

# Overton News & Views



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

Information and Comment on Village Activities

August 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 12<sup>th</sup> August.

**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 25<sup>th</sup> August.

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.

## Police News - Beat Update

\*\*\*\*\* The Rural Mobile Police Office \*\*\*\*\*

visits Overton Community Centre Forecourt every Tuesday between 2.30pm and 4.30pm with Station Enquiry Officer Stewart Packham.

**My Next Police Surgery** is on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August from 12.00noon to 2.00pm in the Parish Office, St Mary's Hall.

**Four years:** July marks my 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary as Overton's Community Beat Officer and I couldn't ask for a better way to mark this than with the lowest recorded month of crime during my tenure - June was simply an outstanding month with an all-time low of only 8 x reported crimes.

I have always stated publicly that it is my intention to remain as the local Parish Bobby for as long as I could or until you have had enough of me. Well, I'm still here - and I haven't received a dunking in the Test...yet!

**Your Voice Counts:** Thanks to everyone who completed and returned this leaflet. We've collated all the results and by far the most popular concern of Overton residents is Anti-Social Behaviour, with Speed of Traffic coming a close second. There were many other concerns and suggestions and I take on board comments that you would like a more visible Police presence on the streets of Overton - especially at night time. With Sabrina (PCSO Smith) now on board, we have decided as a team that Overton is really lacking in Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, with large areas of the village not covered. So it has been decided that our third priority will remain starting up brand new Neighbourhood Watch Schemes.

**I will keep you updated on how these three local Policing Priorities are being tackled.**

**From PC3909 Richard Baldwin - Parish Beat Officer**

**Mobile: 07776 172303 Police Control Room: 0845 045 45 45**

**Email: [richard.baldwin@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto: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**

*The Overton Beat area extends to Polhampton Lodge (B3051) to the North, Ashe to the East, Freefolk to the West and Coxford Down (A303) to the South.*

## Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September at Portals Sports and Social Club. Public Time will be from 8.00pm to 8.15pm, with the Parish Council Meeting starting at 8.15pm. An update on Freefolk and Laverstoke Village Hall and Portals Sports and Social Club is on the agenda at the meeting. Everyone is welcome.

**Rachel Abbott, Clerk to the Council,**  
**Email [laverstoke.clerk@btinternet.com](mailto:laverstoke.clerk@btinternet.com)**



## The 5<sup>th</sup> Great Overton Duck Race



The fun starts at 12noon on August Bank Holiday Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August on the River Test at The Flashetts, in Station Road. There will be 8 duck races, face painting, BBQ, ice creams, licensed bar, tea/coffee & cake stall, duck tombola, handmade jewellery and more!

There are still some stall spaces available - if you would like to book one, or need more information about the event, please contact Maggs Steward on **771457**

Also, look out for the "Quackers" table in the Community Centre Square on Saturdays in August where you can get Duck Race T-shirts, order and/or sponsor ducks, or register your much loved duck to compete in the very popular "Race Your Own Duck" event.

## Overton Traffic & Environmental Improvements

Work to install a "Green Man/Red Man" pedestrian phase to the traffic lights in the centre of Overton has been approved to start in late July and due to end by early September.

Graham Moyle contractors will deliver the work at a cost of around £200,000 including planned resurfacing of the junction, to reduce the impact of essential maintenance work in future. There will also be minor footway improvements near the football pitch on the B3400 and easier pedestrian crossing of Red Lion Lane to Edward Kersley Playing Field.

The aim is to improve conditions for vulnerable road users, especially the elderly and school children, on a key route to the village primary school - principally by increasing the sense of security at several locations - notably the central junction of High Street, Winchester Street and Kingsclere Road, where pedestrians will be told when it is safe to cross the road by the familiar "green man" - as opposed to the current situation with the threat of oncoming traffic.

The work will necessitate a two-day closure of the southerly section of Kingsclere Road (south of Church Road to the White Hart junction) and a day closure of the traffic signal-controlled junction to allow the resurfacing to proceed. Some disruption during this period is unavoidable but every care will be taken to keep this to a minimum - and it is hoped that residents and the travelling public will have patience during these improvements. Kingsclere Road is due to be closed and partially resurfaced on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>

August, while the closure of the traffic signal junction will occur on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>. Both events are vulnerable to weather conditions, so there is a reserve date of 29<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> August if they cannot proceed as planned.

