

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 February 2010

Overton Parish Council Meetings

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

Approved by Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council

BDB/71095/6 - display of non-illuminated fascia sign and removal of projecting sign at 15 High Street
BDB/71468 - erection of single storey extension to the east elevation of Overton Surgery
BDB/71071 - Extension to area of existing windrow composting operation and erection of starscreener on land adjacent to Southley Farm
BDB/71409 - Change of use from Class A1 use (retail) to Class A2 use (estate agents) at 25B High Street
This Application was withdrawn - BDB/71205 - erection of three bedroom detached house and creation of new access at 41 Red Lion Lane

Parish Council Information Office open to public

The 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.

Overton News & Views - Inserts

The parish council is very happy to include Inserts in **ON&V** on behalf of village-based organisations and events (Inserts for commercial/business purposes cannot be included). However, to ensure continued timely distribution of **ON&V**, it has been agreed that in future the insertion of all flyers will be done "In-house" at a standard cost of £25.00 per Insert. If you would like to place an Insert in **ON&V**, draft copy (for approval before you go to print) must be with the Editor, Chris Penney, by 9th of the month preceding publication. For further information please contact Chris by Email at OvertonNewsViews@aol.com
(Please also see article on page 4 of this edition - Editor)

Precept increase

Following advice from the Internal Auditor, Overton Parish Council has agreed to increase the precept to ensure that its financial reserves are not depleted. A large part of this will be accounted for by the new houses that have been built - but, unfortunately, a small rise will be passed on to each council tax payer.

Some things never change!

During a recent clear-out of the parish office, this correspondence - dated 3rd June 1955 - was found from the Hampshire County Council Surveyor regarding the C29: **"provision has been made in the estimates for dealing with the sides of the above road and for an adequate drainage scheme to take the surface water"**. Maybe in another 55 years' time they will be sorted out!

Blood Donation

Please come to the next Blood Donation session in St Luke's Hall on Friday 19th February from 1.30pm - 3.25pm and 4.30pm - 6.45pm. The next session will also be held at St Luke's - on Thursday 3rd June. For further blood donation information please contact **0845 7711711**

Moviola

Unfortunately there will be no Moviola films shown until April, because Dorset Film Touring Ltd is unable to provide a projectionist for the early part of the year. The summer season of films will be advertised in **ON&V** once agreed.

Grit bin filling

If you require a grit bin to be filled, please contact **0845 6035633** Please note that, during periods of bad weather, priority is given to gritting major roads and it may not be possible to fill grit bins immediately.

Overton Welcomes New Businesses

Overton would like to welcome Brockenhurst Estate Agents to 25B High Street (the former Faraway Tree shop premises) Please contact Jo Syani, Sales Manager, on **773677** for help and advice on lettings and house sales and purchases.

Designated Public Places Order (DPPO)

Specific areas within Overton Village have now been designated under a **DPPO** which makes it an offence to consume alcohol when required not to do so by the Police. A **DPPO** targets those who are either actively engaged in - or are likely to act in - an anti-social manner. It is **not** intended to disrupt peaceful activities - for example, families having a picnic in a park. For a full explanation of the **Overton DPPO**, please pick up a leaflet from the Post Office in the Co-op or visit www.overtonvillage.com/forums/
PC3909 Richard Baldwin, Parish Beat Officer

Hampshire Constabulary offers Safer Homes Advice

- * Keep valuable items out of view - if you have electrical equipment worth hundreds of pounds, don't keep it by the window where passers-by can see it.
- * Never leave a key under a doormat or on a string through the letterbox - it's the first place any burglar will look.
- * Make sure tools and ladders are kept in a secure place - burglars will happily use your equipment to break in.
- * If you've taken extra security precautions, let would-be burglars know. If you have an alarm, make sure the box can be clearly seen. If you are in a Neighbourhood Watch scheme, display a window sticker or, if you have a dog, put up a warning sign.
- * Hide financial documents and keys
- if someone does break in you don't want them to steal your car or from your bank account.
- * Make sure you secure all your doors and windows every time you leave the house, even if you are "just popping out".
- * If you are in the garden or upstairs, make sure downstairs doors are locked - in summer, burglars can often just open the front door and help themselves.
- * Deadlock doors with the key - don't just lift up the handle.
- * Make use of all door and window locks fitted in your home.
 - * Consider getting a letter box deflector.
- * Keep house keys upstairs or store them near the door out of sight for easy access in an emergency.
 - * Keep your car keys somewhere safe, away from the front door.
 - * Keep handbags out of sight.

