

Overton News & Views



www.overtonvillage.com

Information and Comment on Village Activities

September 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 9th September.

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 22nd September.

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

Parish Council Meetings - Public Time Comment:

Any member of the public can come along to Public Time (see box above) to air problems or concerns about Overton matters. In August the main concern was about the footpath from the **B3400** to The Green - which is looking very scruffy as foliage and trees have become overgrown and street furniture is in poor condition.

Fly tipping: Anyone can report fly tipping to **B&DBC** - just ring on **844844** and speak to the receptionist. This is also the number if you need bulky waste to be collected.

Noise Disturbance: If you are disturbed by noise, please ring the **844844** for the **B&DBC** Environmental Pollution team. There is an officer on duty outside office hours and, if more than one person makes a complaint about an event, an officer can attend to witness reported noise disturbance.

Composting Site: Laverstoke Park has applied to increase the size of the composting site at Southley Farm. Members of the parish council and Anna McNair Scott (our County Councillor) visited the site and were assured that the extension was required to increase the length of the maturation process and would not result in more traffic movements on the **C29**.

SHLAA: **B&DBC** has produced a revised draft Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment. Two further "potential" sites have been added for Overton, which are: **OV006** - 200 houses on land off Pond Close and **OV007** - 80 houses on land north of Court Farm. Although the borough council is not inviting further formal consultation, the parish council has written to object strongly to the addition of these two sites which takes the number of houses for Overton stated in the **SHLAA** to 830.

For further information, please www.basingstoke.gov.uk or telephone **844844** and ask for Forward Planning.

Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 10th 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

Prepare your teens to be safe and experienced drivers with Pass Plus

Young drivers (17 - 24 year olds) are at an increased risk for crashes due to their driving inexperience. They lack experience in judging speed and distance, reacting to sudden changes, avoiding distractions, driving in the dark, and driving in adverse weather.

Statistics show that newly qualified drivers are most at risk of having an accident in the first two years or so after they pass their test, with one in five having a crash of some description within the first six months.

If you've a young driver in your family, you're probably already concerned with these statistics - but help is available. **Pass Plus** can help keep them safer on the road. Designed by the Driving Standards Agency (**DSA**) with the help of insurers and the driving instruction industry, **Pass Plus** is driver training course specifically aimed at new drivers, giving them more experience on driving situations not covered in their test.

Hampshire County Council supports this scheme and will contribute £75.00 towards the cost of the **Pass Plus** course. To be eligible to register for this offer, the driver must have passed their test in the last 12 months, live in Hampshire (excludes Southampton and Portsmouth unitary authority areas) and be aged 17-24. For further information or to register please contact Hampshire County Council's Road Safety Team on **01962 846100** or visit www.hants.gov.uk/roadsafety

The ChillZone

The **ChillZone** is a safe, encouraging and fun meeting place for young people, aged 13-18, from the village to hang out. It will open on Sunday and Tuesday nights to begin with and will be operated by volunteers from Test Valley Community Church, along with others from the community. The facility is right in the heart of Overton at 8a High Street, which is being refurbished and developed - come and check it out from 4.00pm - 6.00pm on Sunday 13th September when it will be open to anyone in the village to have a look (from 7.00pm that day will be the first evening for the young people).

The **ChillZone** has been started by Test Valley Community Church with full support from Overton Parish Council, Overton Churches Working Together, PC Richard Baldwin and the Community Wardens, and other interested individuals from the village.

From Earl Robinson

Planning Applications

Agreed by Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council:

BDB/70694 - 5 London Road. Erection of single storey rear extension.

BDB/70078 - On land at Foxdown. Change of house type to plots 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65 and repositioning of plots 52, 53, 54, 55, 56 and 57. Alterations to landscaping and car parking arrangements (Amendment to planning permission **BDB/56099** for the erection of 75 no. dwellings, associated car parking and creation of access).

BDB/70708 - 8 Sapley Lane. Erection of detached double garage.

Refused by Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council:

BDB/70801 - Rear of 21 High Street. Change of use from store/office/workshop to one bedroom dwelling.