Due to the closure of the White Hart junction, planned for 23<sup>rd</sup> August, two buses will operate on the 76/86 route. One will travel between Whitchurch and Overton, terminating at the Woodlands roundabout, the other between Basingstoke and Overton, terminating close to the car park just east of the traffic signals. It will be necessary for travellers wishing to continue journeys through Overton to walk between these pick-up/drop-off points. The bus drivers will communicate with each other to ensure that all passengers can safely walk between the points without missing their connection.

If you have any questions regarding improvement works in Overton, please call Tom Robison in the Traffic and Transport Team on **776138** or Email him at [tom.robison@hants.gov.uk](mailto:tom.robison@hants.gov.uk) If your enquiry is outside of office hours, please contact **0845 8504422**

### Overton Folk Club

After an extremely hot night in July listening to the lovely sounds of Hector Gilchrist and Sue Grave, our next meeting is on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August from 8.00pm at The Red Lion. Something a little different this month - a music hall themed night featuring Overton's very own Pearly Queen, Lola Gibbard. Everyone is very welcome to come along and join in the fun - and maybe even give us a song or recital!

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September will be a sing around night, also in The Red Lion, from 8.00pm. **From Tom Hanley**

### Overton Garden Society

On Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July members visited Spring Pond, Laverstoke. There was a tour of the beautiful and well-stocked gardens and orchard, followed by a delightful buffet. Thanks go to our kind hosts, Carolyn and Julian Sheffield, for a most inspiring visit.

On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August, members meet at 6.15pm at the Community Centre for a visit to Bere Mill, Whitchurch.

**OGS** membership costs £6 per annum. New members can attend and join at any of our meetings in the Overton Community Centre. However, to attend any garden visits, membership must be taken out first for insurance reasons - we have cover for all members through the **RHS** - and there is usually a small charge for garden visits to cover refreshments and/or charity donations.

You can also join **OGS** by contacting Marion Lambert (on **771866**) Mary Taylor (on **770564**) Bob or Kathy Gardner (on **770416**) **From Kathy Gardner, Committee**

### Overton Recreation Centre (ORC)

**ORC** congratulates these winners in the draw held on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2009 at the Pavilion, Bridge Street.

The £1000 prize was won by Mrs C Hewetson-Brown of Ashe, the £200 prize by Miss Susan Robinson and the three prizes of £100 each by Eric McCann, Colin Phillimore and Ms J Simpson (all of Overton).

The next Management Committee Meeting will be on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August and the Draw on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> August - both at The Pavilion, Bridge Street.

**ORC**, who have provided facilities for sport and recreation in Overton since 1965, recently received a huge boost when **B&DBC** granted planning permission for the **ORC** charity to develop the Berrydown Sports Ground within the village at the top of Overton Hill. A new pavilion is planned - with four high spec. changing areas, a meeting room and a cricket pavilion frontage, complemented by a new access road off the B3400 with parking spaces for 52 vehicles. This visionary provision will provide Overton with excellent facilities for the next 50 years.

Fund raising has been going on since 2002 and, with help from developers' contributions, national and local funding, Overton can aspire to its own 2012 Olympic legacy.

Our own membership scheme provides the opportunity to support the development of all existing **ORC** facilities. Why not join the other 3000 single memberships in making a real contribution to the future of Overton?

For forms and further information, contact Emma Scoggins on **770455** **From Colin Parker (771038)**

### Overton Art Group

We will be holding our annual exhibition from 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August, from 10.00am-6.00pm, at the Recreation Centre, Bridge Street. Admission free. Original pictures for sale.

### Overton Harriers & Athletic Club

The Club will be holding its 21<sup>st</sup> Overton '5' (5 miles road race) on the usual course of two laps around the village on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September starting at 3.00pm from the Bridge Street Recreation Centre. There will also be a one-lap 2½ miles Fun Run at the same time. For further details and/or an entry form, please ring **770348** or visit our website at [www.overtonharriers.org.uk](http://www.overtonharriers.org.uk)

... and a note from **PC Richard Baldwin** ... Please be mindful of the potential for delays of local car journeys that you might make between 15:00hrs and 16:00hrs on that afternoon. I would suggest avoiding the centre of the Village at this time - in particular the traffic lights at the Winchester Street/High Street junction, as this is where traffic is held up the most. Thanks in advance for your cooperation and support of this local community event.

