

Details of the meetings of Overton Parish Council and of Laverstoke & Freefolk Parish Council are shown in the Village Diary Section on Page 2

*** Reminder: June's OPC meeting is on Wednesday 9th June ***

Overton Parish Council Notes

From Laura Harley - Parish Clerk

Thank you Alan

At the Parish Council Meeting on 12th May, Alan Whitney stood down as chairman after four years.

We would very much like to thank him for all the time and effort that he has devoted to the council during his term of office - he will now be retiring to the back benches!

And welcome Tom

The new OPC chairman is Tom Ridler and we would like to wish him every success for the coming year.

Community Litter Pick

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who turned out on a very wet and cold Sunday 25th April to pick litter - about 20 people in the morning, with the combined forces of St Mary's Church and the Community Church continuing in the afternoon. A sizable pile of rubbish was amalgamated (including a large amount of scrap metal).

It is hoped this will become an annual event - but at the end of March, before the vegetation becomes too prolific!

Adopt a road scheme

One litter picker suggested that each club and society adopt a road within the village to litter pick *throughout* the year - if anyone would like to volunteer for this, please do contact The Parish Clerk.

SHLAA

A revised SHLAA document has been circulated for public consultation until 21st June 2010. Four sites for Overton are specified within the document: Overton Hill (200 units), Two Gate Lane (200 units), land off Pond Close (200 units) and land off Court Farm (80 units). It should be noted that the Great North Field site has been withdrawn. The document is available to view in the library, in the Parish Office or online at www.basingstoke.gov.uk. There is also to be a public exhibition on Saturday 12th June from 10.00am to 5.00pm in Overton Community Centre.

Harroway

The refurbishment works are now complete and the track has reopened. It has been agreed that local users should unofficially police this Byway Open to All Traffic (B.O.A.T.) to ensure that illegal users (ie unlicensed and/or uninsured and/or untaxed) are discouraged from using the track to the detriment of others. It is hoped that signage will be erected to clarify the situation but in the meantime all reports of illegal use can be made to the 101 number.

Planning Applications

Agreed by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council: BDB/72021 - replacement of 3 no grain silos and replacement grain drier at agricultural grain store facility at land at the Granary, Old Whitehill Road, Micheldever.

Refused by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council: BDB/71963 - erection of a two-bedroom dwelling and integral garage with access from the track at the end of Dellands at land rear of 29 - 47 (odds) Dellands.

Application withdrawn:

BDB/72174 - erection of two-storey side extension and part two-storey/part single-storey rear extension at 40 Station Road.

Mr Stoke's Funfair

The parish council received a request from Mr Stoke to bring his funfair to Overton's Sapley Lane Playing Field in May. As a result of complaints some years ago over noise and disturbance from residents close to the SLPF, permission has again not been given for the fair to return (there was not time to canvass residents individually). However, situations alter and if you have a view whether the village *should* have a fair (and where it could be sited) or *should not* have a fair, please contact The Parish Clerk with your views so we can update Mr Stoke.

Overton Recreation Centre

A special feature by Colin Parker, General Manager

Known in Overton as ORC, this charity has provided sports and recreation facilities since 1965 - an original vision that has now sustained the facilities for 45 years through a membership scheme (which runs a monthly prize draw) and through levies or hire fees paid by the clubs.

Its headquarters are at The Pavilion in Bridge Street. Other sites are Town Meadow (off High Street) and Berrydown (on Overton Hill). ORC leases this land, nearly 30 acres in total, from De la Rue and Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council. Some 700 local people of all ages make use of the facilities, including football and cricket pitches, a delightful Par-3 nine-hole riverside golf course and space for the Harriers and tennis. A variety of youth and recreational groups use the buildings.

A Management Committee runs day-to-day operations and represents the clubs. ORC employs key personnel - a full time Groundsman, part time seasonal Groundsman and part time Manager, Administrator and cleaners. Volunteers also make a welcome contribution.