Police News and Beat Update

The Rural Mobile Police Office

This visits Overton Community Centre Forecourt
every Tuesday from 2.30pm to 4.30pm
with Station Enquiry Officer Stewart Packham.

My Next Police Surgeries

.... Monday 7th September and Monday 5th October from
12.00noon to 2.00pm in the Parish Office, St Mary's Hall.

Latest Statistics and News

July was a pretty quiet month on the crime and disorder front with only 13 x reported crimes for the whole of the Beat area. With Anti-Social Behaviour being one of our local Policing Priorities, we concentrated our efforts on tackling this issue throughout August (traditionally a busy time for Policing) with Hi-visibility Policing around the Village, dealing robustly with the very small minority who show no respect to the rest of the community.

Free Tack Marking Service:

Would you like the opportunity to have your tack security-marked and the details recorded and held by your local policing team? If you are interested please contact PC Lee Coleshill (Hampshire Constabulary Country Watch Officer) via **0845 045 4545** or Email requests to northandeast.countrywatch@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

Overton's Designated Public Places Order (DPPO)

The application was agreed by Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council on Thursday 16th July. The DPPO is now subject to a Public Notice period in the local press. I would like to thank the B&DBC Licensing Team, Overton Parish Council, Cllrs Ian Tilbury, Paula Baker, Clive Sanders and the community of Overton Village for their support in backing this proposed order.

The effect of the Order is that a Police Constable may require a person to stop drinking alcohol in a public place within the designated area. Any person so required, but who refuses to stop, commits an offence which could result in them being arrested.

Drinking alcohol in a designated area is not in itself an offence - the offence is committed if the person is acting in a disorderly manner and refuses to stop drinking once required to do so by a Police Constable.

(If you wish, you can view a webcast of the meeting at http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/webcasts/2009-07-16_FullCouncil.aspx The meeting lasts over 4 hours, so you may want to "fast forward" to these timings to see the relevant parts: 16.25 and 1.48.20)

Overton's Community Wardens

are Richard Tozer and Lucy Mackmin on **845508** or by Email at community.wardens@basingstoke.gov.uk

For all non-emergency calls you can now call 101

Remember - in the event of an Emergency - Call 999

From PC3909 Richard Baldwin - Parish Beat Officer

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

Email: richard.baldwin@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

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.

October's Overton News & Views

will be published on Friday 2nd October, covering Overton events taking place up to mid-November.

Please send contributions to reach the Editor, Chris Penney, **no later than the final deadline of Wednesday 16th September** preferably as an Email with **WORD attachment** to

OvertonNewsViews@aol.com

or typed to 7 Batten's Avenue, Overton, RG25 3NL

Overton Recreation Centre (ORC)

ORC congratulates these winners in the draw held on Friday 14th August at the Pavilion, Bridge Street. The £1000 prize was won by Eric Tilbury (Overton), the £200 prize by Charles Cardiff (Whitchurch) and the three prizes of £100 each by Mrs Helen Kerr, Mrs Tracy Barber and John Buffery (all of Overton).

The next Management Committee Meeting will be on Monday 7th September and the Draw on Friday 11th September - both at the ORC Pavilion, Bridge Street. You can make a real contribution to the future of Overton by taking out ORC membership. For forms and further information, contact Emma Scoggins on **770455**

From Colin Parker (771038)

Overton Business Association

A reminder that our next Members' Meeting is at 7.30pm on Tuesday 8th September at The Honey Pot Restaurant - a slight change from our usual pattern as this is the **second** Tuesday in the month. Visitors are welcome. For more details please visit www.overtonbusiness.com or telephone Chairman Keith Green on **770907**

Overton Scarecrow Festival Scarecrow Competition

Please could Ella Shadwell or her parents Email Keith Green at chairman@overtonbusiness.com or phone him on the number above to claim her £10.00 prize.

Overton Garden Society

OGS members enjoyed an enchanting and idyllic warm summer's evening at Bere Mill, Whitchurch, part of the National Garden Scheme (NGS), on 13th August. The garden, set by the river Test and other feeder rivers, has been developed by the present owners since 1993.

