

## NEWS ROUND-UP ~ MARCH 2004

### LITTER

Further to comments made in this column last month your Council will be employing a person to pick litter (not fly tipping) commencing in March. This will be for a trial period of three months (on an "ad-hoc" basis – maximum 5 hours per month) and, if it is successful, continue for a further nine-month period and then be reviewed. The hourly rate paid (£7.50) will include Employers and Public Liability, as well as a proportion of National Insurance Contributions.

The main areas initially to be covered will be Dayseys Hill, Rookery Hill, Brickfield Road and Millers Lane. NOTE - The Parish Boundary at present does not include the M23 bridge in Green Lane. Whilst some residents may feel upset that you are having to pay twice for this service this is the cheapest way we can try to resolve this problem (one which is not exclusive to Outwood). Tandridge District Council has quoted an hourly rate (for the first two hours) of £25 per operative, reducing to £19 per hour after two hours (subject to availability). We would appreciate feedback from residents on these proposals.

### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> April, Lloyd Hall, 8.00pm

We are pleased to confirm that the Chief Executive of Tandridge District Council, Stephen Weigel, will be our Chief Guest and Main Speaker at the above event. It will be your opportunity to ask him questions on issues that concern you, but it is only fair to point out that he is new to Tandridge and has only been in office since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2004.

In addition we shall have reports from the National Trust and the Smith Charity. We are hoping also to have the opportunity to sample the re-launched Outwood Village Website ([www.outwood.org](http://www.outwood.org)), which your Council supports.

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Elsewhere in this issue there is a request for a Chief Co-ordinator to come forward to ensure that the Outwood Neighbourhood Watch continues to operate. Your Council supports this group and sincerely hopes that a resident will be found to fill this vacancy.

Our Local Community Policeman - PC Paul Baker – has stated that ONW are highly thought of by the Surrey Police. If you are interested contact Pam Turner (842597), Nigel or Pam Shaw (842743) or Jill Stenbridge (842729) for further details. **A meeting to try to resolve this matter will be held in the Lloyd Hall on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2004 at 8.00pm.**

### AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Your Council is currently studying a booklet, received from the Rural Housing Trust (Village Homes for Village People). This Trust has provided, over the past 27 years, some 3,000 homes in 400 villages throughout England. These homes are available indefinitely to local people and can never be sold on the open market.

The question of affordable housing is a major question in many villages in Southeast England and elsewhere. Outwood has a particular problem, being in the Green Belt, and also with much of the land being owned by the National Trust. First time buyers are virtually excluded from any property in the village. Councillors will be discussing at our **March Council Meeting, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 8.00pm in the Lloyd Hall** whether as a Parish Council we make preliminary approaches to the Trust. Interested?

GRL