The Bridge Street Ground was once a water meadow. Work was carried out by volunteers - including the drainage of the waterlogged site - and it became the splendid ground it is today: the football pitch is the envy of many clubs in the county. Prior to this ground being developed, Overton UFC played at Berrydown. The Pavilion was completed and opened in 1971 with a significant donation from Mrs Sacher, while Town Meadow was provided in 1972 by a local benefactor, Col Hoare, on the understanding there would always be a headquarters for Overton Scout and Guide groups.

Links with the School date from 1993 and the ground is used by a number of clubs for training sessions.

Since 1998, ORC has had an interest in Batts Meadow and is now working with De la Rue to enable Laverstoke Parish Council to take on a new lease to benefit their community.

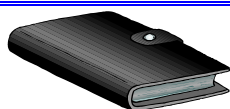
ORC is currently managing a project to provide much-needed new facilities at the Berrydown Ground. This project was the brainchild of the late Ken Hogan (former chairman of the Charity) - and is intended to meet the expansion plans of the main clubs. Facilities will include a new access way off the B3400, parking for over 50 vehicles and a four changing/shower pavilion with large meeting room.

ORC is working with a number of partners to secure the £500,000 needed to complete this magnificent new facility - an Olympic legacy indeed!

As Overton grows, so must our facilities to encourage local people to enjoy recreation within the village rather than travel to main towns. ORC is an institution existing for the benefit of the local people - and it needs your full support in order to provide for future generations.

Membership is extremely good value for you and your family. For further details *contact the Membership Secretary* (770455) or visit www.overtonrecreationcentre.org.uk

Don't forget the Members' Free Party on Sunday 6th June from 3.00pm to 6.00pm in St Mary's Hall and Garden



**Overton Village Diary
of Events due to take place
between 16th June & 15th July**

Every Tuesday from 2.30pm to 4.30pm

The Rural Mobile Police Office: Overton Community Centre Forecourt, with Station Enquiry Officer Stewart Packham.

Every Wednesday and Thursday 9.00am to 12.00 noon

The Parish Council Information Office: This is open to the public in St Mary's Hall (right-hand set of double green doors) with Parish Clerk Laura Harley in attendance. Planning Applications are available to view here.

Wednesday 16th June

12.00noon is the Deadline for the July edition of ON&V. Please send contributions (including dates of events due to take place between 16th July and 15th August for the Village Diary section) to The Editor, Chris Penney, either by *Email* with a WORD attachment to OvertonNewsViews@aol.com or *Typed* to 7 Batten's Avenue, Overton RG25 3NL

Overton & District U3A (www.overtonu3a.org.uk) **Monthly meeting:** 10.00am in St Mary's Hall when the talk will be *Beyond Candleford* given by John Smith. Refreshments will be available and Visitors are welcome for a charge of £3.00 (refundable if they then decide to join).

[Please note: there will be no meetings in July or August.] For membership information *please contact Jan Baker on 773371 or Email jan.baker2007@btinternet.com*

MDNA Garden Open Days - today and Sunday 20th June (see below) 2.00pm - 6.00pm at Turriil House, Southington, in aid of the NE Hants Motor Neurone Disease Association. Entrance £3.00 Adults (Children free). Teas and Plant Sales. No dogs. Bring wellies if wet.

For further information *please phone 447399 or 772065*

Thursday 17th June

St Luke's Hall AGM: 7.30pm for 7.45pm, St Luke's Hall. All Overton parishioners aged 16 and over are eligible to attend. (See also Special Feature, below.)

Adult Ballroom and Latin Dance Classes: After earlier success, the next course starts at Overton Primary School. For more details or to book your place *please contact Julie on 07709 721594 or Email julieanneale@yahoo.co.uk*

Friday 18th June

Moviola Film Night - Nowhere Boy (15): Doors open from 7.00pm for the 7.30pm screening in St Mary's Hall. Bar/snacks/beverages for sale before film/during interval. This is the story of John Lennon's childhood and youth, up to the Beatles' departure for Hamburg. Tickets in advance are £5.00 from Overton Fireplaces (£5.50 on door).