Our next meeting is to Little Court, Crawley, near Winchester on Thursday 10th September. This garden - also part of the NGS - is divided into seven parts, each with seating. Members should meet at 5.45pm outside The Community Centre. There is a charge of £5 per head for this visit.

From Kathy Gardner

Overton Library

During September, all Hampshire libraries are taking part in **New Art in Libraries**. In Overton we'll be displaying textiles by Sue Sharpe. I've seen a preview of her work and know how lucky we are to be offered this opportunity. Quest Seekers (the summer reading scheme) finishes here on Saturday 12th September. Please check if your children are close to finishing the quest and encourage them to come in before the closing date, so that they do receive the certificates and medals. The starter numbers this year have been huge, so we would like them all to finish!

From Chris Vane, Library Supervisor

Overton & District U3A

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 16th September in St Mary's Hall at 10.00am, when Terry Tarrant will speak about the Manydown Farm and Shop at Worting. Manydown is a LEAF (Linking Environment and Farming) accredited farm, adopting an approach which provides a countryside alive with wildlife and supports viable farming. These U3A 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 please contact: General enquiries: Diana Goodwin (**771855**) Membership: Jan Baker (**773371**) Groups: Paul Reavley (**772199**) or visit our website www.overtonu3a.org.uk

From Jacky Lessware

St Mary's Hall Film Night

Last Chance Harvey (12A) will be shown on Friday 18th 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.

Overton Biodiversity Society (OBS)

Bat and Moth Walk. Join us on Friday 18th September to celebrate National Moth Night. Hampshire Bat Group's Paul Hope will give a brief talk on bats and moths, followed by a walk around the village visiting a moth trap and using bat detectors to locate and identify bats. Hot drinks and cake will be served at the end! Meet at Overton Community Centre at 7.30 pm. Cost: £1.00 (50p for OBS members). *From Ken MacKenzie, Chairman*

A reminder to all wild-life photographers! Take a good photograph of any animal, bird, insect, reptile, plant or tree in its natural habitat within 10 miles of Overton and you could be a winner in the **OBS** photo competition (prizes kindly sponsored by the Overton Co-op).

A combined application form / mounting sheet (plus full rules) is available from either The Fireplace Shop or The Traidcraft Stall in the Methodist Chapel on the 2nd & 4th Saturday each month. **Return mounted photos by 18th February 2010** for judging and an exhibition at the next **OBS** AGM.

"Back to Church Sunday"- 27th September

According to research, 2.9 million people in the UK stopped coming to church for one reason or another and many of them would come back if they were invited. You may be one of them - if so, we have these special services just for you, at 11.00am (St Mary's Overton) and 5.00pm (St Mary the Virgin, Laverstoke - this service is the Harvest celebration and the church will be decorated especially). There will be other visitors in church that day as well, so you will not be alone. It will be an opportunity for you to get a flavour of what church is about or to be reminded why you used to go. If you decide not to come back, no one will pester you to find out why.

Alpha Course: If you don't feel ready for church, but you have questions, then this course is for you, beginning on Tuesday 13th October at 7.00pm in the Church Rooms. There is a meal - a good time to get to know the others on the course - followed by a talk which seeks to answer 11 questions over the course's 8 weeks and, in doing so, often answers other questions that people come with.

Finally there is a discussion - in small groups - so that you can test your opinions in a safe, friendly and relaxed environment (or you can just sit there and listen). To find out more, see the details at the back of church. To sign up, Email me at iansue.smale@btinternet.com or telephone **770207** *From Ian Smale*

Cheese & Wine Ladies' Night

Ladies, do come and enjoy another wonderful evening from 7.30pm on Friday 2nd October in St Mary's Hall (all proceeds will go to the Motor Neurone Disease Association, Registered Charity No 294354). Tickets are £5 from Overton Fireplaces. Start the evening with a complimentary glass of wine and some cheese. Then, for relaxation and enjoyment, our masseuse will be taking bookings for foot, shoulder and Indian head massages. Tarot Card Reading and manicures are added attractions - together with Handbags, Shoes, Jewellery stalls and a luxury Taster Table. Wine and refreshments will be available throughout the evening. For more information please contact Maggs on **771457** or Becci on **770401**