### Overton Choral Society

Our excellent Chairman, Penny Horner, has decided to resign after many years of being our guiding force. She will be a very hard act to follow - her command of languages is excellent and her deft way organising trips and events unsurpassed. Without her we would not have our wonderful relationship with our twin choir Euskirchen. Sadly, Cynthia Kemp has died - a dear friend to many in Overton and to **OCS** for over 60 years: we have now lost our last original link with Winchester and County Music Festival in which she was still singing until 2007.

We will meet again on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 7.45pm in St Mary's Hall, when our conductor, Paul Timms, will talk us through the year's programme and advise us of the music we will need. All are welcome. Please come to the rehearsal if you would like to meet us and find out what we do and sing. **From Lyn Hardy (397507)**

### Overton & District U3A

There is no meeting in August - the next will be on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 10.00am in St Mary's Hall, when Terry Tarrant will be speaking about the Manydown Farm and Shop, familiar to many of us through the farm shop at Worthing, Basingstoke.

These monthly meetings are free to members. For a small charge of £3.00 visitors are always welcome. Refreshments are available for everyone at 50p.

For information on membership please contact Jan Baker on **773371** or Email [janbaker2007@btinternet.com](mailto:janbaker2007@btinternet.com) or, for other information, please visit our website at [www.overtonu3a.org.uk](http://www.overtonu3a.org.uk) **From Jacky Lessware**

### Overton Sheepfair 2012

**The dates have now been firmly set as Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2012.**

Although that's three years in the future, we wanted to let Overtonians know well in advance, because we realise that the closure of Winchester Street can affect wedding plans and holiday travel plans etc.

Also, as with previous Sheepfairs, we've made provisional bookings with the Overton Community Centre & forecourt, St Mary's Hall & Garden and St Luke's Hall & Garden, which means that these will not now be available for any other functions that weekend.

The theme has yet to be decided, but suggestions have been received for "Olympics" or "our Queen's Diamond Jubilee". Any thoughts? **From Sandy Sykes - Secretary**

## Overton Biodiversity Society (OBS)

**Wild-trek trailer.** OBS were delighted to be able to fund a visit to Overton Primary School by this trailer on 18<sup>th</sup> June. It is a hi-tech mobile biology laboratory equipped with computers, a video microscope and a range of wildlife surveying equipment, manned by a highly experienced biology teacher.

Each class (except the ones doing their SATS!) was able to sample wildlife from the school grounds and were helped to classify them (as spiders, grasshoppers, woodlice, etc) before their specimens were placed under a microscope which projected an image onto the trailer's large screen. Over 200 children were able to benefit from this experience, and some interesting specimens found included ladybird larvae, spiders and a rare bee.

**Watch out for slow worms!!** With the warm weather many slow worms have been seen round the village. Unfortunately, several have been seen squashed on roads (for example at Court Drove, Foxdown and Silk Mill Lane). Please, keep an eye out for them when driving, riding bicycles or walking around the village to try and spare them.

*From Margaret Rainsford*

## Overton Library

This summer there's a new addition to the reading scheme. We're doing a **Book Crawl** - aimed at children who are too young for the "reading" part of Book Quest, but still enjoy sharing books with their families. Each child taking part will receive stickers for each visit, plus a certificate at the end - so please bring your little ones to join in the fun.

*From Chris Vane, Library Supervisor*

## Overton School Association

Thank you to all who attended this year's Summer Fête. We took £4,800 on the day - a large proportion of which will be profit, thanks to the help and support of many local businesses and individuals. It is due to support at events like this that we have been able to fund the new school pond. The children and staff are very excited about this brilliant new resource, construction of which should be complete by the time you read this.

Looking forward, on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September we are thrilled to be hosting Happy's Circus at the school at 6.00pm - a fully professional 2-hour traditional family circus with crazy clowns, magical illusions and daring aerialists. Posters with more information will be out later in the summer.