Sunday 20th June

MDNA Garden Open Day: Details as for 16th June above.

Overton Biodiversity Society (OBS): Visit to Forest Edge Wildlife Garden. Come and join us for an afternoon visit to this outstanding wildlife garden situated on the edge of Harewood Forest near Andover. It has been featured in *BBC Gardeners' World* and in many magazines such as *The Garden* and contains a wide range of wildlife habitats within an area of about one acre - more information is available on their website www.forest-edge.co.uk

For more details of the OBS visit and to book a place *please phone me on 771121 (Ken MacKenzie, OBS Chairman)*

Tuesday 22nd June

Overton Parish Council Planning Meeting: 7.30pm on the 4th Tuesday of every month in The Community Centre.

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 Noticeboard (next to Overton Pharmacy).

Tuesday 22nd June continues in next column

Tuesday 22nd June

Laverstoke & Freefolk Parish Council Meeting: Freefolk & Laverstoke Village Hall. Public time is from 8.00pm to 8.15pm when the Council meeting starts. An update on Portals Sports & Social Club is on the agenda. All welcome

Thursday 24th June

Publication Date of July edition of ON&V. A printed copy will be delivered by volunteer distributors to every property in Overton Parish within the next week or so. Additional copies are available from The Co-op (in the rack below their notice boards), The Library, Parnell Jordy & Harvey, The Doctors' Surgery and at www.OvertonVillage.com (click on "Parish Council" first).

This month's cover picture: June Strawberries (at The Church Fete, 12th June)

Friday 25th June

PC Richard Baldwin's Extra - Evening - Police Surgery: 5.00pm to 7.00pm in the Parish Office in St Mary's Hall.

Saturday 26th June

Overton Primary School Summer Fête: 12noon - 3.00pm
The Punch & Judy and the Bouncy Castles are booked and the children are practising their Country Dancing. Car-boot sale, face painting, tea-tent, BBQ, tombola, plant, cake bookstalls and much more to enjoy. If you would like to take part in the car boot sale the cost will be £5.00 - just turn up on the day between 11.00am & 11.30am and follow the signs. See you there....
Emma Payne

Tuesday 6th July

Overton WI (www.hampshirewi.org.uk) **monthly meeting:** 7.15pm in the Community Centre when the talk will be *Are You Sitting Comfortably?* given by Gwen Appleton. Refreshments will be available and Visitors are welcome.

For information *please contact Beryl Beckett on 771210 or Email berylbeckett@aol.com*

Overton Business Association Meeting: 7.30pm in The Honey Pot Restaurant. Topics for discussion will include OBA's 10th Anniversary celebrations. If you run a local business, come along and find out what we can do for you. Website www.overtonbusiness.com *John Ross, Chairman*

Wednesday 7th July

Overton Folk Club Monthly Meeting: 8.00pm in the Red Lion. This month is a sing-around evening - all singers and musicians very welcome, or just come along to listen. *Contact Tom Hanley (770384) overtonfolkclub@hotmail.co.uk*

Wednesday 14th July

Overton Parish Council Monthly Meeting: 7.30pm on the 2nd Wednesday of every month in The Community Centre. (Please note that Public Time is from 7.00pm to 7.30pm)

Celebrating Overton

The third Sunday in July has become a really special day to Overton in recent years - thanks to Sheepfairs and The Scarecrow Festival, for example.

This year, Rev Ian Smale invites Overtonians to join in a service of celebration of Overton in St Mary's Church at 11.00am on Sunday 18th July. He writes:

Most people agree that Overton is a great place to live. What really makes the village is the people, from those who serve the whole village through the Parish Council to those who play a part in many and varied ways. We could (and do) easily take this all for granted.