Overton Rugby Club shock win in Crickby Cup

After five years of trying - and very close results in the previous two matches - Overton Rugby Club finally overcame Overton Cricket Club for a surprise win at the sixth attempt in this annual fixture on Sunday 3rd August. The weather had improved enough for play to go ahead and it remained sunny long enough to complete the full match of 24 overs each.

As a 12-a-side friendly fixture, the main emphasis was on making sure all players had a chance to bat and bowl. The Rugby Club took to the field first and the Cricket Club were all out for 120. The prospect of a relatively low target of 121 meant that the Rugby Club batsmen were asked at first to retire on the low score of 12 - but, after the loss of two early wickets, this was slightly revised upwards to 15. Eventually the Rugby Club team came home for a great victory by five wickets and joy at last! Congratulations to Paul Cavanagh (man-of-the-match) who enjoyed gently sharing a celebratory jug of beer with opposing captain Simon Trott. *From Francois Stoop*

Whitchurch Badminton Club

Come along and play at the marvellous Whitchurch Badminton Club! Apart from becoming fitter, it's good fun. Many players already span the divide from Overton.

The club is for both sexes and is based at Testbourne Community Centre. There are 4 courts, well spaced out, so there's never any hanging around for a game. It runs from early September until late May on Thursday evenings from 8.00pm to 10.00pm.

You don't have to join the club to start playing - you can visit three times as a paying guest first (but it works out cheaper, once you've joined, at about £3.00 a night). A bit of experience is preferable, as there are no training sessions - it's a case of just turning up and playing doubles' matches till you're red in the face like me!

If you'd like to know anything else, please call me on **896064** *From Stuart Robinson*

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 picture: Early Autumn Blackberries

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.

London Marathon: I am running this on 25th April next year and as part of my sponsorship target I am organising a U2 tribute night (Blood Red Sky) at the Gill Nethercott Centre, Whitchurch, on Saturday 5th September at 7.30pm. All money raised will go towards the charity Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust. There will be a licensed bar. Tickets are £10.00 and are available from me on **07887 534587** If you are unable to make the event, but would like to donate, then please visit www.justgiving.com/blondes-on-the-run

From Victoria Rampton

Overton Playgroup Preschool Playgroup: We would like to say a big thank you to Test Valley Golf Club who raised an amazing £320 for the Playgroup at their Summer Ball.

From Anouska Colledge

(Letters to the Editor continues on page 4)

(Letters to the Editor continued from page 3)

Naomi House at the Overton Scarecrow Festival:

Well, Overton's "gamblers and boozers" really did us proud, trying their luck on the Water or Wine stall, or enjoying a glass of our Pimm's !! We raised a fantastic £970.00 ! Our thanks to all our customers, the Scarecrow Festival committee, **ORC**, Overton Utd FC bar staff and everyone who contributed time, goods or muscle-power.

If you would like to support us and play your part in helping raise the finances which support the life-limited children at **Naomi House** and **jacksplace**, then give me a call on **771433** - or go along to our open days on 18th, 19th and 20th September to see how your help could to make a difference. And for even more information, have a look at the website www.naomihouse.org.uk

From Pat Bain

Kingfisher Day Centre: On behalf of the clients and staff, I would like to thank Felicity and Tony Edwards for holding a fabulous "Casino Night" birthday bash, which raised an amazing £400 for our outings and activities fund.

Grateful thanks also to: all those lovely guests who attended and gave so generously to our cause: Graham Lambert for completing a Rotary Club walk for our charity: Overton Garden Society for its kind donation of plants for our patio garden. *From Julia Cobb, Day Centre Manager (893333)*

Bonfires! It has happened **yet** again! Sunday 9th August was completely ruined for us by a bonfire on one of the very few pleasantly sunny afternoons.... Just the hint of a breeze slowly wafted an unhealthy acrid stench across a small field in our direction. This drove us indoors to find the rooms of the bungalow were similarly unpleasant: we could only close the windows and wait for the air to clear.

