

All's well that ends well as revamp hits snag

WORK on Fareham's multi-million Shopping Centre revamp was delayed after workers ran into unforeseen pitfalls.

Several old wells, probably dating from the time when there were houses on the site, were discovered where the new multi-storey car park and Debenhams Desire store are being built.

It means Debenhams and the new car park will not be open until spring 2009, thus missing the Christmas period.

"Building control records did not show the existence of several large wells. These had to be bridged and, although this has now been completed, it has caused some delay," said Centre Manager Pam Gillard.

However, store bosses remain committed to the Shopping Centre.

Robert Hadfield, of the Debenhams property team, said: "I can confirm we are happy with the progress and are eager to open the store at that time in line with our current store opening programme."

Fareham Council Leader Councillor Seán Woodward said: "It is unfortunate that the wells were found but I am delighted that Debenhams remain committed to Fareham."

Community Hospital scheduled to start in January 2009, but...

NHS under fire for failure to provide beds in Phase 1



Rub your eyes: Soon it won't be just an artist's sketch, but bricks and mortar.

FAILURE to provide maternity and in-patient beds when Fareham's long-awaited community hospital opens in 2011 has sparked criticism.

Local councillors, shortly due to consider granting planning consent for building to start at the Coldeast site in January 2009, are trying to get a change of heart.

The criticism follows recent public consultation by the NHS which, although mostly well received, showed disappointment with the omissions in Phase 1.

The NHS argues that adequate provision exists at Gosport War Memorial Hospital, where extra facilities costing £6.3m are being provided.

Rumours scotched

Meantime, rumours that Hampshire Primary Care Trust would be charging the sick to park at the new hospital have been refuted.

Councillor Brian Bayford, Fareham's PCT representative, was assured that bona fide patients would get 3 hours' free parking.

The rumours arose because the PCT thought commuters using Swanwick Station would leave their cars at Coldeast.

Councillor Bayford said that was nonsense as the station was at least a mile from the hospital.

"It is considered 3 hours' free parking is adequate as it is most unlikely patients will be waiting more than an hour to be seen," he said.

If there was any chance of exceeding the limit, they would be given tokens and have nothing to fear from the company that would be running the car park.

First phase provisions

- Large out-patient department with 6 consulting suites for visiting consultants and two suites for ante-natal clinics.
- Rehabilitation department with 2 consulting rooms and 6 treatment cubicles, replacing current services at Highlands Road Clinic (Frosthole Close).
- Two general-purpose diagnostic X-ray rooms and two ultrasound units.
- Elderly assessment and treat-

ment centre, including treatment area and two consulting suites.

- Older persons' mental health day hospital with 2 consulting suites and treatment room, large sitting room, two activity rooms.

- Minor procedures service by GPs that will save residents having to visit Gosport or Southampton to see a GP after hours and at weekends.

With the existing facilities on the site, Fareham will have the initial elements of a comprehensive health service campus by 2011.

No maternity beds

Twelve maternity beds, including two delivery rooms to replace facilities lost at Blackbrook Maternity Home, will not be provided, although Fareham is the only area in Hampshire with a predicted RISE of 15% in the birth rate, compared with a DECREASE of 14% for Gosport.

Discussions are being held with the NHS to review the entrance from Brook Lane and relocate to the south past Hawthorns and the Meadows by the junction of Brook Lane and Lockwood Road.



WARD NEWS BRIEFS

Harvest lunch

Sarisbury and Park Gate annual harvest lunch will be held on Sunday, October 12 in the new Burridge Village Hall. Tickets available from all ward councillors.

David's delight

The arrival in Portsmouth of Sir Alec Rose's yacht *Lively Lady* after her global voyage was an emotive occasion for David Swanbrow.

He sailed on the Gibraltar-Guernsey leg of the Raymarine project, which gave young people – many from deprived backgrounds – the chance to build character.

David was involved throughout the epic 28,000-mile voyage sending twice daily weather forecasts.

Lively Lady sailed into Gunwharf Quays on July 5 – 40 years and a day since Southsea greengrocer Sir Alec came home to a tumultuous reception.

'No' to extraction

Widespread opposition to plans to extract 8m tons of sand and gravel from 740 acres of countryside bordering The Solent ended in victory for the campaigners.

Councillors David Swanbrow and Seán Woodward, who lobbied the County Council, were delighted Brownwich and Chilling had been taken off the list.

But Councillor Woodward warned the Government still had to ratify the decision later this year.

Yo ho ho! Youth Theatre is a hard act to follow, m'earties



Motley crew: Scene from Sarisbury Youth Theatre Company's performance of *Treasure Island*.

SARISBURY Youth Theatre Company celebrated its 10th anniversary with a special birthday performance in June.

The group, started in June 1998 helped by a grant from Fareham Borough Council, has performed plays, pantomimes and reviews at Sarisbury Community Centre.

The 10th anniversary programme included scenes from plays performed over the last ten years, songs, dance routines and monologues, writes Councillor David Swanbrow.