Your next edition of Overton News & Views

will be published on Thursday 25th February and the "Village Diary" will cover Overton events taking place from mid-March to mid-April.

Space is at a premium, so please send contributions to reach the Editor, Chris Penney, as early as possible **before the final deadline of 12.00noon Tuesday 16th February** preferably by *Email* plus WORD attachment to OvertonNewsViews@aol.com or typed to 7 Batten's Avenue, Overton, RG25 3NL

**Overton Village Diary**

Events due to take place between 16th February and 15th March

Wednesday 17th February

Overton & District U3A monthly meeting at 10.00am in St Mary's Hall with guest speaker Jeff Twine on RAF Bomb Disposal. Refreshments available. All are welcome but there is a charge of £3.00 for visitors (refundable if they then join).

Contact: Jan Baker on 773371 www.overtonu3a.org.uk

Ash Wednesday Charity Lunch All welcome from 12.00noon to 1.30pm in the Church Rooms. Home-made soup and bread. Donations to the St Mary's Emergency Response Fund, helping in overseas or local crisis situations.

Enquiries/Contact: Jane Waldram on 770444

Overton Society Open Meeting in Community Centre at 8.00pm. The topic is Planning Process - including The Place of Village Design Statements. John Dawson (Principal Urban Designer, **B&DBC**) will guide us through the stages from initial inception to approval and beyond. All are welcome but there is a charge of £2 for non-members to cover costs. Light refreshments will be served.

Sue Carter

Wednesday 3rd March

Overton Folk Club presents Martin Carthy MBE in St Mary's Hall (with bar) from 8.00pm onwards. Martin is widely regarded as one of the finest singers and interpreters of traditional music in Britain and a highly influential/much-imitated guitarist. Tickets available from the Fireplace Shop

or Contact: Tom Hanley on 770384

Friday 12th March

ORC Monthly Draw 4.30pm in the Bridge Street Pavilion.

Overton Recreation Centre (ORC)

ORC congratulates these prizewinners. In the Draw held on 11th December, **£1000** was won by Ned Kater, **£200** by Matthew Taylor and the three prizes for **£100** by Lee McCann, Ned Kater and Mrs Lynn Dawe (all from Overton). In the Draw on 8th January, **£1000** was won by Ms Joanne Woodham, **£200** by Mrs Heather Bronx and the three **£100** prizes by Stefan Cook, Richard Harman (both Overton) and Simon Atkinson (Steventon). The next draw will be on 12th February at Bridge St. Pavilion. **Colin Parker 771038**

ChillZone

Even though it has been cold outside, come in and warm up on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 7.00pm to 10.00pm. The ChillZone youth drop in centre is open for all teens aged 13-18. There is no cost to come in and, while there, you can play Wii, surf the net, play table football, do arty stuff etc

***** STOP PRESS: Help for Haiti *****

St Mary's Hall hosts a special gig on Saturday 6th February to raise money for the **DEC Haiti Earthquake Appeal**.

It will feature live music from local bands (including **Sideways Down**) plus raffle and bar - with **all** proceeds to the **DEC** appeal. Tickets (£6 each) are available from Overton Fireplaces, Greyhound, and Old House at Home. For more information **contact: Becci on 07771 367302**

Overton Police - Beat Update

From **PC3909 Richard Baldwin, Parish Beat Officer**
Mobile: 07776 172303 Police Control Room: 0845 045 45 45

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

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

Remember - in the event of an Emergency - Call 999

(For all non-emergency calls you can now call 101)

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

My Next Police Surgery is on Monday 8th March from 12.00noon to 2.00pm in the Parish Office in St Mary's Hall.

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

Crimes: With the assistance of "PC Snow" we had only 9 x reported crimes for the whole of the Overton Beat area throughout December (compared to 24 in 2006, 20 in 2007 and 14 in 2008). This gave us 159 x reported crimes in total for the year (compared to 268 in 2006, 193 in 2007 and 161 in 2008) which is our lowest total since I started in 2005.

I would like to thank the whole community in playing its part in reducing criminal activity here in the Overton area and I look forward to working with you all in 2010.

Road Traffic Safety: In 2009 we saw 28 x recordable Road Traffic Incidents (RTIs) on the roads around the Beat area (compared to 43 in 2008). This figure included: 1 x Fatal (none in 2008); 1 x Serious (compared to 3 in 2008); 7 x Minor Injuries (compared to 14 in 2008); 19 x Damage only (compared to 26 in 2008)

Community Wardens: I would like to extend our thanks for the assistance that Overton's community wardens, Richard Tozer and Lucy Mackmin, have given to the community of Overton. The Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council Wardens Service has now been withdrawn borough-wide and personnel have been reallocated into other positions.

Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council

The next meeting will be on Thursday 11th February at Portals Sports & Social Club. Public time is from 8.00pm to 8.15pm, when the Council meeting commences.

A polite reminder to those in Laverstoke Lane who use the Portals Sports & Social Club Car Park - it is private property.

Rachel Abbott, Clerk to the Council

laverstoke.clerk@btinternet.com

Overton and District U3A

This is a relatively new and vital part of Overton. We have members from Overton itself and the surrounding villages who come to meetings once per month on the third Wednesday at 10.00am in St Mary's Hall for a talk of general interest and then have a cup of coffee and chat to find out what "Groups" there are and what they are doing.

We have 28 "Groups" who meet monthly or fortnightly to study languages, read books and plays, history, art appreciation, go to sports, line-dance, walks, garden, crafts, photography, computer skills, bridge, scrabble, cribbage, mahjong and go out to lunch with friends or go to the theatre. Over the next few months we will be having talks on "RAF Bomb Disposal", "A History of Punch and Judy", "Commonwealth War Graves", "My Father - Augustus John", "Beyond Candleford".

There is no age limit. The "third age" merely states that you should have finished formal education. So anyone keen to keep their minds and bodies going would be very welcome. You can find out about us in the Village Libraries and on line at www.overtonu3a.org.uk Membership of this friendly group, which meets during the daytime, is £18 per year. If you would like to talk to someone please either ring Jan Baker (773371) or Diana Goodwin (771855)

ON&V Distributor - vacancy

Please can you help by sparing half-an-hour or so at the end of each month to deliver 53 copies to (half of) Overton Hill, starting on 25th February with the March edition? If so, please contact the Editor. Thank you.

St Luke's Hall - Update from the Trustees

This Update is submitted to confirm the Trustees' intention to sell a parcel of land (up to approx 40 feet deep maximum, at the very rear of the hall's grounds) which has previously been rented out to various owners of 16 Waltham Road.

At the 2008 AGM, it had already been agreed by vote that **"as the land in question is not needed nor being used by the charity at present, if a serious intent to purchase is received, the Trustees should follow it up.**

If a sale results (all SLH costs to be met by the eventual purchaser) the proceeds should be used towards the Enhanced Refurbishment Option".

The new owner of 16 Waltham Road has now made an offer, following a formal independent valuation (as required by the Charity Commission).

Overton Parish Council, as custodian trustee of St Luke's, has been kept informed and has no objection to the Trustees accepting this offer, so arrangements are being put in hand for the sale to be completed in time for the proceeds to be used towards the refurbishment, due to start this summer.

C J W Penney, Hon Sec Email SLHallOverton@aol.com

Local Development Framework (LDF)

The Borough is working on the LDF, which replaces the Local Plan) and will decide where future development goes. Sites for 830 new homes around Overton have been put forward. It is the LDF that will decide if any or all of them will be built. **You can influence this.** There will be a series of decisions taken during this year at Council and Cabinet meetings. There will be discussions at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings. All these meetings are open to the public to attend and to speak at. So, please, watch the Borough website (www.basingstoke.gov.uk) for news, or contact either of your Borough Councillors (Paula Baker on 771219 or Ian Tilbury on 771429). Then come along to the meetings, which are all held in the Council offices in Basingstoke, starting at 6.30pm. Make sure that the Leader and his Cabinet know what you think. You can make a difference. **Councillor Paula Baker, 59 Winchester Street, Overton Email cllr.paula.baker@basingstoke.gov.uk**

Laverstoke and Freefolk Millennium Green

Created in 2000, as part of the nationwide initiative by The Countryside Agency to create and protect open spaces, the Millennium Green is financed through donations, Gift Aid and fund-raising, with a contribution from the Parish Council. Maintenance is carried out by a small, dedicated, band of volunteers. The next maintenance days are on Saturday 27th February at 10.00am at Quiet Garden and Sunday 28th March at 2.00pm in the Millennium Green Car Park.

We welcome everyone who would like to be involved in any aspect of the Millennium Green. For further details, please contact Gill Baker on 893075 or Email cghbaker@aol.com

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.

