FEARS that the gliding club based at Daedalus is being forced to leave the airfield have eased a little now that both sides are trying to resolve the financial deadlock.

Last Tuesday, the chairman of Portsmouth Naval Gliding Club, Captain David Durston, met with Sean Woodward, leader of Fareham Borough Council to discuss the situation.

As reported in last week’s Gosport Globe, the sticking point is the increase in fees the council intends to impose and which PNGC says it cannot afford.

Also attending the meeting were the club’s centre manager, Tony World, and the council’s Director of Finance and Resources, Andrew Wannell.

A joint statement issued after the meeting confirmed both parties, “agreed to continue to work closely together to explore avenues for PNGC to remain at Solent Airport at Daedalus in a way that works both for PNGC as a registered charity and for the council as landowner seeking to create a sustainable airfield.”

Mr World said PNGC had put their case, explaining what the club could afford, and now the borough council was, “crunching the numbers to see what fits with their long term plan.”

Prior to the meeting there had been a short lived ‘war of words’: the borough council saying the club had been paying very low fees; PNGC rejecting claims it had sufficient assets to afford the increased charges.

However, the centre manager said Tuesday’s meeting was, “cordial and helpful.”

He added: “I did sense a willingness for us to remain.”

It is still the case that unless an agreement is reached, PNGC will leave Daedalus at the end of May, but with the parties talking face-to-face, the dark clouds of disappointed and sadness reported last week have lifted just a little.

The online petition supporting the club remaining at Daedalus — accessed via www.pngc.co.uk — has now attracted more than 7,500 signatures.

DISABLED people in Gosport have voiced their support for anger expressed by the BBC’s security correspondent who was left on a plane for 100 minutes while Heathrow staff tried to find his wheelchair, writes Rob Thomas.

Eventually, Frank Gardner was reunited with his chair and could leave the plane. Afterwards, he was reported as labelling the airport, “a disgrace to UK airports,” and adding, “Nothing changes, it just goes on and on happening and it is just so frustrating.”

Jim Morey, chairman of Gosport Access Group and Disability Forum, agreed that, “this is far from just a ‘one-off’.

“In addition to being stranded at terminal gates and on planes — as Mr Gardner was — another very common complaint is when wheelchairs put into aeroplane holds are either lost or damaged by baggage handlers. Imagine the consequences on the individual when these issues take days, if not weeks to resolve!

“Anecdotal evidence from wheelchair users both locally and nationally suggests that not all airports are the same — and that Heathrow is among the worst for getting stranded.”

Heathrow apologised for what had happened to Mr Gardner and CEO John Holland-Kaye, met with him to discuss how improvements could be made.

Mr Gardner lost the use of his legs when he was shot by militants while on assignment in Saudi Arabia in 2004.

Information about Gosport Access Group and Disability Forum is online at: http://www.gosportaccessgroup.org.uk

Airport plight of disabled
What Gosport is doing for rough sleepers

Helping hand-up for the homeless

By Chief Correspondent Rob Thomas editorial@gosportglobe.uk

COORDINATION of relevant agencies and recognising the complexity of the issues involved have been the secrets of success in reducing the number of people sleeping rough on the borough’s streets.

The Homelessness Action Group first met in January 2017, and during the early part of that year between 10 and 15 individuals were being identified as street homeless; earlier this month, that was down to four.

That bucks the national trend. The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government estimated 4,751 people were sleeping rough in England on any one night in autumn 2017 - a 15 per cent increase from the 2016 figure.

The Action Group was formed to support rough sleepers and to work in partnership to address gaps in local social provision.

Chair Sorrell Kenny explained: “We noticed that in Gosport there was an increase in rough sleepers... and whereas we were managing them in a multi-agency way, we felt the numbers were too high to give it the sufficient time it needed.”

To do that, the group meets every six weeks and round the table are representatives from borough council departments, the DWP Job Centre, Inclusion Recovery Hampshire, Two Saints which operates the 101 hostel, Adult Mental Health Services, Hyde Housing, and the police.

Mrs Nijjer, who is also the Community Safety Team Leader at the council, said the underlying approach of the group, “is always about trying to get the balance between making sure that everyone is safe, both those who need to be safeguarded - our vulnerable, complex individuals - and also equally the public.”

Sometimes enforcement, such as the Public Spaces Protection Order introduced last November to prevent aggressive begging and anti-social behaviour in the town centre area, is needed.

But Ms Kenny distinguished between, “those who are street homeless and those who are committing ASB”.

The Group’s vice-chair, Claire Nijjer, agreed and pointed to the many issues that can be involved including, “mental health and substance misuse”.

