

### Overton Parish Council Notes

From Laura Harley - Parish Clerk

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: August's OPC meeting is on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> \*

#### Planning Applications

**Agreed by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council:**

**BDB/ 72137:** 11 The Green - erection of a single detached garage.

**BDB/ 72299:** Little Court, Church Road - conversion of loft to living accommodation involving the construction of dormer windows to north and west elevations. Erection of a side extension following demolition of existing conservatory and store. Construction of front bay window to replace existing.

**BDB/72311:** 101 Winchester Street - erection of a first-floor side extension.

**Future development in Overton:** With the recent change in Government, the way that planning will be administered in the future is currently unclear. The parish council has decided that the community should be prepared for any decisions that might be made regarding future development in Overton and is intending to hold a series of public meetings.

The first will be at 7.30pm on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> July in the Community Centre and will concentrate on revalidating the **Village Design Statement** which was published in 2002. If anyone would like a copy of this **VDS** document, please come to the parish office on a Wednesday or Thursday morning as I have plenty to spare. It is also available on [www.overtonvillage.com](http://www.overtonvillage.com)

**Update on Funfair:** The parish council has received a generally favourable response (so far) to inviting the funfair to Overton in 2010. The parish council is still interested to hear your views - particularly if you live near Sapley Lane Playing Field. Please contact me by letter, email or 'phone (details at the foot of page 4).

**Damage to playground equipment in Edward Kersley Playing Field:** The parish council is deeply concerned about the vandalism of the children's slide at this field - and *is offering a reward of £100 for further information regarding the incineration of this item of playground equipment (if it leads to a conviction)*. The parish council has now agreed to replace the item at a cost in the region of £4,000

**Overton Village Website:** Tom Ridler, the parish council chairman, intends to write a **blog** based on various issues that face the parish council. It will soon be available in the **Forum** of [www.overtonvillage.com](http://www.overtonvillage.com) so please visit the site as your observations and comments on all matters would be most welcome.

**Basingstoke Play Council** will be bringing the **Mobile Play Project** to the Edward Kersley Playing Field from 2.00pm - 4.00pm from 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> July.

An **Open Access Play Scheme** (cost £1.00 per child) will be held in the **ORC** building in Bridge Street from 10.00am - 12.00noon from 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> August. Both schemes offer sports, crafts and games for children aged 5 - 15. Under-5s must be accompanied by an adult (maximum of 2 children per adult).



### Overton Harriers and Athletics Club

A Special Feature

Website: [www.overtonharriers.org.uk](http://www.overtonharriers.org.uk)

Overton Harriers celebrated its 36<sup>th</sup> year in operation at the beginning of 2010. It was started in 1974 by Keith Blakey who had recently moved from the North East to take a position as a teacher at Overton Primary School. A runner of some note in Gosforth, Keith quickly established himself in the community and worked hard to build a club with a mixture of some talented children from his school and a few enthusiastic adults from the village. The club has always maintained its original ethos - a small friendly club for runners of all calibres while still being competitive at the highest levels. The club still has the village at its centre - sometimes literally so, as can be seen in the first Saturday in September when the **Overton 5 mile** takes place around the centre of the village - yet offers opportunities for people from outside the village to enjoy the charms of running in the local countryside.

While the club is generally centred around adult athletes who are returning to running after setting up a family (in some cases trying to recapture the past glories of the school cross country) the club also offers athletics to adult and junior athletes at all levels.

Currently the Harriers are offering the opportunity for 7 - 11 year olds to appreciate the finer parts of athletics with a summer series of activities on Thursday evenings leading to a pentathlon at the end of August.

The club competes in the Hampshire Road Race League and the Hampshire Cross Country League and "punches far above its weight" in both competitions especially in road running where Overton is in the top division in both men's and ladies' leagues.

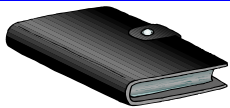
We are also a sociable bunch, having a training weekend every February and an annual camping trip to Sidmouth to compete in a local race - as well as trips to Belgium and the Czech Republic where we have strong links with local clubs.

As well as the **Overton 5**, the club organises a long -distance race along the Wayfarers' Walk from the Combe Gibbet at Inkpen back to Overton - a fantastic race consistently voted by a leading running publication in the top 25 races in the country - and assists with the organisation of two other successful local 5-mile races - the **Hurstbourne Tarrant 5** and the **Kingsclere 5**, both run on scenic off-road courses.