Overton - Research: I am researching early wheelwrights and carpenters of the Overton, Hatherden and Tangley areas. I have a vested interest as my relative, Thomas Wright, was a wheelwright in Overton about 1744. *(This Letter continues in next column).*

(This Letter continues from previous column)

Also a John Wright of Overton in about 1733. I should be most grateful if any readers could help in any way with my research. **Lynn Wright, 6 Hever Close, Senacre, MAIDSTONE, ME15 8SR or Email aw006y6757_2@blueyonder.co.uk**

Overton Pharmacy: We would like to thank everybody for their support and friendship during ten years at the Pharmacy. It was always going to be the most difficult decision we have ever had to make, but we know we have left it in very safe hands.

We had a lot of fun, made many friends and had many unique experiences - SheepFairs, for example - and we take away many happy memories of our time in Overton village.

If anybody is passing anywhere near Colyton Pharmacy (Devon) in the future, please pop in a say hello. It would be great to see old friends and catch up with news. **Steve and Denise Budden Email stevebudden@hotmail.co.uk**

Eileen Smith: Albie, Danny, Jamie, Laura and Beth would like to thank family and friends for attending Eileen's funeral service at Basingstoke Crematorium on 11th December.

Thank you also to everyone for your kind messages of condolence and sympathy for the very sad loss of Eileen, who passed away on the 29th November after a short illness. The donations in lieu of flowers raised **£700** towards Naomi House Children's Hospice. **Albie Smith**

Town Mill: Just to thank all the people in Overton village who kindly donated towards the two Christmas hampers. These were raffled and **£160** was raised, which will be donated to St Michael's Hospice and Naomi House.

Thanks also to Peter Baker, Stewart Pike and Leslie Soper-Dyer who kindly came forward to help clear paths at Town Mill during the bad snowy weather this winter.

Sally Jenkins (Scheme Manager) and Residents

Overton Choral Society: A collection in memory of our friend, Cynthia Kemp, was held at the end our Christmas Concert in St Mary's Hall on 18th December and the result, achieving nearly **£400**, was sent to Naomi House to be used to purchase activity items for Jack's Place.

Lyn Hardy 397507 or Email lyn_hardy@hotmail.com

Overton Playgroup Update: We supported the Piam Brown Wessex Paediatric Oncology Centre, based at Southampton General Hospital, by taking part in their Giving Tree appeal. We are very proud to report that we were able to deliver 48 gifts to the children this Christmas. Thank you to all parents who donated a gift (or two) and special thanks to Paul Davis of Paul Davis Plumbing (Overton) who donated his time to deliver the gifts. **Lisa Martin**

Overton Museum Project: Many thanks to Overtonians and others who helped raise **£152** during Late-Night Shopping Evening on 4th December. **Peter Baker, Chairman**

Fundraising folk activities: We are very pleased to be able to donate **£180** to St Michael's Hospice - money raised over the Christmas period as the profit from the Overton Folk Club Christmas Concert and the collection made by Overton Mummies on Boxing Day. **Gill Corbett**

The 6th Twelfth Night Bash: On 9th January, in St Mary's Hall, a great crowd once again partied the night away to the sounds of local band **Sideways Down**. As with previous years, the generosity of everyone attending really shone through! All profits this time are being donated to the Starlight Children's Foundation to support their work with seriously and terminally ill children. We are delighted to say we have sent a fantastic **£850** to the charity, from ticket sales, bar takings, raffle and an auction for a special Starlight teddy bear. On behalf of the band and everyone who helped organise the event, we'd like to say thank you so much for being a part of it. Best wishes for 2010 - and we hope to see you again next time! **Paul & Becci Larkham**

Transport & Lighting News

From Brian Langer - Transport/Lighting Representative

Transport - Wintry weather

Thanks to Southwest Trains (SWT) Stagecoach Buses and Steventon Travel Services (STS) and all their staff for doing their utmost to provide service in difficult conditions. However, despite websites being regularly updated, not every home has access to these and endeavours must be made to provide better communication, especially to people waiting at bus stops, when such upheavals occur in future.

Transport - Buses

New service 56. Operated by Steventon Travel Services (STS), this started on a trial basis on 4th January. Buses run in both directions from Ashe, Berrydown, Overton Hill bus stops via Kingsclere Road to Kingsclere, Baughurst, Tadley, Ramsdell, the hospital, Basingstoke railway station, Worting Road, Oakley village (surgery and pond) and the B3400. Stops will be made at both St Mary's Church and the Foxdown junction on Kingsclere Road, as well as on a "hail and ride" basis north of the railway. A round trip takes about 85 minutes, giving parts of Overton their first direct bus link to Basingstoke - and is the first direct link to the hospital. Parishioners are urged to support this service - schedules are displayed on the transport notice board at the side of Overton Fireplaces and are available from the library or me (my contact details are shown in the address grid below).