*From Emma Payne, Chairman*



## Customers made welcome at HART's new Andover charity shop

Customers wanting to help Hampshire wildlife can now drop in donations and buy quality goods at HART's new charity shop, in Winchester Street, Andover - which was opened by veterinary surgeon John Chitty and his family at 10.00am on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June. The weeks leading to this opening were frenetic for shop manager Jane Rebut and her small team of volunteers, who ensured that the shop was clean, tidy and full to bursting with excellent bric-a-brac, designer clothes, books and music. Jane said "We have been running a very successful shop in Alton for more than a year now. People appreciate the quality of goods for sale and we receive many compliments about how well presented it is. We are extremely fortunate to have some very generous regular suppliers but, of course, will always need more. So please come in and support us." More help is still needed and Jane would be pleased to hear from any prospective volunteers on **07966 223828**

## St Mary's Hall Film Night

The next film will be **Last Chance Harvey** (12A) on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm. It stars Dustin Hoffman and Emma Thompson in a story about new beginnings at any age. Tickets are £5.00 in advance from Overton Fireplaces or £5.50 on the night.

**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](http://www.OvertonVillage.com) (click on "Parish Council" first)

*This month's cover picture: Ready to harvest grain*

## Letters to the Editor

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

**Teas by the Test - 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> July.** We are very pleased to announce that a total of **£727.00** was collected at our two garden open days, which will be donated to support the Temporary Overton Museum project (TOM) and Overton Recreation Centre (ORC).

We wish to thank everyone for such a successful weekend and for the generous donations of cakes and scones. Sincere thanks in particular to Josie, Monique and John, as their hard work made it possible!

*From Lyn & John Macmillan, Mary & Bob Reid*

**Garden Open Day - 5<sup>th</sup> July.** A big thank you to all who came along to see our garden in Nightingale Rise. We had a very successful afternoon (despite competing with Wimbledon Men's Finals!) and we were delighted to raise £320 which will go to St. Michael's Hospice and Overton Recreation Centre.

*From Elvina & Colin Parker*

**St Mary's Church Fête** brightened up a dreary, damp, Saturday afternoon on 11<sup>th</sup> July and hundreds of people braved the weather and enjoyed the various activities.

We are grateful for everyone's support and also want to thank the many Overton businesses that donated prizes. The proceeds, totally about £3,400, will be shared equally between Mission & Charities and General Church Funds. If you still have programme number 115 and you ring me on **770184** you will be awarded the second Programme prize!

*From George Lihou*

**The Friends of Oakley and Overton Surgeries** would like to thank all those who have made donations both large and small over recent years. It has enabled them, in conjunction with the Practice, to buy and service items and provide services not normally available through NHS funding.

*From Sue Carter, Secretary*

**Dog Fouling Warning.** Wheelie bin owners should be aware of the possibility of dog litter being deposited in them, even if they are just inside one's property. We have had this type of "present" twice - in untied plastic bags.

*Name & Overton address supplied*

## September's Overton News & Views

will be published on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August, covering Overton events taking place up to mid-October. Please send contributions to the Editor, Chris Penney, - **no later than the final deadline of Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August** - preferably as an Email with **WORD attachment to [OvertonNewsViews@aol.com](mailto:OvertonNewsViews@aol.com)** or typed to 7 Batten's Avenue, Overton, RG25 3NL

## Overton Parish Council Notes

From Laura Harley - Parish Clerk

### Village Centre Parking

The parish council has agreed not to make any changes to village centre parking at present. It was felt that the proposals would not achieve a benefit for the village and would result in urbanisation of the village centre.

(The aim of the proposed new parking scheme had been to encourage all day parkers to use the car park on Overton Hill, by introducing parking restrictions and a residents' parking scheme in the village centre - which would free up spaces for shoppers and residents.)

**The parish council urges everyone who parks all day in the village to use the Overton Hill car park.**

### Planning Applications

#### Agreed by Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council:

**BDB/ BDB/70589** - Erection of a single storey rear extension with pitched roof at Ramblers, Sapley.

**BDB/70524** - erection of a single storey side extension (part retrospective) at Anjoyden, 4 Red Lion Lane

**BDB/70654** - change of use of ground floor office to youth drop in centre (Class Use D1) at 8A High Street

**BDB/70337** - erection of new sports pavilion and construction of new access to site with new parking arrangement at Overton Recreation Centre, London Road

#### Refused by Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council:

**BDB/70543** - Erection of 1 no. two bedroom bungalow and erection of a single storey side extension to existing bungalow to form link to new bungalow at 36 Dellands.