This is where the partner organisations are important: Two Saints provides temporary shelter, and B&B accommodation is available in Portsmouth or Southampton. Longer term support is available, again from Two Saints but also from other agencies, particularly Inclusion Recovery in cases of substance misuse.

The council can offer grants, funded by central government, to help individuals rent a room or a one-bedroom flat.

Mrs Nijjer is the borough’s Housing Needs and Advice Manager. Her team, acting on information provided by the partner organisations, carry out weekly ‘rough sleeper walks’ to reach the individuals - as do Two Saints and Inclusion Recovery - and in the winter extra efforts are made to get the rough sleepers into safe and warm accommodation.

She said: “In partnership with Fareham Borough Council from December 18, we have had 44 individuals from Gosport accommodated in the night shelter. Of these, seven have moved into supported hostel accommodation, five into private rented, two have returned to their previous accommodation, and one has moved into full-time employment and secured their own accommodation.

“For those that have... chosen to remain on the streets we have tried to make this as safe as possible for them. We are very aware of the health risks... and, therefore, we have purchased sleeping bags, hats, gloves, as well as given them hot food vouchers.”

This has been part of the ‘Severe Weather Emergency Protocol’ which operated during the recent cold and snow, and during which the rough sleeper walks were carried out daily.

Both Sorrell Kenny and Claire Nijjer feel the Action Group has made, “an amazing amount of progress” since January 2017 though they also recognise that there is more to be done.

“What is lacking,” explained Mrs Nijjer, “is supported placement for those with more complex issues because they need more intensive support to get them ready for general accommodation.”

And that means, as they agreed, their work, “will continue”.

‘We have purchased sleeping bags, hats, gloves, as well as given them hot food vouchers’
So much in one place!

MANY of the borough’s tourist attractions came together on Tuesday to show what will be available to visitors and residents during the summer.

Gosport Tourist Information Centre held the ‘All In One Place’ event at the Discovery Centre and it showed that we, in Gosport, are very fortunate indeed to have some unique attractions.

And, of course, very fortunate to have the many volunteers who give up their time to help to make local events and attractions a success.

We have museums on our doorstep: The Hovercraft Museum at Daedalus, the Submarine Museum with HMS Alliance, Explosion - the Museum of Naval Firepower, and The Diving Museum. Because these museums and their displays are not available elsewhere in the UK, visitors come from all parts of the country to see them and that puts Gosport on the tourist map.

Many of the attractions, including The Diving Museum, Gosport Ferry Company promoting its Solent cruises, The Museum of the Royal Navy, Gosport Heritage Days, the Wildgrounds and Alver Valley, had staff on hand at the exhibition to talk to visitors and give them the information they required.

There was also a chance to taste food made by local traders!

This was, additionally, a great opportunity to meet the Gosport Tourist Information Centre team and discover the many services they provide.

‘A great opportunity to meet the Gosport Tourist Information Centre team and discover the many services they provide’

STANDING ON CEREMONY: Official welcome to the Discovery Centre by Gosport Mayor Linda Batty and her Consort, Husband Peter

IN AT THE DEEP END: The Diving Museum’s information stand at Tuesday’s event, with a selection of books written by its expert team

NAUTICAL ROLE: The National Museum of the Royal Navy promoting sites in Gosport and across the harbour. Pictures by Peter Maguire

PLENTEY OF CHOICE: The Solent Events stand

Citizens Advice Hampshire Wishes to recruit a Macmillan Caseworker, Gosport area

2 or 4 days a week, dependent on existing post holder

Salary £20,000 to £23,000 FTE (depending on experience)

This service is a countywide service for people affected by cancer. The post holder will be based in Gosport Citizens Advice but will be part of the wider Hampshire team, and supervised remotely. This post involves some outreach work and includes home visits. Advice will also be provided via a telephone helpline.

Caseworkers will manage their own caseload and need to be experienced in benefit advice work, have excellent communication skills, self-motivation and IT capability.

For more information, including a job pack and application form please visit http://citahants.org/job%20vacancies.html or contact macmillan@citahampshire.org

Please note, CVs cannot be considered

For an informal discussion about the role, please contact Sue Alford, Service Manager, on 07875 536428 (Tues-Thurs).

Closing date for applications 12pm 12 April 2018

Interviews to be held on 17 April 2018 in Gosport

All successful applicants are subject to a DBS check

Citizens Advice Hampshire values diversity, promotes equality and welcome applications from all sections of the community.
NEW powers to tackle waste crime come into force on Thursday as the Environment Agency was given the authority to lock up illegal waste sites and block access in order to prevent tonnes of waste piling up and posing a risk.

The Environment Agency has also been granted the power to require rogue operators to clear everything at a problem site, not just the illegal waste.

The changes are in response to a public consultation where 90 per cent of respondents supported proposals for the regulator to take physical steps to curb illegal waste activity.