So, we invite you to come to this special service, so that we can (a) celebrate and thank God for all that is good about Overton and (b) thank God for the people who make it what it is, praying for God's blessing on them and their organisations. We especially want to invite the business and voluntary organisations (uniformed and otherwise) to join in this occasion.

The service will last for no more than one hour and we hope to make a substantial part of it child-friendly. It will be followed by refreshments in the Church Rooms.

Letters to The Editor

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

Overton Firefighters - Three Peaks' Challenge: Team members will be outside The Community Centre during the morning of Saturday 19th June selling draw tickets - another opportunity to sponsor them before they set off the following week. You can now sponsor the team on-line at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/overtonfirefighters> or by using the forms located in Overton Pharmacy, Crucible (Stationers) and Berrydown Garage. Keep track of the team's progress during and after the event on the map which will be on display in the Fireplace Shop window.

Lambing Event, 10th & 11th April: Several hundred adults and children enjoyed visiting Northington Farm and seeing the new-born lambs - and raising just under £1700 for the children's charity NSPCC. The NSPCC is very grateful to everyone involved in the organisation of the event in any way - and everyone who came along and helped raise funds. For any further information *please contact Inge Hunter on 770078 or Susie Bobin on 07876 526223*

St Mary's Church Spring Coffee Morning, 24th April: £477 was raised for local charities. Many thanks to all concerned. *Jane Waldram, Mission Committee*

London Marathon, 25th April: I'm relieved to announce that I completed this in 5 hrs 35 mins - I ran the 1st half in 2 ½ hours and limped the 2nd half in a painful 3 hours. This was my 6th Marathon and I can say with confidence "this was my last". Having said that, the wife reminded me that's what I've said after the previous five....

I can't thank everyone enough for their kind and generous support, beating my target for the MS Society. With my online fundraising and pledges we raised a magnificent £2,023.20 *Richard Baldwin, Marathon Runner (Ret'd!)*

Overton Recreation Centre (ORC) congratulates these prizewinners in the May Draw (Draws are held on the second Friday of each month) £1000 - Jenna Clark-Williams £200 - Les Marsh (both Overton) £100 each - Margaret Cook (Oakley) Alison Wheeler (Overton) Robert Bailey (Laverstoke)

Reminder - St Mary's Church Fete: 12.00noon - 4.00pm on Saturday 12th June at The Old Rectory in Bridge Street. Lots to see and do and eat and drink for the whole family.

Co-op Temporary Closure: Overton Co-op is due to be closed for refurbishment some time in the near future - but, as we go to press, no firm dates have been announced. Please keep an eye out for posters as you visit the shop.

Overton Garden Society: On Thursday 8th July we are holding our annual Overton Open Gardens' Evening, (followed by light refreshments) for Members, who should meet at 6.15pm at The Community Centre.

For membership information *please contact Bob or Kathy Gardner at bob_k61@btinternet.com*

St Mary's Hall Garden in Overton High Street is an award-winning community garden, open seven days a week for the enjoyment of all villagers. We have five active volunteers who look after this beautiful "oasis" of peace and tranquillity, but we need a few more helpers.

Able-bodied people - with or without gardening experience - would be very welcome, for as little or as much time as you can spare. For further information *please contact Peter in the Fireplace Shop, 2 High Street, Overton*

Overtonweather.com will be closing down in the first week of July as the owner is moving from the village. If anyone with a weather station is interested in taking on the website, please contact weather@overtonweather.com

Late News - Open Farm Sunday: *Northdown Orchard, South Litchfield RG25 3BP* is open to visitors on Sunday 13th June from 12.00noon - 4.00pm under the Open Farm Sunday scheme. Free entry and parking. Farm walks 1.00, 2.00 & 3.00pm. Children's treasure trail with prizes. Potato harvesting - take fresh potatoes home for tea. Dogs strictly on leads.
www.northdownorchard.co.uk www.farmsunday.org

Household Waste Recycling Centres

If you want to dispose of any domestic waste, garden waste, recyclable materials, oil and limited amounts of rubble please take it along to either the Wade Road Depot in Basingstoke (01256 461750) or - *and this is probably more accessible for Overton residents* - the recently built and user-friendly depot in Scott Close on the Walworth Industrial Estate in Andover (01264 351421): at the "Twinings" roundabout (the first after Andover Down) take the third exit and follow the signs for approx ¼ mile.