They also played some scenes from plays that they hope to pro-

duce in future.

Some of the monologues were very moving, especially one about a boy who was bullied at school and who died as a result of a bullying incident.

The performers ranged in age from 11 to over 20 and all showed a degree of confidence and professionalism that it would be hard to better anywhere.

During the interval the audience – who were seated at round tables – were given a ploughman's supper and there was a raffle to raise money towards their next performance.

The group tries to put on two

shows each year and its next production will be the pantomime *Alladin*.

The Youth Theatre Company welcomes new members aged 11-21 and meets on Sundays at Sarisbury Community Centre between 3.30 and 5.30pm.

Details of both the Sarisbury Youth Theatre Company and the adult Sarisbury Theatre Company can be found at the web site www.dramagroup.co.uk or you can write to STC or SYTC, c/o Sarisbury Green Community Centre, The Green, Sarisbury, SO31 7AA, or phone 02392 375249 or 07940 161747.

Council heeds requests to improve Burridge play area



AFTER the reopening of the Village Hall, several residents have asked for improvements to the children's play area at Burridge.

The following works are proposed:

- Repaint the swings or replace if necessary
- Replace sea saw and two seats with modern ones
- Install a new multi play unit into the grassed area with safety surfacing
- Replace gate and one section of fence either side to improve access and widen path
- Install additional items to increase the length of the current trim trail style equipment (currently in the grass)
- Move bin if needed to ease access improvements
- All safety surfacing will be inspected and will be replaced if necessary

Allowing for the tendering process the improvements should be made early in 2009.

Sarisbury Green emblem is a sign of old times



IT USED to be the Bat and Ball, reflecting its proximity to the Sarisbury Green cricket ground, pictured above in this old print.

Residents with longer memories will remember it as Flat Foot Sam's and before that, The New Inn.

Now it's no longer a pub after it closed a few years ago to be converted into flats.

But the pub signpost remains and it's now going to be reused as a village focal point.

It follows a successful bid by Sarisbury Residents' Association to Fareham Council for Community Action Team funding.

A 'Sarisbury Green' sign is now housed in the frame that used to house the pub sign.

Historic note: 1774 records of the famous Hambledon Cricket Club show there was a cricket ground at Sarisbury Green before that date.

David thanks voters for record poll

DAVID SWANBROW thanks Sarisbury Ward electors who returned him to the Borough Council with a massive majority in May.

He said: "Whether you voted for me or not I will continue to do my best to serve you as your ward councillor and to respond to your problems as promptly and fairly as I can."

David polled 1,657 votes out of a total of 2,031 cast, which was just under 82% of the vote – a record for Fareham.

Thoroughly modern village hall is a big hit with Burrridge residents



Residents are delighted with the newly renovated Burrridge Village Hall, which was due to be opened by Fareham Council Executive Leader Seán Woodward on July 19

Time for a speed camera to slow traffic through Burrridge



TRAFFIC is still speeding through Burrridge village despite expensive measures to slow it down.

Sarisbury County Councillor Seán Woodward wrote to the Hampshire Camera Safety Partnership pointing out that recent traffic calming measures on Botley Road through

Burrridge and on Swanwick Lane had failed to curb speeds.

His letter followed the annual meeting of Burrridge and Swanwick Residents' Association, where members were concerned that some motorists continued to treat the roads with contempt.

He said: "We have

made significant investment in trying to slow the traffic on these roads.

"We had a trial of a flashing 30mph sign (pictured) on Botley Road which appeared to have some effect.

"I will be pressing the Cameral Safety Partnership to consider a permanent speed camera on these roads."



Residents urged to fight BT plans to axe payphones

THESE payphones at Old Swanwick Lane, Lower Swanwick (left) and Bridge Road, Sarisbury are on a list of six that BT wants to axe across Fareham.

Residents are being urged to comment to British Telecom, which says they under-used

BT has written to Fareham Council announcing its plans to remove these and others located at Stubbington, Catisfield Lane, Fareham,

Barnes Lane, Sarisbury Green and Yew Tree Drive, Whiteley.

Anyone wishing to comment should respond by August 22. Responses can be made via www.fareham.gov.uk click on 'Have your Say' or in writing to: Head of Democratic Services; Fareham Borough Council, Civic Way, Fareham PO16 7AZ. These comments will be passed on to BT.



SARISBURY & WHITELEY CONSERVATIVES

We are very active with social and political events and membership drives. If you would like further details, to join us, or to help in any way such as distribution of *In Touch* newsletters in your road, please contact your ward councillors.

ANY PROBLEMS? WE'RE HERE TO HELP

Please write the details here and give the exact location

.....

Your name

Address

Postcode.....

Tel Email

Please cut this out and post it or email or phone your councillors who are listed here.