As the fight against waste crime ramps up, the Environment Agency has also announced that its waste enforcement officers will be equipped with body worn video cameras on their visits to sites. The move follows a growing number of abusive incidents during site inspections.

The measures follow an extra £30 million of funding from the Government in November to tackle waste crime – an issue that drives business away from legitimate operators, blights communities and endangers the environment.

Environment Minister Thérèse Coffey said: “These new powers will give the Environment Agency the tools they need to curb the rise of waste sites that continue to break the law and blight our communities. Through our 25-year Environment plan we want to be the first generation to leave the environment in a better state than we inherited it. As part of that commitment I am determined to crack down on these criminals and these new powers will be crucial in ending this criminal activity once and for all, backed up by £30 million of new money.”

Last financial year saw 138 waste prosecutions netting over £2 million in fines.
FOLLOWING the article last week in which we repeated claims that were circulating on the internet regarding the ‘Cough CPR’ method of dealing with a heart attack, the Globe reproduces a warning by British Heart Foundation cardiac care expert Christopher Allen. He writes: The absolute priority when you think you or someone else is having a heart attack is to call 999.

This way, paramedics can assess and aid you, and you’ll get to hospital as fast as possible.

There is no medical evidence to support ‘Cough CPR’, which suggests you can help yourself by coughing vigorously if you think you’re having a heart attack and are alone.

Please avoid spreading this myth any further.

A heart attack is when the blood supply to your heart muscle is interrupted; this is most commonly due to a blood clot. A heart attack can lead to a cardiac arrest, when your heart stops pumping blood around your body. You would become unconscious, and without immediate CPR (chest compressions and rescue breaths), you would die.

QUALIFIED: Nurse Christopher Allen helps run the BHF’s genetic information service and has wide specialist experience in coronary care.

If you are still conscious (and you would have to be to do Cough CPR), then you are not in cardiac arrest and therefore CPR is not needed, but urgent medical help is vital.

The Cough CPR myth has been circulating the internet for a while now, especially on social media sites such as Facebook. If you come across it, please avoid spreading it any further and consider letting the person who posted it know that there’s no truth in it.

AS PART of World Autism Awareness Week, March 26 – April 2, autism specialist consultant, Vicky Boots, wants to raise awareness of the help available to parents when facing diagnosis in their child.

Fareham-based Daisy Chain Educational Services, with tutors in Southampton and Portsmouth, has been helping children and their families across the UK, using Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) and Verbal Behaviour Analysis (VBA) for more than 20 years.

Offering help in schools and education settings as well as one-to-one home tutoring, Daisy Chain Educational Services, works with parents to focus on social and communication skills to equip their child for learning and social environments, with the ultimate-goal of requiring less invention as they grow older.

Vicky said: “Often parents are left feeling helpless and confused when being told their child has autism. There are some difficult times ahead and not knowing where to seek help is the hardest part of all. This World Autism Awareness Week, we aim to focus on signposting parents to find the help they need for their child.”

“There are programmes and training workshops available to help parents to learn and understand their child’s specific needs. Early diagnosis and intervention is key; working with a child to develop the skills and mindset to cope with the way they learn and see the world and helping parents to understand their child’s specific needs.”

“Since the 23 years I have been working with children and families, no two cases are the same and it is important to recognise this and create specific learning and training programmes to suit each individual.”

Vicky added: “I had the pleasure of working with a family and child from early diagnosis to the age of 6 years and today I told my family that they no longer need ABA.”

“So much progress has been made; their son is learning in school, making friends and abiding by the school behaviour procedures. I will miss them and will always be there if they need help in the future.”

Colleagues and I at Daisy Chain Educational Services have a passion to do the very best we can to help and support children and their families to reach their full potential and not allow autism to prevent them having a happy and loving life.”

If you would like to know more about Daisy Chain Educational Services visit or email info@daisy chainingeducationservices.co.uk

AFTER publishing its Clinical Services Strategy last year, Southern Health is creating a more detailed plan to implement positive change and is looking for people with lived experience to help shape it.

The first phase of this detailed plan is to look at how people access mental health services and how that can be improved. To do this, the NHS Trust will initially be focusing on East Hampshire and the Portsmouth area and wants people to support the work.

A series of four workshops is planned, starting at the end of April, and Southern Health is also setting up a special interest focus group to gather views and input.

The Trust would like both of these to have involvement from people with lived experience (either as a patient, close family or friend of a patient).

There was no medical evidence to support ‘Cough CPR’, which suggests you can help yourself by coughing vigorously if you think you’re having a heart attack and are alone.

Please avoid spreading this myth any further.

