In Touch with our community

SARISBURY – SPRING 2011

Pride and parade ground precision in freedom march past

HMS Collingwood freedom march: Former Mayor Brian Bayford (right) inspects the guard and (left) Fareham MP Mark Hoban, Council Leader Seán Woodward, Commodore Tim Lowe and the then Deputy Mayor Trevor Cartwright take their places.

Villagers armed with high-tech gear to catch speeding drivers

KILL your speed through Burridge and Swanwick - or villagers will clock you.

County Councillor Seán Woodward has awarded a grant to the Residents' Association to buy speed monitoring equipment that can be operated by volunteers.

The money will also cover printing 30mph roundels that can be fixed to wheelie bins to remind drivers of the speed limit.

The equipment is also available to other residents' groups in the Western Wards who are concerned about traffic speeds in their areas.

Police training

Police train volunteers to use the equipment and record speeds and registration numbers.

One member of the group will generate warning letters from the Police to offenders.

High levels of speeding will bring a visit from the Roads Policing Unit and multiple offenders will be prosecuted.

Councillor Woodward said:

"Community Speedwatch is an excellent example of the Big Society in action. Residents concerned about speeding traffic can now work with the Police to make a difference."

Pat Johnson, secretary of Burridge and Swanwick Residents' Association, said: "For many years residents have complained about speeding through our village, despite the money spent by the councils on traffic calming measures.

“We are most grateful to Councillor Woodward for the grant to purchase this equipment. It is now for residents to involve themselves.”

Conservatives

Do you support Conservative principles?
Would you like to VOTE to select your Council and Parliamentary candidates?
Would you like to ATTEND social or political events with like-minded people?
Would you be willing to HELP us by delivering InTouch newsletters in your road?

If your answer to any of these questions is YES then why not JOIN the Sarisbury Branch of Fareham Conservative Association?
Please telephone David Swanbrow on 01489 572723

Iris the tireless wins Fareham Citizen of the Year honour

THE BOROUGH’S top honour has been awarded to a dedicated charity worker from Sarisbury.

Iris Meatcher was made a Fareham Citizen of Honour by the outgoing Mayor, Councillor Brian Bayford, for her tireless work throughout every year to promote and help in Operation Christmas Child.

She organises and helps with checking and sorting shoe boxes to the warehouse in Southampton for distribution.

Councillor Bayford told the audience at the Ferneham Hall mayor-making ceremony: “She is an inspiration to everyone and last year over 8,300 boxes were sent from Sarisbury Green United Reformed Church where they are based.

“Congratulations and thanks to Iris for all the happiness that she has managed to give over the years.”

*Iris is pictured above with her husband David, a lay preacher at Sarisbury United Reformed Church, after receiving her award.

We keep In Touch throughout the year - not just at election time
Summer sports players enjoy better courts and pitches

CRICKETERS and tennis enthusiasts can enjoy a better summer thanks to Fareham Council's improvements.

Cricket pavilions at Sarisbury Green and Allotment Road Sports Ground have been refurbished in time for the first matches.

The most obvious feature of the Allotment Road building is the new roof (above left), which will be officially opened by Councillor Seán Woodward on June 19.

Ideally this would have been a pitched roof but it was retained as a flat roof to prevent visual intrusion to properties to the rear.

Sarisbury Athletic Cricket Club has already made good use of the facility (top right).

The change to the pavilion at Sarisbury Green is more dramatic. Instead of the old grubby white building, it now has a natural wood finish in keeping with its position at the edge of The Green.

Councillor David Swanbrow said the natural finish should maintain its attractive appearance longer than a painted finish; if the wooden cladding needs replacing, it should be easy to match.

Improvements to the cricket playing facilities at Allotment Road are now complete.

The pitch has been cleaned, a new surface laid and an additional bowlers’ run-up lane installed.

Both tennis courts at Sarisbury Green have undergone significant improvements this year. They include new fencing to the perimeters, anchor points for the nets, a new bench and both courts were cleaned.

Tennis courts at Burridge have also undergone significant improvements, including a new court surface, new posts and nets, and both courts were recently painted.

Top award for Bursledon Brickworks

Well done: Volunteers with the plaque.

