 7.00pm - 8.00pm, and on Fridays from 9.15am - 10.15am. Also, **Power Walking** on Thursdays from 9.30am - 10.30am (meet outside St Mary's Hall).

All are suitable for any ability. Friendly, fun, classes which have been established for over five years, with Jill (fully qualified and insured instructor). Term-time only.

For more information call Jill on 07879.473759

Letters to the Editor

Please note that Letters submitted anonymously will not be considered, although names may occasionally be withheld at the discretion of the Editor, who reserves the right not to print articles without giving a reason

This letter was received in good time for inclusion in May's edition of ON&V, but electronic gremlins somehow intervened - and, by the time this June edition is published on Friday 29th May, the riders will have completed their epic journey. My apologies to all of them for the delay in publishing it.

Spring Bank Holiday Charity Cycle Ride to Cornwall

On Friday 22nd May, my brother Mackenzie and I (Amber Phillips) are cycling from Overton to Watergate Bay, near Newquay, with two friends (Archie Fletcher and Lewis Watts) and our dads. Our aim is to complete the 210 mile journey by Tuesday 26th May, to raise money for Cancer Research UK in memory of our nan, Marian Phillips, who sadly died last year after living in the village all her life.

We've been in training in and around Overton, so you may have seen us on the roads, or in the Community Centre on 16th May! Thank you to drivers who have been patient, to the pedestrians who have cheered us on and to everyone who has supported us! **If any other readers would also like to sponsor us, forms are still kindly being displayed until mid-June at Overton Pharmacy, Overton Bathroom Centre and Berrydown Garage.**

Q (By Email) Dear Editor - I am trying to find an article from a previous edition of **ON&V** but I'm not sure in which month it appeared. Please can you help?

A As you have an internet connection, why not visit the Overton website www.OvertonVillage.com

If you Click on "Parish Council" first, then on "News & Views" you can view the current and all previous editions as far back as January 2000 in **pdf** format (you can also download a **free** copy of Acrobat Reader to enable you to read **pdfs**).

PS While on the Overton website, why not have a look at the other sections - such as **News** and the **Village Diary**?

St Mary's Churchyard (In response to the letter in May ON&V): While many of us are able to tend our loved ones' graves regularly, there are some folk who, for one reason or another, are not able to do this - such as the elderly, those who have mobility problems, who are poorly or who live away from Overton. We aren't fans of the artificial flowers, but people have every right to have the graves as they wish. It's not a fashion parade - and, let's face it, even fresh flowers fade and die and look sad. I'm sure the Lord isn't taking notes. Let it be.
Cherry Howard, Overton
 (Letters, with very similar sentiments, were also received from Sue Green, Ellen Daley and Rosy Hall, all of Overton. Editor.)

This month's Thank You Letters....

Overton Methodist Church: Many thanks to everyone who supported The Daffodil Supper on 25th April. We were entertained by Nick on the piano and serenaded by Emily's singing. A record £678 was divided between Water Aid and Macmillan Nurses.

St Mary's Church: The Spring Fair Local Charities Coffee Morning on 25th April raised £581 to be divided between Darby & Joan, A.C.T.I.O.N, Overton Scouts, The Kingfisher Trust, The Mothers' Union Holiday Club and Andover Food Bank. Thanks to everyone involved.
Jane Waldram

Marathon (Police)Man: I would personally like to thank everyone who sponsored me for running the London Marathon on 26th April in aid of the Overton-based HART Wildlife Rescue. £676 has been raised so far, with "Gift Aid" adding a further 28% to the majority of those donations. Just for the record I finished in 5hrs 24mins - slower than I anticipated, but that may have had something to do with the warm weather and me wearing a "Rocky" costume - a foam padded suit, boxing gloves, a wig (not that I need one) and an 8lb rucksack filled with loudspeakers blasting out the Rocky soundtrack!
Richard Baldwin (aka Rocky)

HART Wildlife Rescue wishes to add its congratulations to PC Richard Baldwin. We are full of admiration for him and very grateful that he should have chosen us to be his cause. We are delighted to say that, as people learn about his heroic efforts, more donations have been received - we think the total is now likely to be close to £1000. A big thank you to Richard and everyone who sponsored him, helping us one step further towards a new wildlife hospital and education centre.
Jackie Grey - HART