Both are open every day (except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day) 8.00am - 7.00pm (1st April - 30th Sept) and 8.00am - 4.00pm (1st October - 31st March).

10th Anniversary Hampshire Food Festival

The festival celebrates its 10th anniversary with a packed programme of events throughout the whole month of July (1st - 31st) showcasing the fabulous food and drink grown, reared and produced here in Hampshire!

"Celebrity chefs" taking part include James Martin, Raymond Blanc, Atul Kochhar, Alex Aitken, John Burton Race, Ed Baines and vegetarian food writer Rose Elliot. Join farm, brewery & vineyard tours, cookery demonstrations, workshops for adults & children, open days, tastings, Hampshire Farmers' Markets, Festival dinners - and more!

You can download the free Festival programme and sign up to receive local food news at www.hampshirefare.co.uk or pick up a programme at Hampshire Farmers' Markets, libraries and information centres - or call 0845 603 5638

It's Your Hospital!

Basingstoke and North Hampshire NHS Hospital Foundation Trust - one of only 130 in the country - is actively seeking new members. As such it operates autonomously but is accountable to the local community, to commissioners, to its Members and Governors (drawn from partner organisations, staff, and the public) and to Parliament. It is also responsible to Monitor, the independent regulator of NHS Foundation Trusts and to the Care Quality Commission, regulator for health and social care services.

No cost is involved to members - but having direct input means real and practical benefits for those who care about the development of local hospital services. Community feedback is very important in shaping the hospital's future.

Membership benefits can be summarised as:

Eligibility to stand for election as a Public Governor (a real opportunity to effect change).

Voting on constituency representation on the Council of Governors (democracy at local area level).

Invitation to local constituency** meetings with presentations by key clinical team members (topical feedback with interesting insights into modern treatments).

Receiving quarterly newsletters, Annual Reports and Accounts (you can judge how efficiently and effectively "your" hospital is run).

(constituency** in this context means the entire catchment area of hospital users.)

The Council of Governors hopes that you will want to join the Trust. To become a member, you can apply online at www.northhampshire.nhs.uk (Select "Become a member" on the membership page) or telephone the membership office at the hospital on 01256 313601

Overton Police - Beat Update

From PC3909 Richard Baldwin, Parish Beat Officer
Police Control Room: 0845 045 45 45

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

Overton's Police Community Support Officer is Sabrina Smith

Email sabrina.smith@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

Overton Beat Statistics

April was a pretty average month with only 14 x offences taking place (Compared to: 12 in 2009, 11 in 2008, 12 in 2007 and 27 in 2006). The make up of the reported crime makes interesting reading with the majority being Public Disorder and Assaults (9 in total) - you'll be pleased to know that a number of arrests were made accordingly.

With the warmer weather and lighter evenings we are now going to concentrate our efforts on tackling under age drinking and associated Anti-Social Behaviour. Sabrina has taken delivery of a Police mountain bike and can now join me on mobile patrol around the Parish.

Your Voice Counts 2010

In an effort to hear what you would like our policing priorities to be for the forthcoming year, we have been actively engaged since the middle of March in rolling out the "Your Voice Counts" forms to as many locations as possible. We estimate that over 400 forms were given out and we have collated the results of over 100 replies.

