

Overton News & Views



Information and Comment on Village Activities - issued by Overton Parish Council and distributed to Overton and Ashe, Laverstoke and Freefolk www.OvertonVillage.com November 2009

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 11th November. 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 24th November. 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

Planning Applications

Agreed by Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council:

BDB/71072 - 19 Lion Close: erection of two storey side extension with the construction of 2 no. dormers to the front elevation and 1 no. additional dormer to the rear elevation.

BDB/71052 - Vine House, Quidhampton: change of use of land from agricultural to keeping of horses and erection of stables with hard standing.

Parish Council Information Office to open to public:

The Parish Council Information Office is situated in St Mary's Hall (the right-hand set of double green doors) and will be open to the public on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9.00am to 12.00noon starting on 18th November. This is to provide a point of contact between the parish council and parishioners. The Clerk will be on hand to answer queries and try and help with any problems. (NB The office will be closed for the two weeks of the Christmas/New Year period).

Overton Welcomes New Businesses

Holistic Therapy Janine is now open at 3 Winchester Street offering massage, reiki, hopi ear candling, aromatherapy oils and products. Please call Janine Berry on **07825 564201** to make an appointment.

New traffic lights in the centre of Overton

To assist pedestrians to cross the road safely **at the crossing points at these lights**, a "green person" symbol now illuminates when all the main traffic lights show red to motorists and a "beeper" signal sounds - but pedestrians should still be vigilant when stepping off the pavement onto the road, as there is always the possibility of a motorist jumping a red light....

Please be aware that when the "green person" is displayed, although the beeper sounds for only a short time, the traffic lights remain on red for motorists until the sensor detects the pedestrian has fully cleared the carriageway.

Please be aware also that if the pedestrian lights show a "red person" symbol, it is considered unsafe for pedestrians to cross the road - **and if an accident were to occur while the "red person" was illuminated, it could have an effect on any civil or criminal case if the pedestrian suffered an injury.** From PC Richard Baldwin

Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 12th November 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. Everyone is welcome. Rachel Abbott, Clerk to the Council, Email laverstoke.clerk@btinternet.com

December's Overton News & Views

will be published on Friday 27th November. This is the final edition to be published in 2009 and the Diary will cover Overton events taking place up to mid-February 2010. Please send contributions to reach the Editor, Chris Penney, no later than the final deadline of Monday 16th November by email with a WORD attachment to OvertonNewsViews@aol.com or typed to 7 Batten's Avenue, Overton, RG25 3NL (The next edition will be February 2010 - published 28th January) 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 and the Doctors' Surgery. Also - in colour - via www.OvertonVillage.com (click on "Parish Council" first) This month's cover picture: Overton Bonfire Night - 7th November

ISA Registration

From 12th October new measures are being introduced (over a 5-year period) for people undertaking paid or voluntary work with children or vulnerable adults. From November 2010, all new employees and volunteers must be ISA-registered (Independent Safeguarding Authority). This scheme initially runs alongside the existing Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) scheme and in some cases will greatly reduce the number of checks and their resultant cost. In essence people will be able to check on the web free of charge if a person is registered to undertake the work, but they will get no personal details other than a "yes" or "no".

More information at www.isa.gov.org.uk or call the helpline on **03001231111** with detailed enquiries.

Ed Beckman, a local resident, has attended a detailed briefing and is willing to deliver this if a group of people can get together (perhaps through **ORC, OBA, OBS** or **U3A**?) To register interest for a group session, contact Ed at ed@interweave-now.co.uk

New Site for Wildlife Hospital gets Go-Ahead

Planning permission has been granted for the change of use of a small business unit at Lower Soldridge Farm, Medstead near Alton to establish a new wildlife hospital. It is hoped the move can be made from Overton early in 2010.

"We would like to thank the people of Overton and all our volunteers and members for their support over the past 13 years and hope that they will continue to support us in our new abode," said June Gibbs.

www.hartwildlife.org.uk HART Wildlife Rescue, Registered Charity No 1066760 16 Dellands, Overton, RG25 3LB Telephone **770438** Email: help@hartwildlife.fsnet.co.uk

Overton Recreation Centre (ORC)

ORC congratulates these winners in the Draw held on Friday 9th October at the ORC Pavilion. The **£1000** prize was won by Mrs K Wiltshire, the **£200** prize by Mrs Joy MacGregor and the three prizes for **£100** by Mrs Paula Potter, Luke Stickland & Dennis Rowles - all of Overton.