A heart attack is when the blood supply to your heart muscle is interrupted; this is most commonly due to a blood clot. A heart attack can lead to a cardiac arrest, when your heart stops pumping blood around your body. You would become unconscious, and without immediate CPR (chest compressions and rescue breaths), you would die.

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The Cough CPR myth has been circulating the internet for a while now, especially on social media sites such as Facebook. If you come across it, please avoid spreading it any further and consider letting the person who posted it know that there’s no truth in it.
Praise for student initiative in tackling bigotry

Team on course for Washington

STUDENTS from Bay House School and Sixth Form are celebrating being selected as finalists in a national campaigning competition that will send young people from four schools on a once-in-a-lifetime study tour to Washington DC this summer.

The study tour is the culmination of a fully funded programme called Unite US, run by national education charity the Transformation Trust to demonstrate a passion to a panel of judges from the Trust's chief executive and others.

The students had to present the Unite US initiative to a panel of judges from the Transformation Trust to demonstrate a passion for their campaign and the impact they have had so far.

Feel Accepted aims to raise acceptance of social choices and tolerance of minority groups. In order to achieve this, it has launched the Feel Accepted Pledge and launched a popular social media campaign.

The judging day took place at City Council's headquarters in London's Canary Wharf, with the panel comprising Amy Leonard, of the Transformation Trust; Barnsley Town Hall; Marcus Faguet, Arcadia and Ilayas Nagdee, National Union of Students; Transformation Trust Chief Executive Amy said: "We were hugely impressed with the calibre of campaigns that students presented throughout the day but Bay House and their Feel Accepted campaign really stood out and the passion of the students shone through."

"The next stage of selection will be very exciting as we raise the bar even further, challenging students to reach even more people and supporters locally."

"Good luck to everyone!"

Bay House sixth former Alex Wallsgrove said: "We are so grateful for the Transformation Trust's help in making Gosport a better place by organising for campaigning experts and a panel of judges to offer us advice on our campaign."

"Looking forward, we hope to see more businesses sign our pledge and hopefully meet with people from across the community."

To find out more about Feel Accepted visit: Twitter: @FeelAccepted , Facebook: Feel Accepted.

Council to meet an earlier accounts deadline

WHEN the current financial year comes to an end, councils, like Gosport, will have less time to complete and publish their accounts.

Auditor Kevin Suter, from accountants Ernst & Young, informed the Standards and Governance Committee that a change in the law means the timescale is tight and his report warned if the council is, "unable to meet key dates within our agreed timetable" it could delay the audit due to the external audit team being redeployed, "to other work to meet deadlines elsewhere".

However, council officers assured the committee they had worked to the same time-frame last year and expected to meet the May 31 deadline this year.

Councillors unanimously agreed the independent auditors' plans, including the identification of key areas of risk that will be investigated, be passed to the Policy and Organisation Board.

To prepare for the annual audit, internal systems and procedures are reviewed periodically, and the borough council's principal auditor, Joanne Penney, presented the internal audit statement for the period November 1, 2017 to February 28, 2018.

Her report concluded that audits of selected operations were rated 'good' or 'strong' with few or no recommended actions required.

The exception was IT security. The report stated: "Overall system security relies on users and a good security culture and there is more we can do to educate users and create a 'human firewall'."

Councillor Mrs June Cully (Labour, Town) voiced her concerns, and Ms Penney admitted there was a, "control weakness" but pointed out that, "compensating controls were in place".

The Committee chairman, Councillor Chris Carter (Conservative, Lee West) said he would write to the head of the borough council's IT services to ensure the internal auditor's recommendations were carried out.

The report also noted the audit service provided to Test Valley Borough Council under a shared arrangement and for which Councillor Carter said the council receives a fee.

The reports presented to last Wednesday's Standards and Governance Committee meeting can be accessed on the borough council's website: www.gosport.gov.uk; then click on 'Council and democracy', 'Agendas and minutes', and follow the links to the meeting.

Car vandals hunted

POLICE are asking for information after 12 cars were damaged in Wilmot Close and Priest Place, Gosport, on Saturday between 1.30am and 2.30am when two men were heard shouting. The number to ring is 101.
As a pre thank you to all my clients and future ones to come, I set up a competition to win a full day of tattooing with myself, which I drew at 11am on Sunday, the morning of the opening of my books.

The lucky winner was Alexandra Kennett who entered on behalf of her husband who for years had been wanting his first tattoo!

I am proud to say that my nerves of none showing up for the opening of my diary for the months earthy May till late September on Sunday 25th at mid-day were once again unwarranted.

The queue outside the studio started forming at around 11am; an hour before the opening of my books, which was largely supported by “doing the rounds” opening especially to keep the sore and tired heads going with bacon rolls and hot drinks, serving to the queue so none would lose their spot!