The club has a number of accredited coaches and they can provide advice to anyone interested in running whether that is to undertake the **Overton 5** or that lifetime ambition to run the London Marathon.

May we remind villagers that the **Overton 5 Race** and the **2½ Mile Fun Run** will take place on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September (see also Village Diary Section in this edition of **ON&V**). There may be some delays to traffic travelling on Winchester Street, Kingsclere Road and the High Street between 3.00pm & 4.00pm on the day.

**For information on Overton Harriers or the Overton 5 Race / 2 ½ mile Fun Run - including entry forms - please email the club's Chairman, Mark Dennison, at [markdennison@overtonharriers.org.uk](mailto:markdennison@overtonharriers.org.uk) or visit our website at [www.overtonharriers.org.uk](http://www.overtonharriers.org.uk)**



**Overton Village Diary**  
of Events due to take place between  
**16<sup>th</sup> August & 15<sup>th</sup> September**

\* **Every Tuesday from 2.30pm to 4.30pm**

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

\* **Every Wednesday & Thursday 9.00am - 12.00noon** (except 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> September, due to annual leave)

**The Parish Council Information Office:** 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 be viewed here.

\* **Laverstoke & Freefolk Parish Council:**

There is no meeting held in August

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> August**

\* **12.00noon is the Deadline for the September edition of ON&V.** Please send contributions (including dates of events for the Village Diary section that are due to take place between 16<sup>th</sup> September and 15<sup>th</sup> October) to The Editor, Chris Penney: either by **Email** to [OvertonNewsViews@aol.com](mailto:OvertonNewsViews@aol.com) with a **WORD** attachment or as **Typed copy** to 7 Batten's Avenue, Overton RG25 3NL

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> August**

\* **Overton Parish Council Planning Meeting:** 7.30pm on 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month in 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 which is next to Overton Pharmacy.

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> August**

\* **Publication Date of September 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, The Library, Parnell Jordy & Harvey, The Doctors' Surgery and by visiting the Overton Village website at [www.OvertonVillage.com](http://www.OvertonVillage.com) (click on "Parish Council" first).

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> - Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August**

\* **Overton Art Group Annual Exhibition:**

10.00am to 6.00pm each day in The Recreation Centre, Bridge Street. Admission free.



**Bank Holiday Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August**

\* **The Great Overton Duck Race** is happening again from 12.00noon at The Flashes in Station Road - including the very popular **Race Your Own Duck** event. The first Race is at 1.00pm and the last at 5.30pm.

Lots of attractions are already booked including face painting, BBQ, ice creams, licensed bar, tea/coffee & cake stall, tombola and jewellery, but there are still some stall spaces available - if you would like one at only £10.00, **please contact Maggs Steward (771457)**

Ducks will be on sale soon! Look out for the "Quackers" table in the Community Centre Square on Saturday mornings in August where you can also register your much-loved little ducky to compete in the **Race Your Own Duck** event .... **We Can't Wait ...!**

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

\* **Rocky's Plaice Holiday Club:**

9.45am - 12.15pm at St Mary's Church Rooms. Games, stories, crafts, drama all set in a fish and chip shop.

For children in school years R - year 4 (as at end of summer term) Cost £12.00 for the four sessions.

**Contact Sue Smale on 770207 or download booking form from [www.stmarysoverton.org.uk](http://www.stmarysoverton.org.uk)**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September**

\* **Overton Folk Club:** 8.00pm at the Red Lion with **Dahm The Bard** plus singaround.

For more information contact **Tom Hanley on 770384** or Email [overtonfolkclub@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:overtonfolkclub@hotmail.co.uk)

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September:**

\* **Overton Harriers' International Road Races**

See Special Feature article on page 1 for details

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September**

\* **PC Baldwin's Police Surgery:** 12.00noon - 2.00pm in the Parish Council Information Office in St Mary's Hall

\* **Overton Choral Society:** 7.45pm in St Mary's Hall for the start of our new season. There is no age barrier in **OCS:** please join us if you are interested in singing and would like to learn more about sight reading - even if you hope to move on to a pop or musical theatre career - it is a very good grounding in music. **Lyn Hardy (397507) or Email [lyn\\_hardy@hotmail.com](mailto:lyn_hardy@hotmail.com)**

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September**

\* **Overton Business Association Bi-Monthly Meeting:** 7.30pm in The Honey Pot, Winchester Street.