The next Draw will be on Friday 13th November. In December, the Management Meeting will be on Monday 7th with the Draw on Friday 11th - all at the ORC Pavilion in Bridge Street.

ORC is very much hoping to find a suitably qualified person to act as in the key position of Hon Treasurer to the Charity. if you are interested and would like to know more, please contact me. **From Colin Parker on 771038**

OBA Late Night Christmas Shopping

A reminder that this year's Late Night Christmas Shopping Evening will be from 6.00pm on Friday 4th December.

Overton Police - Beat Update

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

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 Rural Mobile Police Office visits Overton Community Centre Forecourt **every Tuesday from 2.30pm to 4.30pm** with Station Enquiry Officer Stewart Packham.

My Next Police Surgeries are on Monday 2nd November and Monday 7th December from 12.00noon to 2.00pm in the Parish Office, St Mary's Hall.

Overton's Police Community Support Officer is Sabrina Smith sabrina.smith@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

Overton's Community Wardens are Richard Tozer and Lucy Mackmin community.wardens@basinstoke.gov.uk or 845508

Beat Update for September

September saw more criminal damage raising its ugly head with a tiny number of degenerates going around the Village wilfully damaging property for no reason whatsoever. The ORC has seen damage to the greens in Town Meadow and property at the Berrydown Football pitches. Three cars were also damaged in the Village centre - two of them by what we believe to be battery acid. (Parents may want to check their children for any potential burns to skin or clothing)

I would also like to appeal to parents of any teenagers who live in the village to quiz their children about this mindless behaviour to see if they can identify any of the offenders. (You can call Crimestoppers anonymously on **0800 555 111**) I will not stand for this kind of behaviour and I know the law-abiding majority of the Village won't either. Once identified the offenders will be dealt with robustly and I will take a very "special interest" for the rest of their youthful days in Overton.

Witnesses sought to an Assault in Overton play park

We are appealing for witnesses or information about an assault that took place in the Edward Kersley Playing Fields. Shortly after 1.00am on 27th September, a female - returning home alone from a party - walked from Winchester Street through the alleyway into Poyntz Road and then into the park where an unknown male approached her from behind and attacked and assaulted her. The female was not hurt during the attack, but she was badly shaken up by the incident. This is an extremely rare type of incident in Overton Village: however, we are currently conducting additional foot patrols in the area to reassure local residents.

Anyone with any information should contact PC Morley at Whitchurch Police Station on 101 or by calling the Crimestoppers charity anonymously on **0800 555 111** - quoting Police reference number **44090421206**

Witnesses sought to Overton charity box burglary

We are appealing for witnesses and information after a charity box was stolen from an Overton Doctors' Surgery. Sometime between 7.00pm on Friday 25th September and 8.00am on Monday 28th, a small pane of glass in the front porch was smashed and Guide Dogs for Blind box stolen. PC Nick Beech, from the Basingstoke Targeted Patrol Team, said: "I would like to hear from anyone who witnessed this incident, or knows who is responsible. Were you walking or driving past the surgery and did you see anyone acting suspiciously? We have had reports of a man on a bike being seen with the box, which is a full-sized replica dog. This is an unusual incident but breaking into a surgery and stealing a charity box is quite low. Other shop owners are reminded to take special care of their charity boxes and ensure they are secured to a wall using a strong chain if possible."

Anyone with any information should contact PC Beech at Basingstoke police station on 101 or by calling the Crimestoppers charity anonymously on **0800 555 111** - quoting Police reference number **44090422589**

Remember - in the event of an Emergency - Call 999
(For all non-emergency calls you can now call 101)

Overton Garden Society (OGS)

At our next meeting on Thursday 12th November at 8.00pm in the Community Centre, Tim Woodland will speak about "Seasonal Bulbs" and bulbs will be for sale.

Our Christmas event will be a Skittles Evening with Supper at The Red Lion, Overton, on Thursday 10th December at 7.30pm. The cost will be £6 per head, to be booked and paid for at the November meeting. New members and guests are always welcome.

From Kathy Gardner

St Mary's Hall Film Night

Is Anybody There? (12A) on Friday 13th November at 7.30pm - starring Michael Caine as a retired magician living in an old people's home and befriended by the son of the home's owners. Great balance between comedy and drama.

Dorian Gray (15) on Friday 11th December at 7.30pm - based on Oscar Wilde's novel and starring Colin Firth (among others). Advance tickets for both films are £5.00 from Overton Fireplaces or £5.50 on the night.