I booked in all who had come down in person first while my former apprentice, now officially licensed tattooist Rich, was taking down the caller’s details ready for me to call them back with their appointment dates.

All went smoothly and calmly, this time taking more time to have a personal little catch up with each individual.

The next opening of my diary will be for the months early October 2018 until late February 2019 along with another chance to win the next competition.

I’ll be posting the exact date on my website and social media closer to the time.

I love my job and am grateful and thrilled that my customers love what I do and therefore keep me going as they all are.

Giving out a massive thank you to all my clients, near and far and the lovely Natalie Shepherd and her team at Doing the Rounds for saving everyone’s sanity on a Sunday afternoon.
Let’s crack on with brighter side of life

The Gosport Globe

Thornham Park: CEMAST and CETEC (digger school) at training the next generation of engineering and groundworkers professionals.

A month for ‘positive news’ in politics...

Now prudence is paying off

As we approach April and the Easter weekend, with lighter evenings and hopefully better weather, I look forward to the spring days which lie ahead.

Spring has brought plenty of good news for us here in the Gosport constituency. During the Spring Statement on March 12 it was exciting to hear that after nearly eight years the Government is finally running a day-to-day surplus, having saved over £100 billion.

This means our national debt will begin to fall relative to our GDP and we can reduce our interest payments, which currently stand at around £40 billion.

To put this figure in perspective, that would be enough to double our spending on schools or our Armed Services.

This last month also held lots of positive news for the NHS. We are now seeing the benefits of eight years of financial prudence, meaning greater investment in our public services.

Recent announcements have included £2.3 billion to give our hard-working and lowest paid NHS staff a pay rise of between 6.5 per cent and 28 per cent, an additional 1,500 training places for doctors, 3,000 places for midwives and £20 million capital investment in local hospitals and services, including improving four theatres and 20 adolescent beds at Tier 4 CAMHS (Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services).

Having campaigned for better services for the QA Hospital, Ports­mouth, I’m delighted that it will be seeing the benefits of this funding. As we look to the future, ensuring the next generation has the very best start in life is something that has motivated me as your MP.

I was thrilled to see that 8,311 children across Hampshire have benefited from 30 hours of child care a week; a policy I helped deliver as Early Years Minister.

I also welcomed news that record numbers of students are in schools rated as Good or Outstanding by Ofsted.

A good education is undoubtedly important and increasing numbers of local young people are taking advantage of apprenticeship opportunities available.

I’m very proud that the Gosport constituency has the highest level of apprenticeship starts in the South East. I was therefore pleased to welcome the Skills Minister, Anne Milton, to Duxelus Enterprise Zone to showcase the exemplary work of CEMAST and CETEC (digger school) at training the next generation of engineering and groundworkers professionals.

I was also able to show Gomer Junior School innovation in developing STEM and digital skills as core parts of the curriculum.

To help me with my challenge to give up plastic for Lent, I met with the Marine Conservation Society to discuss ways in which both Government and individuals can help stem the plastic tide.

Simple things like not flushing wet wipes or cotton buds down the loo can make a big difference.

Plastic can be so disastrous for our natural environment and living in a coastal area like ours it’s all too easy to see the impact on local beaches.

I was delighted to hear Michael Gove confirm that a Deposit Return Scheme will be introduced later this year to increase recycling rates and slash the amount of waste polluting our land and seas.

As my plastic challenge comes to a close, I’d like to thank everyone who sent me excellent tips to help me go plastic free.

I’ve learnt that small changes can make a big difference, many of them I’m going to keep up - my milk is now delivered in glass bottles and my Brita water bottle has taken resident in my handbag!

As a result of my visit, the wonderful Phil’s Sauces in Lee-on-the-Solent have told me they are now using waxed paper instead of plastic to wrap their award-winning bangers! I hope this might have inspired some of you to make small changes, too.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a very Happy Easter!

At best it smacks of incompetence and, at worst, an apparent compliance with a state of affairs that will ultimately result in the building having to be taken down and replaced by heaven knows what.

However, the council deserves a great deal of credit for its positive approach to the problems posed by the unfortunate rough sleepers in the town, holding out a helping hand wherever possible by working in partnership with other agencies and providing practical measures to combat the problem.

And the exhibition of Gosport’s tourist attractions at the Discovery Centre this week brings home the message that the borough has plenty to offer visitors and a great deal for its residents to be proud about.

Like the curate’s egg, life here is good in parts and well worth celebrating at this time of year!

Bureaucratic vandalism

MYSELF and my wife Joan do not live in Gosport but have a holiday Static caravan at Kindleigh Park on Browndown Road which we have had for five years.

We very much enjoy spending approximately one third of our time in the area. My brother is a permanent resident.