Village Service 74. Despite an error in the recently updated Andover area Travel Guide, this definitely continues to run on Saturdays as well as Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Transport - Trains

Welcome and best wishes to **Kevin Durrant**, who lives locally and is the newly recruited man in the ticket office working Mondays to Fridays from 0630 to 0930.

B&DBC Travel Tokens

Phil Dominey (Manager Stakeholder Services at SWT) has confirmed that these are definitely valid for use on all trains from Overton. If an on-board conductor guard queries their use (s)he is unlikely to be a regular West of England line employee, so show this message to prove their validity.

Changes to fares and when certain tickets can be used (Mondays to Fridays)

The cheaper Off-Peak Day Return ticket is no longer available on the 0849 to Waterloo. The cheapest ticket - which is available on the 1118 and later trains - cannot be used to come out of Waterloo or Clapham Junction between 1600 and 1900hrs. Examples of return fares to Waterloo, Mondays to Fridays, are:

- 0818 and 0849 departures - Anytime Day Return £42.50
 - 0918 and 1018 departures - Off-Peak Day Return (return anytime) £26.50
 - 1118 departure - Super Off-Peak Day Return (no return between 1600 and 1900) £21.50
 - 1118 departure Off-Peak Day Return (return anytime) £26.50
- Some railcards provide a significant discount. Travelcard-inclusive (London Transport) fares are higher.

Street lighting 0845 603 5633

Column 8 in Harvey's Field was reported as not working; column 5 London Road (north side) is still not mended. Several "dayburners" noted in village - low priority to correct.

The Harrow Way

A group of concerned parishioners attended January's Overton Parish Council meeting during Public Time to express their concerns on the state of Overton's section of the Harrow Way - concerns focused on three specific problem areas:

- 1 Ruts and potholes caused by four-wheel drive vehicles
- 2 Three specific sites along the Harrow Way where motorcycle scrambling tracks have been illegally established adjacent to and crossing the definitive Rights of Way, to the detriment of the flora.
- 3 Fly-tipping.

Over the years, the condition of this ancient byway has deteriorated so much that quiet enjoyment by walkers, cyclists and horse-riders is nearly impossible. It is thought that the current improvements being carried out by Hampshire County Council will just make access to the scrambling tracks more easy!

The parishioners, led by Barry Taylor (the Ramblers' Overton Parish Representative) requested that the Council discuss the matter with a view to asking Hampshire County Council to apply a Traffic Regulation Order banning motorised vehicles during the winter months. If this does not alleviate the problems sufficiently then "Restricted Byway" status will be sought. To assist the Parish Council, it was agreed that a fact file would be assembled to include comments from individuals and organisations. Written comments should be sent to "**Friends of the Harrow Way**", c/o **Barry Taylor, 39 Woodlands, Overton RG25 3HW**

Yellow Pages go Green!! Until now, these directories could not be recycled through kerbside collections - but, thanks to a recent initiative, **B&DBC** now urges residents to recycle old copies of this YP directory in green recycling bins, along with paper, cardboard, food tins, drink cans and plastic bottles.

And finally..... From The Editor

I am often asked to clarify the Editorial Policy for **ON&V** - particularly in relation to possible (commercial) advertising. So, here is an extract of some of the relevant points of this Policy as from 13.08.08, as set out by the publishers (**OPC**), (*Please see also Laura Harley's item on page 1 of this edition*).

- The title of the newsletter is **Overton News & Views**.
- There is no charge to the public for the newsletter.
- Parish Council Notes take precedence over other articles.
- Events inside the parish boundaries will have precedence over outside events.
- No advertising or profit-making will be undertaken, except:
 - 1) Advertising involving learning activities that take place in a public hall is permitted
 - 2) Circulation of the **OB**A list of businesses
- All parish councillors will be sent a draft of the newsletter before printing. Their comments will be incorporated as the Editor finds appropriate.
- Inserts from third parties should be circulated to all councillors for approval before being printed.
- No anonymous letters or articles will be printed.
- The Editor reserves the right not to print contributed articles without giving a reason.

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

Overton News & Views is published by Overton Parish Council. Printed by Crucible Ltd, 6B High Street Overton RG25 3HA Tel: 773377 Email roger@crucibletd.co.uk