### Transport News

From Brian Langer - Transport/Lighting Representative

#### Transport - buses

**Village Service 74:** Further to the article on page 1, column 2, this service will have to travel from the village centre to and from Hill Meadow via Station and Hilltop Roads on the Saturday(s) when part of Kingsclere Road is shut. **NB:** Following Burghfield Mini Coaches' notice of termination of their contract with **HCC**, this service will now be operated by Steventon Transport Services (**STS**) as from Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August - on the same schedule.

**Subsidised services: Re-tendering:** The parish council provided its response on the evening and Sunday 76/86 services and the village service 74 to the county council by 24<sup>th</sup> July, the deadline for all Andover and Basingstoke area contracts. It will be some time before we know the outcome of the process, but the county has warned that no extra money will be available - so tenders received above inflation will result in cuts or the need for serious innovative thinking on making existing funds go further.

**New bus stop columns:** These have appeared at some parish bus stops and refer to service 11. This was a Countywide Travel service run specifically for scholars to reach and return from colleges in Winchester and was subsequently taken over by Stagecoach and run as service 86. It does appear in published timetables.

## News from Testbourne Community School

As at mid-July, a quarter of our pupils are absent, either with flu-like symptoms or being kept at home for precautionary measures, so the end of term did not, therefore, go quite according to plan - although staff and remaining pupils battled on valiantly. Many performed in our Arts Festival, with some dazzling performances from groups from Whitchurch and Longparish primary schools and Icknield Special as well as from our own choir, dancers, Big Band, Swing Band and Orchestra. The Summer Serenade and Guitar concerts had to be postponed due to too many succumbing to illness - so we shall be looking forward to an "Early Autumn Serenade" in September instead! Sports Day was cancelled, but we made sure we still had our annual Swimming Gala, with increased odds of winning for those who did take part. Other pupils enjoyed an RE visit to the Bournemouth synagogue and a field trip to Durdle Door.

We recently held a Talented Artists' day. The theme was Endangered Species, based on a competition organised by the Muscular Dystrophy Society - and one of our year 7 pupils, Cameron Kelly, won the national prize (a holiday for two, whale watching in Canada!) with her superb picture of a tearful tiger viewing man's destruction of his environment.

I would like to say a huge thank you to local residents who responded so generously to our appeal for any left over vegetable plants. Our Year 10 mini-allotment now has flourishing courgettes, tomatoes, green beans, sweet corn, chard, pumpkins and more. Thank you also to everyone in the community who has supported us in the past year and we look forward to bringing you more news in 2009-10.

From Hilary Jackson, Headteacher

### Stop Press - Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2009

The first Overton Scarecrow Festival was a resounding success and far exceeded people's expectations.

The sheer volume (estimated at 400) and quality of scarecrows around the village was a joy to see and created a magical atmosphere. The fancy dress wheelbarrow race with some 35 brilliant entries gave a great start to the weekend. A good and thoroughly entertained crowd saw the Booze Brothers (Brendon Mooney and Keith Locke) as race winners, Gary Osmond and Stuart Allen win best fancy dress as Del Boy and Rodney - and Kevin Goodall and Neil Hart collecting the most money for sport and recreation.

The Festival events, stalls and displays at Bridge Street on Saturday attracted some 3000 people, contributing to the terrific community atmosphere. The Wheelie Bin Derby brought spills, thrills and humour - and the Inter-Street Sports saw Woodlands triumph over Overton Hill. The crowd was entranced by the children's Maypole and Longsword Dancing - not forgetting the fantastic Live Music by local talent in St Luke's (Friday) and in the "Overton Arena".

And finally, it was difficult to decide on the winners of the Scarecrow competitions, but the Judges concluded the winners (with many others "Highly commended") were: Best Business - Fisherman in River (Mallards), Best Scarecrow - BT engineers (Brian Hunter), Children's - Brown Scarecrow at Co-op, Policeman with Camera at Southington (Teresa Smith), Most humorous - Diver in Lordsfield Gardens

From Steve Williams

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>

#### Parish Councillors

Maggie Atkins	770369	Peter Baker	770007	Byways and Rights of Way Representative
Mark Attwell	770472	Brian Langer	770848	Public Transport and Street Lighting Representative
Tony Leach	772020	Tom Ridler	773108	Highways Representative
Jacky Lessware	773043	Paula Baker	771219	(also Borough Councillor)
David Llewellyn	773004	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](mailto:opc@overtonvillage.com)

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