We have a real affection for Gosport and in particular its heritage. I feel it would be an act of bureaucratic vandalism if the Royal arms canopy was lost to the town especially given its history. It is such an integral part of the street scene that people will only miss it when it is gone.

If we as ‘outsiders’ can have our views seen by the people that can make a material difference perhaps it could at least help form_MAKE decisions for the future of this great piece of heritage.

Roger Gowell
Via email

Questions to candidates

I FULLY support the restoration of the Royal Arms and canopy.

I have lived in Gosport since 2011 and when I first walked down Stoke Road and saw the Royal Arms it stood out as a magnificent symbol of the past and had no doubt it would be preserved.

Unbelievably we are now witnessing the erosion of past due to our elected politicians.

I will be asking questions of our candidates.

Richard Gowell
Alver Bridge View Gosport
MARK TWAIN is famous - among many other things – for saying, “There are lies, damn lies and statistics.” If you were to say that one of these statistics is good news, and the other is bad news, which way round would it be?

One in three marriages ends in divorce.

Sixty-five per cent of the British population believe that Jesus rose from the dead.

I suspect that quite a number would say that the first is bad news and the second is good (what a healthy majority 65 per cent is!)

Well, it could be argued that the first is actually a very good statistic, because despite the huge pressures on marriage these days, it is still the case that two out of every three survive.

The second is a very bad statistic because even though 65 per cent say that they believe Jesus rose from the dead, that belief has little or no impact on the way they lead their lives, otherwise there would be huge Christian churches and communities needed to accommodate the 40 million or so fired up Christians around the place.

As Easter is celebrated again, it is worth reminding Christians in particular that simply BELIEVING that Jesus rose from the dead means next to nothing. It only means something if you believe that He is therefore with you, and can (through prayer, faith exploration, worship, self-giving love and service) become more and more real to you and more and more of a living presence in the way you live (and die).

It only means something if it translates into a belief that although life is full of crucifixions, Jesus being resurrected, real and present means that suffering (like his and like so many peoples) is never the last word.

Most importantly, a true embracing of the reality of the resurrection is an antidote to the distorted forms of Christianity that are sadly on the increase: those that claim that being a Christian is some form of insurance policy against suffering and misfortune.

It is a heavy irony that those Christians who say most about Jesus being alive, and the transforming power of the life and the Holy Spirit also often take the view that if you are ill, dying or sinful, you are not praying hard enough, or haven’t been saved.

This is a denial of a true Easter faith that knows instead that we carry our crosses daily; and that WITHIN AND THROUGH that cross-carrying, resurrection becomes a reality.

This Easter, don’t be a statistic. Be one of the Easter People: acknowledging that suffering is real and terrible (as Christ’s was) but that the transforming power of Christ’s risen love is always present: a light that shines in darkness and cannot be overcome.

IT’S A SQUARE WORLD...

I KNOW our family is not unique by being divided by the Referendum. Some of us were Brexit, some of us were Remain, and the fact that all of us had different ideas of what we were voting for, continues to be one of the reasons Brexit is not the staple diet of any conversation at the dinner table.

We tend to avoid the shark-infested waters of that topic and prefer the gentle streams of, “What have you been up to?” type conversations. It’s much safer.

Nevertheless, one fact that does unite us is that we are all proud to be British and like the British way of life; even though it is unlikely any of us would use the word “proud.”

The idea of boasting about our selves or our achievements is not part of the British psyche.

For example, it has amazed me that the most successful people I know, when asked “how they are doing?”, rather than go into over-drive by stating in detail really how successful they are, instead simply reply not too bad”, “fine” or “OK.”

There is something particular, unique and distinctive about being British, but it is not necessarily in the same way as we might think. I appreciate many of us value the NHS, the Queen, our contribution to music and the dramatic arts, our educational institutions such as Oxford and Cambridge, and our rich and fascinating history, and that is well and good. However, I wonder whether being British is more about being a bit peculiar.

For example...

We have an obsession with the weather. Many conversations start with some reference to how cold or warm it is and whether the sun is likely to come out at some time during the day.

We are good at queuing. It is a simple way to identify holidaymakers from the UK. When an orderly queue has formed it is little surprise to discover a number of those queuing are British.

We believe a cup of tea can solve any problem... This may be more a trait of those who are members of the older generation, but don’t be surprised if you share a problem or an issue with someone and they ask you, “fancy a cup of tea?”

We expect everyone to speak English. We expect people to be polite and not to interrupt, to let someone else finish a thought.

We have friends from America who find this particularly strange, particularly those who are used to pleading allegiance to the American flag.

So, regardless of our gender, sexuality, race, religion or politics, we can say we are proud to be British... Despite which way our vote to remain or leave the EU.