The three new priorities for the area are:

- ♦ Road traffic issues (including speeding and parking)
- ♦ Anti-social behaviour in Overton village centre (including damage to property)
- ♦ Environmental issues (including litter, fly tipping and dog fouling)

Last year you identified these three priorities:

- ♦ Initiatives to tackle anti-social behaviour
- ♦ To set up more Neighbourhood Watch schemes
- ♦ Traffic and Pedestrian Safety

We are pleased to report progress on all these topics, including the introduction of a Designated Public Places Order, No Cold Calling Zones, six new Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, a common 30mph Speed Limit throughout the village, continued Pubwatch and Off-watch Schemes and an additional Special Constable.

If you are interested in becoming a Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator or would like more information about Neighbourhood Watch - or more details about progress on last year's priorities - please contact us and we will be happy to answer any questions you may have (our Email addresses and phone number are shown at the top of this article)

Remember - in the event of an Emergency - Call 999

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

(Should you wish to speak to the Police anonymously, you can call the Crimestoppers charity on 0800 555 111)

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

St Luke's Hall Overton - Refurbishment Update

Wartime History: World War II started on 3rd September 1939 and soon afterwards the Bank of England (BoFE) evacuated much of its workforce from London to its Mill near Overton station. Then, during 1940, the BoFE set up leisure facilities for the workforce, buying land between nos. 47 and 57 Winchester Street and building a Social Club hall complete with wooden dance floor, toilets and kitchen. Initially, it was a fairly basic, single-skinned, brick building - not designed for a long life, because of hopes for an early end to the war. However, some time shortly afterwards, a doubled-skinned, flat-roofed bar annexe was added - and the Social Club continued successfully operating in these premises until the BoFE workforce returned to normal operations in London in late 1945.

Gift: The BoFE now had no further need of the building or land - and, by a Deed of Gift made on 7th June 1946, it generously donated the freehold to Overton Parish Council, for the benefit of Overtonians, in gratitude for hospitality shown to BoFE employees during their time in the village.

Charity Status: 46 years later (in 1992) Overton Parish Council set up the hall's current status as a registered charity, no. 1026873 "St Luke's Club Overton (working title St Luke's Hall Overton)" to operate separately from the Council, but with the Council still as its custodian trustee.

The Present: So, 70 years after it was built as a temporary structure, St Luke's Hall continues to serve the community of Overton, providing village hall facilities for several club activities and for family functions. But it is in desperate need of major internal modernisation and refurbishment. Recent structural surveys have confirmed this as being viable, while consultations with users have produced agreed designs within a total budget of £200,000 inclusive of VAT.

(Note: New roof coverings, better insulation and double-glazed windows are included - but, as the hall is within a Conservation Area, the external appearance cannot be radically altered.)

Funding: The Trustees recently applied successfully to Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council (B&DBC) for a share of Section106 Developers' Contributions and £112,700 has been granted. Added to other recent refurbishment fund-raising, this gives a total to date of over £135,000 - more than two-thirds of the overall cost of the complete project and enough to cover now the costs of Phase One (major internal structural alterations/insulation/new roof).

Timetable: Partly because the B&DBC grant has to be taken up by 31st March 2011 and partly to take advantage of summer weather and quiet hall use during the 2010 school summer holidays, the Trustees have decided to implement Phase One immediately. Hall users were fully consulted and they have agreed that the hall will be completely closed from Saturday 3rd July to Sunday 5th September inclusive.

Further fund-raising is being undertaken from Overton residents & businesses - as well as external sources - for the balance of works needed, which can be put in hand as funds permit, without needing to close the hall completely again.

The Target Date for the completion/payment of *all* work and a celebratory re-launch of the improved facilities at St Luke's Hall is 7th June 2011 - *exactly 65 years to the day since the hall was given to Overton by the BoFE.*

Chris Penney, Hon Secretary SLHallOverton@aol.com

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

Parish Council Chairman	Tom Ridler (also Highways representative)	773108	Email tom.ridler@which.net
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	Paula Baker	771219	(also Borough Councillor)
Jacky Lessware	773043	Ian Tilbury	771429	(also Borough Councillor)
David Llewellyn	773004	Alan Whitney	770174	Planning Committee Chairman

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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