St Mary's Autumn Fair

This will be held from 9.30am to 11.30am on Saturday 14th November in the Community Centre. Admission 50p including coffee. Proceeds in aid of ChillZone. Cakes, biscuits, savouries, produce, preserves and gifts suitable for Christmas are all very welcome (no bric-à-brac please). Raffle as usual. Do come and enjoy a cuppa!

From Jane Waldram, Mission Committee

Testbourne Community School Whitchurch

The popular Craft & Gift Fair is being held on Saturday 14th November in the school sports hall from 11.00am to 4.00pm. Organised by the Parents, Teachers and Friends' Association, all profits made will purchase much needed equipment for the school. We have a wide variety of stalls with exciting crafts plus Christmas and other gifts: also a raffle, tombola stalls and chocolate fountain run by the PTFA. There will be a seating area for you to sit and enjoy the seasonal atmosphere and refreshments that will be served all day.

If you have an enquiry, or wish to attend as a stall holder please, ring Jill on **332060** or the School on **892061**

Overton and District U3A

At our next meeting at 10.00am on Wednesday 18th November in St Mary's Hall, Peter Bedford will be talking about the work of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) with particular reference to North Hampshire. Refreshments will be available as usual.

Visitors are welcome at all meetings for a charge of £3.00 (refundable against membership subscription if they then decide to join). For more information, please contact Diana Goodwin (Chairperson) at dianaw@tesco.net or **771855** - or why not check our Web Site at www.overtonu3a.org.uk

Kingfisher Day Centre News

Our AGM will be held in the Day Centre, in the grounds of Testbourne Community School at 7.30pm on Wednesday 18th November, with refreshments provided.

If you would like more information about the Day Centre please visit our website. www.kingfisherdaycentre.org.uk - and, If you would like to see the work we do, please call in (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday between 9.00am and 3.30pm) and have a cuppa with us. All visitors welcome.

To become a volunteer, please contact us on **893333**

From Julia Cobb, Day Centre Manager

Two Miles for St Michael's Hospice

"Two miles?" we hear you cry. That's not much. People run 10 miles or cycle 800 miles or so for a good cause. But these two miles are not like those.... they're straight down!! On 18th November Mark Winter, Becci Larkham, Paul Larkham and Paul Robinson will be jumping out of a plane, each strapped

to a nice bloke who, we're assured, will do all the work and make sure we get back to earth safe and sound. We're raising money for St. Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire) and we'd really appreciate your support. It's easy to donate online by credit or debit card - just go to our JustGiving page: <http://www.justgiving.com/Slackers4TheHighJump>

St. Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire) helps people faced with a life-limiting illness, their families and carers by providing a choice of specialist care and support to enable them to attain the highest possible quality of life. So it's a very worthy cause... please dig deep, and pledge whatever you can - large or small. If you use the website to donate, JustGiving sends your donation straight to St. Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire) and automatically reclaims Gift Aid if you're a UK taxpayer, so your donation is worth even more. If you're not keen on online payments, please drop donations in to the Old House at Home. Wish us luck!

Overton Biodiversity Society (OBS)

Concerned About Climate Change? Don't Know What To Do About It? Find out what simple things you can do to make a difference at an illustrated talk organised by OBS on Thursday 19th November at 7.30pm in the Community Centre. Practical advice to reduce your energy use (and save money!) and help the UK meet its carbon emission targets. Tea and refreshments provided. £1.00 for non-members, 50p for members. (Membership available at £1.00) *From Ken MacKenzie, Chairman*

Overton Dramatic Society (ODS)

Tickets are now selling fast for our traditional **Cinderella** pantomime - written by Stuart Arden and Bob Heather - directed by ODS's Denise Hayward and Sarah Maggs.

The story has lots of humour, twists and turns and a great variety of songs. It begins in the Kingdom of Overstonia, where the lovable but eccentric Baron Hardup and his beautiful daughter Cinderella live with the Baron's new wife and her two bickering ugly daughters (Gertrude and Griselda) who make Cinderella's life truly miserable.

There are all the usual characters, including the handsome Prince Dandini and an energetic Buttons. Performances are at St Mary's Hall, from Tuesday 24th to Saturday 28th November, with curtain-up at 7.30pm, plus a Saturday matinee at 2.00pm. Tickets are priced at £6.00 (£4.50 concessions) including coffee or juice and are on sale at The Overton Gallery, 20 High Street. *From Jill Smith*

Overton Folk Club

On Wednesday 2nd December we will be holding our first birthday party, starting at 8.00pm at The Red Lion and celebrating what has been a really successful inaugural year.