StatistIcs: Mark Twain

Jesus rose from the dead means next to nothing. It only means something if you believe that He is therefore with you, and can (through prayer, faith exploration, worship, self-giving love and service) become more and more real to you and more and more of a living presence in the way you live (and die).

It only means something if it translates into a belief that although life is full of crucifixions, Jesus being resurrected, real and present means that suffering (like his and like so many peoples) is never the last word.
Classifieds/Features

Volunteering

CO-OPTED GOVERNOR

Looking to volunteer in the community? ELSON Junior School is seeking a co-opted governor.

Is it an exciting opportunity for a person to: acquire new skills within their capacity to contribute to the good governance and success of the school.

What does a co-opted governor do?

At Elson Junior School governors provide support and hold the headteacher and other senior leaders to account for improved quality of teaching, pupil achievement, behaviour and safety. The relationships forged between the governors, headteacher and staff are based on trust, openness and transparency.

How often do we meet?

We meet between 5pm and 7pm on a Monday, two or three evenings a term and occasional daytime visits may be necessary.

We are a friendly and welcoming group and although our meetings follow a formal agenda, we aim to keep a light touch.

What qualifications will I need?

We are looking for committed, confident people with enthusiasm as business planning, data analysis and problem-solving skills. Diversity in all its forms is really important and the emphasis is on building a team that has these essential skills. People with a willingness to take up a challenge and learn on the job make the best governors.

A comprehensive range of free training and support is provided by Hampshire Governor Services. This opportunity may well suit a retired person interested and would like to know more?

Contact the school office during term time on (023) 9258 3754 or email adminoffice@elson-jun.hants.sch.uk for more information.

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Community Notice

FAREPORT TALKING NEWS

FAREPORT TALKING NEWS is an independent weekly service to blind or visually impaired listeners in the Fareham and Gosport area.

If anyone wishes to learn more about the free, weekly service or to find out if they are available to give talks and/or presentations to groups, associations or individuals.

More information about how to arrange bookings can be found at www.talkingnews-fareport.org.uk.

To book a talk or a presentation, call 01329 664364, or e-mail the Fareport secretary at info@talkingnews-fareport.org.uk.

April a month for sunshine and showers

ON FERTILE GROUND

By George the Gardener

HELLO again to all you Gosport Glober gardeners!

Well spring is finally in evidence as daffodils and flowering trees start to bloom. Expect the inevitable April showers this month but with sunny days too, when you can now turn your attention to the lawn.

It’s an exciting month, with indoor sown seeds well into growth and it’s also time to start sowing outdoors. But remember... just watch out for those frosts.

Top jobs during April:

1. Weeds will now start to grow, so keep them under control.
2. Protect fruit blossom from late frosts.
3. Tie in climbing roses. Prune fig trees.
4. Sow new lawns or repair those bare patches.
5. Feed shrubs and roses.
7. Increase water given to houseplants.
8. Start to feed citrus plants.
10. Prune fig trees.

This month is indeed a busy time but the more you do then the better your garden will be in the months to come.

So until next month...

Happy Gardening!

Facelift op at Range

FOLLOWING months of building work and preparation, a major revamp at The Range, Gosport, is finished.

The project to improve the store has created a new and improved layout and a refreshed look with new signage. Reaching to feedback received from customers, various departments have been moved around. The store also boasts a Family Café where customers can buy hot and cold food and drink.

The store’s outdoor garden centre provides an area where customers can browse gardening products, including a choice of plants, flowers and pots.

The Range is owned and run by Plymouth-based entrepreneur and self-made billionaire Chris Dawson and is recognised for offering affordable quality products across 16 departments including DIY, homewares, furniture and arts & crafts.

Mr Dawson said: “While The Range is growing fast with expansion plans for many new stores in 2018, we are always striving to improve the customer experience across all of our stores. We felt that a big revamp of our Gosport store would help to do just this and would be much appreciated by our local customers.”

Work to improve the store took approximately three months and the store will officially relaunch this week.
Jeanne Hambleton gets in the holiday mood with a Royal egg

Fit for the Queen!

IT’S A WRAP: Each half of the Royal egg, handmade by Bill Keeling below left, is checked to ensure perfection and then covered in gold foil before being despatched to the Queen’s breakfast table.

Have a rare treat this year

IF YOU are planning on spoiling yourselves with steak over the Easter weekend, (apart from the luxury chocolate eggs) here is the latest news on it. It is one of my favourite dishes with taste of tangy white sauce or cheese sauce.

You might think twice about how you want that steak cooked so you can save those juices before they escape.

People who like their steak well-done instead of rare might face a slightly increased risk of high blood pressure, a preliminary study suggests.

As it works out to be an expensive dinner with mushrooms, onions, tomato, and all the trimmings, as there are three adults steak is a luxury so we do not spoil ourselves too often.