WARD COUNCILLORS

Sarisbury

Seán Woodward
 8 Persian Drive
 Whiteley PO15 7BJ
 Tel: 01489 881030
 email: swoodward@fareham.gov.uk



David Swanbrow

7 Mulberry Lane
 Sarisbury SO31 7LJ
 Tel: 01489 572723
 email: dswanbrow@fareham.gov.uk



COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Fareham Sarisbury

Seán Woodward
 8 Persian Drive
 Whiteley PO15 7BJ
 Tel: 01489 881030
 email: sean.woodward@hants.gov.uk



Our man in Westminster



By Mark Hoban MP for Fareham

I AM DELIGHTED that, following pressure from local people, the County Council has decided to save Brownwich and Chilling and drop it from the list of proposed sites for gravel extraction.

It was a great result and was the consequence of local people coming out in force to protest, coupled with robust logical arguments.

What impressed me about the campaign was that it was a real team effort. It was kick-started by CAMELSolent, a group of local residents who came together to make sure that people were aware of the plans. They set up the public meeting at Brookfield School where hundreds turned up to hear about the plans and voice their concerns.

This led to the County Council being deluged with responses to its consultation. I was sent copies of 300 responses out of a total of nearly 2,000 and I was struck by the strength of the arguments.

There was a real sense of passion as people wanted to safeguard one of the last undeveloped stretches of Solent coastline. In making these representations, residents had the support of their Borough and County councillors as well as mine. By working as a team, we persuaded the County Council to change its mind.

This was a genuine consultation and the County Council did not go into this with its mind made up.

For those who are cynical about consultations, dropping Brownwich and Chilling as well as Pickwell Farm shows what can happen. Hampshire, like any council, gets its fair share of brickbats so for this decision it deserves a bouquet!

Thank you to all those who made their voice known. Your hard work and commitment secured this haven for generations to come.

You may contact Mark via his office 14 East Street, Fareham PO16 0BN. Telephone: 01329 233573 email: mail@markhoban.com

He's full of beans...



Tucking in: James Harrison (11) makes short work of breakfast while his mum, Louise, ensures the empty tins go into the blue-top recycling bin.

BEANZ meanz energy.

Baked beans on toast will provide you with calories; the tin they came in will save enough energy to run a TV for 3 hours if you recycle it.

Recycling paper, tin, glass, aluminium and plastics saves 60% to 70% energy.

Fareham remains at the top of the Hampshire league for recycling with the most recent percentage at 44.3%.

An advisory campaign to

provide extra information to residents who are still unsure of what to recycle, started earlier in the year.

National newspapers have printed 'scare stories' about rats, plastic bags and recycling material going to India or China where it is buried.

This may be the situation in other parts of the country, but not in Fareham, where there has been no increase in vermin infestation.

Recycling bin's full of tins



Fareham collects only material for which there is a UK recycling market.

All other waste goes to the SE Hampshire incinerator to produce energy to heat and light 30,000 houses a year and none goes to landfill.

A major campaign is being promoted by Project Integra (a consortium of 14 Councils in Hampshire) to recycle tins.

If in doubt ring the Council 01329 236100.

Oh Gord, now it's a Brown bin tax

GORDON BROWN'S failing Government is trying to lure Conservative-controlled councils into introducing a bin tax.

Even Labour's optimistic assessment admits it would cost at least £72 a year and add to the misery of families already struggling to meet soaring living costs.

But despite repeated Downing Street briefings that such a tax would make the Government even more unpopular, Labour is pushing ahead with the plan.

Fareham Council Executive Leader Seán Woodward said: "It's just another cynical Labour attempt to tax families more by stealth, but with a thick coat of greenwash."

Initially, five pilot schemes will adopt these new taxes; the Government predicts that the taxes will be extended to two out of three homes.

Ministers have written to every council inviting them to take part in such schemes.

Councillor Woodward responded: "This is a trap to attempt to entice Conservative councils into supporting the Government's deeply unpopular plans."

Ministers maintain such schemes could be 'revenue neutral', but councils across the country warned the Government's figures do not add up, due to the administration, collection and enforcement costs of a new tax, as well as the need for lockable bins.

The Chartered Institute of Water and Environmental Management warns that with overall council tax bills remaining the same, either householders who recycle will pay a proportionally larger slice – in the Irish Republic costs of 300-400 Euros (£240-£320) are not uncommon for waste collection – or other services might have to be reduced.

Bin taxes will lead to a surge of fly-tipping and back-



Browned off: Maybe it's time to recycle him

yard burning and will give perverse incentives to people to dump their rubbish, stuff it in neighbours' bins or contaminate recycling bins.

In the Irish Republic, 4 in 10 households now burn their rubbish, causing 73% of all dioxin emissions.

Under Labour's plans, civil amenity sites will have to remain free for household waste, so more people will drive to the local tip to avoid the tax, increasing carbon emissions and congestion.

Councillor Woodward added: "The Government should be working instead with councils to extend recycling collections and make it easier for all households to go green."

"There is certainly a role for incentives, but not for taxes or charges."