**OBA** Membership is open to all businesses in Overton, so please do come along and meet other local business members. For further information see our website [www.overtonbusiness.com](http://www.overtonbusiness.com) or contact **Chairman, John Ross on 773140 or Email [uwljr@aol.com](mailto:uwljr@aol.com)**

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September**

\* **Overton Parish Council Monthly Meeting:** 7.30pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month in Community Centre. (Please note: Public Time is from 7.00pm to 7.30pm)

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September**

\* **Art Classes in Overton:** A ten-week course starting today. Three hours per session from 1.15pm to 4.15pm in The Church Rooms at St. Mary's Church. These classes welcome everyone, whether accomplished or just starting, with one-to-one guidance and help from the artist - providing an excellent opportunity to meet and learn together with like-minded people at £65.00 for the complete 30 hour course.

For more information and to book a place, contact **Stuart Campbell-Smith on 322200**

\* **Adult Ballroom and Latin Classes:** Starting today at Overton Primary School, weekly from 7.30pm-8.30pm. Also Wedding Dance tuition. **To book, contact Julie on 07709 721594 or email [julieanneale@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:julieanneale@yahoo.co.uk)**

**Until Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September**

\* **Overton Library:** If you haven't already joined the Summer Reading Challenge - **Space Hop** - there's still plenty of time to complete the challenge and collect your certificate & medal. **Chris Vane-Library Supervisor**

**Late Diary News... Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August**

\* **Summertime Bash:** 7.30pm in St Mary's Hall. Featuring **Sideways Down** and **The Wyverns** together again - remember their evening of great music for the Help for Haiti fundraiser in February?

Tickets are available now from The Overton Gallery at £5.00 each and a donation from the proceeds will be made to the Hampshire & IOW Air Ambulance Service.

**Overton Recreation Centre (ORC).** The July Draw was put back a week (to 16<sup>th</sup> July) and so took place after this edition of **ON&V** had gone to print. The results will be included in September's **ON&V** or can be seen on the website at [www.overtonrecreationcentre.org.uk](http://www.overtonrecreationcentre.org.uk)

**Overton A.C.T.I.O.N.** The Committee would like to remind parishioners requiring transport to the hospital, surgery, etc, that these contacts & telephone numbers are available in the order shown: **Betty Mackrill on 770798, Ann McGill on 771462 and John Thomas on 770348**

## 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 Pre-School Playgroup

I am very proud to announce that the Playgroup has again been awarded **Outstanding** status by Ofsted following their inspection on 30<sup>th</sup> June. We first attained this level in 2007 and are really thrilled to have been judged to be **Outstanding** once again.

This fantastic result is a testament to the hard work of all those associated with our playgroup - Leader, Amanda Igo and her wonderful team, who continue to provide a wonderful environment for our children.

On behalf of the parents, I would like to thank all the staff and all those on the Parent Management Committee, who support playgroup so well.

The full report is available at [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

Lisa Martin - Chair, Parent Management Committee

### HART (Hampshire Animal Rescue Trust)

HART's new wildlife hospital is ready for admissions at Soldridge Business Park, Medstead, near Alton, and the gates of HART Wildlife Rescue at Dellands, Overton, are now permanently closed. All the charity's operations will now be run from the new unit.

After devoting more than 14 years to caring for wildlife, June & Bob Gibbs can look forward to having their house & garden to themselves. In the past their home has been shared with thousands of wild animals and birds, several staff, and a stream of willing volunteers. A substantial donation from the Persula Foundation, which has supported the charity several times over the years, made it possible to buy purpose-built isolation units, an examination table, light and a drugs trolley, and to make a deposit on the new leased ambulance. The empty shell of the business unit at Soldridge Park has been cleverly converted.

Donations to help with the running costs of the new hospital would be very welcome and can be made through the website at [www.hartwildlife.org.uk](http://www.hartwildlife.org.uk) or directly at the hospital. Support would also be welcome at the charity shops in Alton and Andover - and volunteers are always needed.