On Friday 18th December we are presenting a special Christmas concert in St Mary's Hall featuring the five outstanding musicians who are the **New Scorpion Band**.

They will be presenting "The Holly and the Ivy" - a wonderful selection of Christmas stories, poetry, folk carols - and maybe even some mummies.... more details will follow in December **ON&V**. *From Tom Hanley (770384)*

or email overtonfolkclub@hotmail.co.uk

OBA Awards 2009

Nominations are now invited from anyone in Overton Parish for the two **Annual OBA Awards**.

The OBA Overton Community Award of £100 is available to any individual who has contributed to the community in a significant way. This could be anything from keeping the village tidy, to raising the profile of the village through sporting, academic or any other achievement.

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

Completed nominations must be returned by 27th November - nomination forms are available on the **OBA** website at www.overtonbusiness.com or from The Fireplace Shop or Crucible. They can be completed and returned to either shop or please email chairman@overtonbusiness.com as we can also accept nominations on plain paper or by email.

Overton Youth FC Father Christmas Float

On Saturday 12th December, Father Christmas and his little helpers will be touring the village for one night only between 4.00pm and 8.00pm, Please support your local Youth Football Club. *From Hayley Allen, OYFC Secretary*

Keep Fit in the Afternoon

My name is Charlotte Cutler and I am a Studio Instructor and Personal Trainer. Born locally in Deane Village, I moved into Overton a year ago with my partner and I have been running fitness classes on Mondays from 2.00pm to 3.00pm in the Community Centre.

I would like to say a big thank to the ladies in the village for their support in getting these classes off the ground. It is my long-term goal to bring the community together and to get active through group fitness sessions by working with the local associations.

Age Concern

Having just celebrated being open for six months at our activity centre for Overton residents, we are keen to make sure that all local older people know they can join us each Tuesday afternoon at Harvey's Field. Come and make friends and enjoy chair exercises, quizzes, sing-a-longs and craft activities - all suitable for older people.

Please ring Beverley on **423874** for more information and times. We look forward to welcoming you soon!

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.

Charity Cycle Ride to Cornwall - Spring Bank Holiday

(see June **ON&V**) We are amazed and touched by the generosity and support of local people, friends, relatives and Overton Primary School - and are incredibly proud of the achievement of Amber, Mackenzie, Archie, Lewis and dads. Amber had originally hoped to raise **£750**, for **Cancer Research UK** (in memory of her nan, Marian Phillips) so a final massive total of **£4213.60** is far more than she could ever have expected! Our sincere thanks also to Overton Pharmacy, The Old House at Home, Overton Bathroom Centre and Berrydown Garage for displaying sponsorship forms. *From Lorraine Phillips*

Cancer Open Day - 25th September

An amazing total of **£851.86** was raised for local cancer charities. Thanks you to all the local shops and people for your continuing support. Fifteen people received prizes and the homemade produce of pies, jams and chutneys was a huge success. *From Corrine Cooke*

Ladies' Night - Friday 2nd October

Thank you to all the lovely ladies who came and soaked up the wonderful atmosphere and enjoyed the cheese and wine evening in St Mary's Hall, when we raised a massive **£950** for our local branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association (**MDNA**). Grateful thanks also go to Peter at Overton Fireplace Gallery, who sold tickets for us.

We are planning another Ladies' Night next spring, when we will have special pamper treatments and indulgent attractions: more information will follow in a future **ON&V**.

From Maggs Steward and Becci Larkham

Letters to The Editor - continues on page 4

Letters to The Editor - continued from page 3

Extramile Challenge (see October ON&V): In total the team cycled 515 miles, of which I'm pleased to record that I covered 140 miles - including cycling alongside the Loire River and part of the Le Mans circuit, at times in an 8-man peloton. A big thank you to all who sponsored me and special thanks for support from **ODS**. If you wish, you can still donate online at www.justgiving.com/SWH-Extramile-Challenge-2009/ *From Ian Llewellyn, Red Lion Lane*