With our ageing population, I am sure I cannot be the only octogenarian with respiratory problems which are exacerbated by pollution of this nature. Perhaps we need notices similar to the dog fouling notices, reminding villagers that it is more considerate to light bonfires (if they must) **after** 6.00pm - as the Parish Council has requested on several occasions in the recent past. *From Roy (& Janet) Middleton, Copse Road (Other similar complaints about bonfires have been received from around the village. Editor)*

News from Testbourne Community School

We look forward to the start of a new school year with that usual mixture of excitement and trepidation. We hope that pupils and staff will be returning well and healthy after a good, swine-flu-free, summer break.

New pupils: We are welcoming 159 new Year 7 pupils - a few over our usual Pupil Admissions number, following several successful appeals for additional places.

New staff: It's not only pupils who will be starting a new school - we also welcome some new members of staff.

New Look: A lot of work has gone on over the summer holiday on the rolling programme of improvements to the site and facilities. We've also made investments in our ICT provision, with new sets of laptops in Maths and Art and an electronic registration for tutor time and lessons.

Our 2009 Open Evening: for Year 6s and their parents, will be on 1st October from 6.30pm - 8.30pm, with Open Mornings the following week. You are very welcome to come and visit us.

From Hilary Jackson, Headteacher

How many shopping days to Christmas?

The answer for many children is "none". To try and help, **Operation Shoebox** was started with the idea of filling shoeboxes with small gifts and taking them to children's shelters or orphanages. A shoebox is small, convenient for packing and transport - and easily filled: a little thing for the sender but a big thing for the child who receives it.

Last year, the three Rotary Clubs in Basingstoke, along with the Gazette, sent over 2000 shoeboxes overseas, to be distributed in time for Christmas to children in Montenegro, Romania and Tanzania. The pleasure on the children's faces was the best thanks anyone could receive - and this year we aim to do the same.

Leaflets advising on the contents will be available and also there will be public appeals in Festival Place, on Saturday 12th September and Saturday 10th October.

If you would like to send a box to an unfortunate child, please do support **Operation Shoebox**. Details will be in the Gazette in due course or you can contact Alan Gibson (PRO - Rotary Club of Basingstoke Deane) on **466111** or by Email at alan.gibson@alangibson.com *Please help.*

Transport News

From Brian Langer - Transport/Lighting Representative

Transport - buses

Village service - 74: Steventon Transport Services(**STS**) began to operate this service from 4th August with drivers Scott and Ray. The hail and ride service is open to users of all ages - a single trip costs 70p and the county council, who pay for it, have guaranteed it until December 2009 when the outcome of the re-tendering process will be known. With the kerb in Winchester Street by the telephone kiosks out of bounds during the work on the traffic lights, accessing and exiting the bus has been difficult for some. Use of portable steps is forbidden under health and safety legislation. Congestion can arise around a parked bus in that location, so the parish council is investigating where a kerb could be installed to help passengers without impeding pedestrians.

New bus stop columns: In addition to the reference to service 11, some other oddities have come to light and have been reported to Stagecoach Bus. The display board at the Community Centre lay-by is now showing the stop correctly as "The Community Centre, Overton" and not as "Whitchurch Square" which it did originally!

Transport - trains

Changed departure times - autumn leaf fall: A reminder that the 0549, 0617, 0641 Mondays to Fridays and 0549 and 0618 Saturdays departures to Waterloo will run three minutes **earlier** from 28th September to allow for any leaf fall problems on the track.

Station area vegetation: Although it may be a Network Rail problem to deal with, the excessive vegetation growth along the station car park edges and on Station Approach has been reported to South West Trains Area Manager at Salisbury. This includes the infestation of Japanese knotweed - disposal of which has to be undertaken according to controlled waste legislation - close to where the telephone kiosk used to be.

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

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	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

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