Members of the public are now kindly requested **not** to leave injured, orphaned or abandoned wildlife outside the door at Dellands as this will cause upset. Please call the new hospital for advice - **HART Wildlife Rescue, Unit 9, Soldridge Business Park, Soldridge Road, Medstead, Nr Alton, Hampshire, GU34 5JF**  
Tel: 01420 562335 Registered Charity No: 1066760  
[www.hartwildlife.org.uk](http://www.hartwildlife.org.uk) email: [help@hartwildlife.org.uk](mailto:help@hartwildlife.org.uk)

### Overton Biodiversity Society

**Wildlife Photo Competition:** Take a good photo of any creature or plant in its natural habitat within 10 miles of Overton and you could be a winner. There are three classes: Adult, ages 10 - 18, and under age 10.

Up to three photos can be submitted - entrance for each photo is £1.00 - but no elephants, hippos or pets! Prizes are kindly sponsored by Overton Coop.

A combined application form and mounting sheet is available from either the Fireplace Shop or at the Traidcraft stall held on the second and fourth Saturday mornings of every month in the Methodist Chapel. (You don't have to be a member to enter but membership is only £1.00 per year.) Return mounted photos to either place by 18<sup>th</sup> February 2011. All entries will be displayed at the next **OBS** AGM and then in The Library.

## Come On England!

A big thank you to all the people who paid £2.00 to let us put up our England flags for the World Cup. I thought the village looked really good - just a shame that the Team didn't.

Thanks also to Brian Lawrence for supplying the flag poles and Tom Guy for his help. **From Kevin Birch**

### The Harroway - Update

As reported in June's **ON&V**, the Harroway has been substantially resurfaced with what appears to be pulverised building rubble. Costs were:

1. £7,160 - for pruning and removal of the pruning debris (vegetation works and clearance).

2-4. £22,652 - for levelling and dealing with the ruts of the surface, the surface dressing material and the cost of the work to apply the surface dressing (the contractor had not broken down the costs further).

5. Total cost - £29,812, excluding VAT.

It can be seen, therefore, that the damage caused by recreational off-road vehicles cost us, taxpayers, nearly £27,000. In view of this, Friends of the Harroway will continue to actively lobby Hampshire County Council to instigate a Traffic Regulation Order and ultimately seek Restricted Byway status, despite HCC's declaration that it won't consider these options.

Please continue to report all incidents of illegal or dangerous use of the byway to PC Richard Baldwin on **101** and/or our County Councillor Anna McNair-Scott.

**From Barry Taylor, 39 Woodlands (770175)**

### Violet Roberts

We would like to thank all those who filled St Mary's for Mum's funeral on 18<sup>th</sup> May. We are also grateful for the many messages of sympathy, moving tributes and donations made in Mum's memory to the Friends of Oakley and Overton Surgeries, to whom we have now forwarded cheques in the sum of £730.09.

The warm friendship, respect and affection you have shown for Mum has been a great comfort to us and will become part of our cherished memories of her.

With thanks to you all. **From Valerie, Paul and Rex**

### Transport and Lighting News

From Brian Langer - OPC Transport and Lighting Representative

#### August Bank Holiday weekend services

##### Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> August:

Trains and Buses - Normal Saturday services.

##### Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August:

Trains and Buses - Normal Sunday services.

##### Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August:

Trains - Saturday service / Buses - Sunday service.

There are no engineering works affecting the Overton train service over the weekend.

### Buses

**Low floor buses:** Stagecoach Andover is gradually introducing newer low-floor double-deck vehicles on the 76/86 route with the intention that both routes will become fully low-floor by the autumn. The company will then undertake extra marketing by branding the rear of the buses following the theme of the route linking a number of rural locations including Overton.

### Street lighting

By the end of August it will be dark by 8.00pm, so please phone **0845 603 5633** to report faults, listing lamp column number, street details and emphasising that Overton is classed as "Basingstoke Rural" on the HCC system. It is realised that there are still several "day burners" which have not been dealt with.

**\*\*\* Stop Press \*\*\* Unexpected Problems with St Luke's Hall Refurbishment**

**Progress to date...**

The budget cost for the total refurbishment and upgrade is £200,000. In the last three months alone, the Trustees have already raised nearly **three-quarters** of this amount - and the fund now stands at **£145,000** including grants from Overton Parish Council (£8187) and Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council (£112,700). But because the B&DBC grant has to be taken up by March 2011, the Trustees have had to bring forward their timetable, closing the hall from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July to implement "Phase One" (ie major & structural work up to £145,000) during summer weather/school holidays. The aim was to reopen on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September and raise the £55,000 balance to complete the remainder of the work as "Phase Two" in summer 2011. Fund-raising has already been started, aimed at Overton residents and businesses, as well as external sources.