Dog Fouling - Good dog, inconsiderate owner: I was recently shocked to witness a young lad climb a high bank near a pretty front garden (close to the Top Shop in Greyhound Lane) and allow his large black and white spaniel to foul it. The lad was around 16 years and accompanied by two young women who also had dogs. I was driving at the time, but I stopped and yelled that I hoped he was going to pick the mess up! I stared him in the eye and gave him the option of calling into the shop to get a bag - but he cleverly tricked me by giving the dog to the girls, who waited by the post box while he disappeared. The disgusting mess remained !! I hope the boy's parents will understand that a young family occupies the attractive garden that was "used" - I saw toys in it. I'm sorry I didn't do more, like take a photo on my mobile phone. *From Alexa Mooney, Overton address supplied*

The state of the Harrow Way: I can't believe I'm alone in despairing at the state of its decline, ever since its re-classification as a **BOAT** (Byway Open To All Traffic), which opened it up to motorised vehicles, The bluebell woods at Nutley Bottom are being ruined by scrambling bikes and it is not at all unusual to encounter a sofa, a burnt-out car, piles of garden refuse - or evidence of other forms of fly tipping - at any point along the track. I have ridden horses along this route for about forty years but it is becoming an increasingly dangerous and unpleasant experience. I would stress that all of the bikers I have met have been very courteous and careful once they see a horse approaching. Some of them will stop for a chat. It is still very un-nerving, however, to hear the scream of an engine and not be sure that it will stop in time to pass by safely. The situation is not much better for walkers, runners or cyclists as, in addition to the possibility of an accident, the track is rutted and damaged, which in wet weather makes for a sea of mud.

I am not denying bikers their fun, but It would just be better if they had a designated scrambling area that did not form part of a right of way where they were not interfering with other people's enjoyment of the countryside. As for those, who are not farmers or gamekeepers, who insist on taking four-by-four vehicles, cars or vans along this route, I think it is time they all grew up and learnt to use the proper roads - and indeed the local waste facilities.

From Tracy Cox, Overton address supplied

Overton Library

By popular demand, we have reinstated our book sale, with all items 20p. And a reminder that we sell book tokens - useful last minute presents for Christmas and birthdays!

From Chris Vane, Library Supervisor

Transport & Lighting News

From Brian Langer - Transport/Lighting Representative

Transport - buses

Published timings Services 76/86

Some schedules displayed at bus stops away from the Community Centre/St Mary's Hall state departure timings that are for places far away from where the stop actually is! Stagecoach's policy is to give the timings for the previous quoted stop in its published timetables - so westbound stops at Overton Hill, Berrydown and Ashe quote Lightsfield (Newfound) timings, while eastbound stops at Southington and Harvey's Field quote Bere Hill (Whitchurch) timings. Timetables no longer give Ashe, Laverstoke and Freefolk as even being on the route - hence the information displayed at the local stops.

Request stops services 76/86

There used to be a distinction between bus stops and request stops - but no longer! All bus stops are now treated as request stops so if you don't put your hand out, the bus won't necessarily stop for you. It might seem an odd policy in Overton but it makes sense for stops such as Sarum Hill Basingstoke where several bus routes serve the same stop.

Village service 74 - Steventon Travel Services

There is still no news (mid October) from the County Council as to whether we have been successful in retaining this county funded service for a further four years beyond early December. As and when the situation is clarified I will contact the local press as December's **ON&V** will be published about the time the current contract runs out.

Street lighting 0845 603 5633

Now we are back on GMT with darker evenings, correcting faults takes on some urgency so use the above number or contact me on **770848**

Lamp columns: Faults have been reported for 2 Red Lion Lane, 2 Lambs Close and 2 and 5 (north side) London Road. 2 London Road has been misbehaving for months and operates somewhat like a lighthouse to the annoyance of neighbouring residents. On checking all of London Road it was found that the column numbering east from the Institute is haphazard; there are two number 5s on opposite sides of the road, one column with both a 3 and 9 on it and some very odd non-sequential numbering as one climbs the hill. This may be due to the new lights, installed as part of the Overton Hill road re-design, being still the responsibility of the developer - Croudace - because all aspects of the development have yet to be adopted by the County Council.

Village 30 speed limit initiative

At a presentation by Hants County Council, at the AGM of the Hants Association of Local Councils in early October, it was made clear that all those communities dealt with under "tranche 2" (which includes Overton) will be subject to numerous visits from speed detection vans in the near future. When "tranche 1" communities were visited, an 8.4% reduction in mean speed was found compared with a "before implementation" visit by the vans.

It is the aim of HCC and the Police to achieve a 10% reduction in mean speed - so, be warned, because it is always "locals" who form the majority of offenders on such occasions....

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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