Bursledon Brickworks, the last surviving steam-powered brickworks in Britain, received a prestigious Heritage Award from the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE) on Tuesday, April 12.

The Victorian brickworks, built in 1897 at the peak of Britain’s industrial power, used patented new methods to manufacture up to 20 million bricks every year.

These cheaper, mass-produced bricks ended up in countless homes, factories and landmarks across the country, driving the expansion of Britain’s towns and cities.

Today, this rich industrial heritage is kept alive by the Hampshire Building Preservation Trust and the hard work of the Bursledon Brickworks volunteers.

A tour was followed by the unveiling of the plaque and speeches from Isobel Pollock, chairwoman of the IMechE’s Heritage Committee, and Bill Fergie, chairman of Hampshire Building Preservation Trust.

Isobel Pollock said: “Bursledon Brickworks is a perfect example of the innovative engineering that turned this country into an industrial superpower, producing the bricks that helped build modern Britain.”

“This award is not only a tribute to the Brickworks’ engineering achievements, but also the magnificent work of the volunteers who keep this important part of Britain’s industrial heritage alive.”

Bursledon Brickworks is the 62nd winner of an IMechE Heritage Award and the first factory to be included.

The awards recognise British feats of engineering that have changed the way we live.

Curling with a ‘k’ is sport for disabled

IN 2000, John Bennett was asked by his son to think up a sport that disabled people could all enjoy.

While watching the Curling World Championships on TV he came up with the idea of New Age Kurling, an indoor version of the game.

It allows people of all abilities to launch the kurling stones. Pictured below, County Councillor Seán Woodward tries his hand with a set bought from a grant he gave to Burside and Park Gate Women’s Institute with WI members Councillor Marian Ellerton and Dodge Stemberg.
Friends group already proving its worth at new community hospital

FAREHAM’s new Community Hospital now has a thriving Friends Group whose aim is to provide wide-ranging encouragement and support to the management and staff as it develops its role for providing outpatient facilities for the community.

The Friends invited Fareham Council Leader Councillor Seán Woodward and Fareham MP Mark Hoban to be patrons, an honour they were delighted to accept.

The Friends have been working to enhance the hospital’s waiting areas, a licence to play DVDs in the children’s waiting area has been bought and people have been encouraged to donate creative flower arrangements.

At the hospital’s request, the Friends recruited volunteers to act as stewards, showing patients to their consulting/treatment rooms, thus freeing the nurses from this task. They also meet and greet people in the reception area.

In conjunction with the management, the Friends have organised training days, security checks and provision of hospital plans for the volunteers.

They have been discussing with the Primary Care Trust (PCT) and the Local Improvement Financial Trust (LIFT), who own and manage the buildings, the allocation of space for a Red Cross equipment depot to replace the Warsash depot which had to close.

Winners of the photo contest

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An area has been identified and the PCT’s decision is awaited.

The Friends are planning to enter the hospital for the next Design Award of the Society in the New Build Category.

Contact: Jocelyn Jones at cfriends12@gmail.com or write to Friends of Fareham Community Hospital, c/o Fareham Community Hospital, Brook Lane, Sarisbury Green, Southampton SO31 7DQ.

Plans for Coldeast

Plans for limited development of the Coldeast site are proposed in Fareham’s Core Strategy.

The Council will keep the remainder of the site as public open space in addition to allotments, sports pitches and a new cemetery.

There is provision for a swimming pool and a combined sports pavilion and community hall.

Residents will be able to see proposals at exhibitions to be held at Victory Hall, Warsash on June 13, 1pm - 7pm and at Sarisbury Community Centre on June 15, 4.30pm - 7pm.

This second venue will also be used for the Western Wards CAT meeting which starts at 7pm on the same day.

There will be a further opportunity to see the exhibition at Sarisbury Parish Rooms all day on June 22. Information will also be available on the Council’s website www.fareham.gov.uk.

Former Mayor opens bowls club extension

THE NEW 50ft extension to the club house at Lockswood Bowling Club was officially opened by the past Mayor, Brian Bayford, on May 9.

It will double the area of social space for members and give additional room in the kitchen. The old verandah has been replaced by an attractive patio space.

This thriving club with its all-weather greens caters for 183 playing members and over 40 social members, and hosts many matches and tournaments.