**Unexpected Problems...**

However, when demolition work began to expose the wiring, plumbing and heating circuits, it soon became obvious to everyone that they are all in such a bad condition after 70 years that it is impossible - and often illegal - to retain any of the old sections while trying to merge in new sections. This means that it is no longer possible to plan the work in Two Phases.

***Everything needs to be completely replaced***

***- all in one go - before plastering in the new wiring, piping, radiators, lights and switches, then adding doors and windows, etc.***

**What happens now?...**

When the £145,000 has been spent, the hall will be part-finished to a high standard, but still **unusable**. The only realistic solution is to concentrate on raising the £55,000 by the end of August, so that the builders can continue working in September and get **everything completely finished** by the end of October.

This will unfortunately involve further short-term disruption and inconvenience to hall users - but, in the long-term, the hall will be **fully** upgraded before the coming winter. And there will be financial savings overall, because all the building infrastructure is already set up on site, plus all the work will be at 17.5% VAT (before VAT goes up to 20% next January).

**How Can You Help?**

The Trustees are now appealing for **your** help to "Save St Luke's Hall For Future Generations of Overtonians". This was the original aim of Bank of England when it had the foresight and vision to give the hall to the Parishioners of Overton on 7<sup>th</sup> June 1946. Inside every copy of August **ON&V** is a gold-coloured appeal leaflet: it was printed before the unexpected problems arose, but the need is now greater than ever ...

**... Please Give Generously & As Soon As Possible**

**Thank you - The Trustees**

**Overton Police 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](mailto:richard.baldwin@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)  
 Overton's Police Community Support Officer is Sabrina Smith  
 Email [sabrina.smith@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto: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)  
 (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

**Overton Beat Statistics**

June = 13 x reported crimes (Compared to: 9 x crimes in 2009, 12 in 2008, 14 in 2007 and 26 in 2006)

**Total for the year = 81** (compared to 85 in 2009)

I'm pleased to see the decline over previous months in the numbers of reports of damage to property and of "rowdy and inconsiderate" behaviour. Residents around the Edward Kersley Playing Fields have been on the receiving end of anti-social behaviour which we have clamped down on over the last month. We have utilised the Designated Public Places Order (DPPO) in the area and have confiscated a large amount of alcohol from over-18 year olds in an effort to combat further problems. Inevitably this has moved the "ever present" group onto other areas of the Village (including Overton Hill/Berrydown) and we'll be monitoring these to make sure they behave themselves.

**What can I do to make my home more secure ?**

With the recent sustained period of hot weather, can I remind everyone to be mindful of their home security as opportunist thieves will strike when you leave doors and windows open.

**Make** doubly sure your windows and doors are locked properly (double-locked, if available) every time you leave the house, go into the garden or go to bed.

**Keep** valuables out of view - do not keep expensive items such as music players or games consoles where passers-by can see them.

**Think** of ways to make it look like you're at home, even when you're out.

**Think** like a burglar and double check your home security: are there any places they could break in without being seen?

**Keep** an eye on your neighbour's property and report anything suspicious to the police immediately on **101** or **999** if you think that a burglary is in progress.

**Overton Village Website**

If you haven't seen it already, I supply regular news updates for the Overton Beat in the **Forum** area of this site [www.Overtonvillage.com](http://www.Overtonvillage.com)

Also available to view is [www.hampshire.police.uk](http://www.hampshire.police.uk) which is the official Hampshire Constabulary website

... And finally... This edition of **ON&V** was published a week earlier (22<sup>nd</sup> July rather than 29<sup>th</sup>) than normal, so it should reach everyone before the school holidays start. Also, you may like to note that, from now onwards, **ON&V** will be printed on a choice of four different pastel-coloured papers, so you can identify each edition more easily.

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](mailto:tom.ridler@which.net)  
 Vice-Chairman Lucy Sloane Williams 770607 Email [lucysloanewilliams@gmail.com](mailto:lucysloanewilliams@gmail.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](mailto:opc@overtonvillage.com)

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