Overton Biodiversity Society: Huge thanks, to Gill Corbett on the squeeze box and Pat Dale with her maypole, from the 70 or so folk who came to the May Fun Day in Little Meadow on a sunny 2nd May. It was really enjoyable and the picnic area was like a billiard table (nearly!) thanks to Ian Hill's hard work mowing and raking it.
Jane MacKenzie

The next (July 2009) edition of **Overton News & Views** will be published on Friday 3rd July and will cover events taking place up to mid-August
The deadline for contributions is TUESDAY 16th June
 Please send them to the Editor, Chris Penney, either as a **WORD attachment** to an Email to OvertonNewsViews@aol.com or typed to 7 Batten's Avenue, Overton, RG25 3NL

Highways & Transport News
 From Brian Langer - Highways & Transport Representative

Highways

Potholes. The County Council has made available extra funding to repair potholes which have increased in number significantly as a result of the winter's weather.

If you see white lines sprayed on the road around potholes it probably means HCC is aware of the need to repair them.

If not, contact **0845 603 5633** and report any new ones.

They cannot be repaired in wet weather.

Maintenance of gulleys and roadside ditches.

Some gulleys become blocked because of silt, but two in Station Road are suffering from a chestnut tree root growing inside the underground pipe work: it will take the County Council some time to rectify this.

Although the County Council often has highway rights over verges, the ownership of such areas usually lies with the adjacent landowner. It is the latter who is responsible for ensuring ditches alongside the highway and leading from the highway to the ditch (grips) are cleared out to prevent flooding and allow surface water to escape.

Village 30 speed limit initiative. The Parish Council is pleased to note that the extension of the 30mph limit around the village has now taken place. The 30mph limit zone now extends from Southington in the west to Two Gate Meadow in the east and to the railway bridge on Kingsclere Road to the north.

Rural cut. This is organised twice a year by the County Council, starting in April, and deals with a metre-wide cut of verges. The contractor covers a huge area of north Hampshire, so timing is difficult to assess. Sensitive areas, both regarding specific plants and road safety considerations, eg Ashe crossroads, have already been dealt with.

The rural cut does **not** deal with tree growth which has to be done before the bird nesting season.

Transport

Overcrowded buses.

It has been common knowledge that several peak hour services to Basingstoke have been overcrowded and Stagecoach Andover does run a duplicate bus to alleviate the matter on one service. It would be appreciated by those "not so young" or with a physical impairment if students were prepared to offer their seat to make the journey that bit more bearable. In the reverse direction, Stagecoach Andover now runs a small bus at 0824 on schooldays from Laverstoke to Testbourne School to take pressure off the 0820 (Overton to Andover) and the 0818 (Overton to Winchester). Some people have been left behind on those services but, although standing may still be necessary, it is hoped that in future you will be able to board.

School/college holidays should also ease the problem.

Village service - 74 (Burghfield Mini Coaches).

This service, funded by the County Council, is due for re-tendering this year. The Principal Transport Officer (North Hampshire) advises that the schedule won't be finalised before the County Council elections on 4th June. Parish and other councils will be advised of the process thereafter and that will be the time to make Overton's views known.

Many points were raised at the Bus Forum in March, but please let me know of any other issues that arise so they can also be dealt with.

<i>For problems or comments about Overton Parish Council matters, please contact:</i>			
Parish Council Chairman	Alan Whitney	770174	Email alan-whitney@hotmail.co.uk
Vice-Chairman	Lucy Sloane Williams	770607	Email lucysloanewilliams@btinternet.com
Parish Councillors			
Maggie Atkins 770369	Brian Langer 770848	Transport Representative	
Mark Attwell 770472	David Llewellyn 773004		
Peter Baker 770007	Tom Ridler 773108	Highways & Byways Representative	
Tony Leach 772020	Paula Baker 771219	(also Borough Councillor)	
Jacky Lessware 773043	Ian Tilbury 771429	(also Borough Councillor)	
Clerk to the Council is Laura Harley, Oak Tree Lodge, Roundwood, Micheldever, Winchester, Hants. SO21 3BA Tel: 771919 Email opc@overtonvillage.com			
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