The event was attended by club officers and members and Park Gate Ward Councillor Marian Ellerton.

Eight bags full! Dumped litter shocks Scouts during community clean-up

SCOUTING is not only good for the youngsters involved, but also helps the community at large.

This was well demonstrated by the Falcon Explorer Scouts who spent an evening clearing rubbish from pavements and hedges in Botley Road, Burridge, Swanwick Lane and Glen Road underpass and woods.

Community-based work is part of a programme working towards their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Awards.

Assistant leader Paul Wayman said: “They filled eight bin liners and were shocked at amount and it really has got them thinking. I am very proud.”
YOUR voice in Westminster
by MARK HOBAN
MP for Fareham

Contact Mark on 01329 233573 or www.markhoban.com

I met 103-year-old Mary Parkin at the Lockswood Day Care Centre.

This excellent centre provides much needed services in the west of Fareham to elderly people and their relatives.

It is an excellent example of the Big Society as it is run not by a local council, but by local residents.

It is also a reminder that as the population ages, we need to think quite carefully about the services we provide to older people and their families so that we can meet their needs and keep them in their own homes as long as possible.

Centenarian speaks her mind

In brief

Locks Heath residents are angry about the proposed closure of the Locks Road surgery.

NHS Hampshire blocked the closure plans and have told me they will be launching a proper consultation on GP care in the area later this year, to ensure that GP services match the needs of local residents.

•As a Treasury Minister, I want to encourage more people regardless of age to save.

Later this year, I will be launching the Junior ISA to encourage under 16s to save. I have also introduced new rules to give people who are retiring more choice and flexibility over use of their pension funds.

•Dytecna held an open day in May that I launched.

It is a successful engineering company operating at Kites Croft in Fareham. We want to see more such companies expand so we are less dependent on banks for future economic growth.

•The Hub is a new drop-in centre on Highlands Road, funded by Borough and County grants totalling £110,000 to the Fareham Park Project. I visited shortly after it opened and was impressed by the range of support services on offer to Fareham Park residents.

Bid to put Genesis to better use

A NEW youth club is needed for the Western Wards.

County Councillor Séan Woodward says the Genesis Youth Centre could be put to better use.

As chairman of the Genesis management committee, he wants to see it modelled on the successful Whiteley Youth Club (see Page 2) to serve Locks Heath, Sarisbury and Warsash areas.

The Whiteley club was set up with the help of Police and volunteers, but the Genesis Centre, built by the Borough Council several years ago, has not fulfilled its potential.

After a meeting with Police and the youth service, it is hoped that a Genesis Youth Club can be set up.

GOING GREEN

SOLAR PANELS and an electric vehicle have enlarged Fareham Council’s green footprint. The Executive agreed to install Photovoltaic (PV) panels on several council buildings – including the Civic Offices, Sarisbury Councillor David Swanbrow said: “The Council has long been keen to demonstrate leadership in encouraging alternative energy solutions, but not at any price.” “PV technology is not new but with reduced installation costs and some guaranteed income from the energy companies, we now feel able to do this without penalising the local taxpayer.” The scheme will take a while to put in place, but will also cover the Council’s depot and sheltered housing schemes at Downings Court and Barnfield Court – a good spread to gain experience before considering other areas.

Fareham also bought an electric powered vehicle for its Streetscene operation. This will be carrying out such activities as grounds maintenance, litter collection and general use around the town centre. It has zero emissions, can travel at up to 30 mph, will carry a 400kg payload with a 60-mile range. It recharges in 3 hours from a standard plug.

GOING WHITE

WHY HAVE many households had their green garden waste sacks replaced by white ones?

The garden waste service collection crews are reporting many sacks being left out with their handles either damaged or missing.

This has the potential to cause injury to the crews as it is difficult to lift the sacks in the way they have been trained to do so safely.

To mitigate this, all affected sacks are being replaced with new white ones as the crews complete their rounds.

All faulty sacks will be retained and disposed of appropriately and a note will be attached to the new one explaining the reason the exchange has taken place.

There will be no charge for the new white ones which hold the same amount of waste as the green bags.

The replacement programme started on 16 April and will take about six weeks to complete. *Call the Council on 01329 236100 if you’ve been missed.*