The study of more than 100,000 U.S. adults, found the odds of high blood pressure were a bit higher among people who liked their meat grilled, broiled or roasted, versus those who favoured more temperate cooking methods.

The same was true of people who were partial to well-done meat. Compared with fans of rarer meat, they were 15 per cent more likely to develop high blood pressure over 12 to 16 years.

The findings do not prove cause and effect, researchers said.

But they do add to evidence suggesting people should not only limit the amount of meat in their diets – but also pay attention to how they cook it.

“Our results imply that both reducing the amount of meat – especially red meat – and avoiding the use of open-flame or high-temperature cooking methods may potentially aid in [high blood pressure] prevention,” said lead researcher Gang Liu, of the Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health.

What is wrong with a grilled steak?

Research suggests that cooking to the point of “charring” is the main issue, said Linda Van Horn, of the American Heart Association.

The process produces chemicals that are not normally present in the body, explained Van Horn, who is also a professor of preventive medicine at Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago.

Those include heterocyclic aromatic amines (HAA) and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).

According to Liu, lab studies suggest they can trigger inflammation in the body which may lead to high blood pressure and other health problems.

Best foot forward to put a little spring into your step

WITH spring in the air this week we found a nice selection of colourful shoes and boots – to give you a lift with a ‘spring’ in your step...

As before we have good prices and different designs to help you be noticed. Good value all from NewChic in the United States.

As for sizes, I have no information about what is available so you will need to make the enquiry yourselves.

Log on to https://www.newchic.com/boots-c-35995.html?pagesize=36&s=sort-1&br=1 for your 90 per cent off and 15 per cent d4extra coupon off Newchic.

Here’s hoping you will enjoy the arrival of ‘spring’ with sunshine wall to wall. And if that proves to be the case, don’t miss next week’s Gosport Globe when we continue the Easter holiday theme by looking at the latest warmer weather styles in swimwear and dresses.

SECTION TWO: Packed with features about the borough past, present and future
GOSPORT born and bred, the Globe’s local history expert, Peter Maguire, has an extensive archive of old photographs showing borough life from Victorian times right through to the digital age.

Gosport’s beautiful, historic railway station remains, even if sadly no longer operational, along with other relics of our public transport system from a bygone age. But the motor car hasn’t won the battle yet! Over the coming weeks, Peter will be moving up and down the decades as he picks his way across the peninsula.

If you have any old family snapshots that will interest other readers of Pictorial Past and would like to share them, let Peter know, emailing peter.maguire@gosportglobe.uk

Credits to the original photographers
Then and Now: Peter Maguire’s focus on links with past
Globe lifestyle and borough business correspondent Sue Courtney looks at what is available in and around Gosport town centre with an in-depth analysis of the nearby traders to be found on the busy shopping and commercial hub that is Stoke Road...

Doing The Rounds Sandwich Bar has been in business for 25 years, although the current owners took over two years ago in June.

The original owners began the business by going into workplaces with a basket and selling sandwiches, drinks and chocolate.

They then found premises in Stoke Road — at that time a place nearer to Waitrose — but the business soon outgrew that shop so they moved to 51 Stoke Road.

Current owner Natalie Shepherd loves being located in Stoke Road because it’s a friendly trading area where shop owners all help each other out. They enjoy a fantastic relationship with their customers and they pride themselves on delivering great service.

The shop is open from 7am until 3pm, Monday to Friday and 8am to 1pm on Saturday, so early enough to pick up your lunch on the way to work. They are closed on Sunday.

Owner Natalie says: “I’m very lucky I have an amazing team behind me. We all work together on new ideas and are constantly trying to improve or bring new ideas out. Our newest is a roast pot. We have noticed that more people are eating ‘on the go’ these days.”

They supply wholesale sandwiches to nearby convenience stores and provide daily corporate lunches. They can provide any type of buffet and ask about special dietary requirements when taking bookings so that they can cater for these needs.

Their children’s parties have become huge over the last eight months. The cost is £4 per head and they like to cater for the party theme where possible.

They have recently decorated the shop as they wanted to make it more modern by using a grey colour with a shabby chic twist in the big dresser and flower baskets outside at the front of the shop.

Their most popular filling is bacon and egg, which is cooked to order freshly on their griddle. The most popular sandwich is chicken mayo, with either bacon or ham salad.

Their salad bowls are very popular in the summer along with fresh fruit pots. They have a great working relationship with Paula from a local vegan bakery, who provides all their special dietary requirements. Their gluten-free range starts at £2 for a sandwich.

They have two jiffy vans that go out Monday to Friday delivering to people's workplace. They also have a delivery van for their buffets and corporate lunches.

So if you are feeling puckish why not pop into Doing The Rounds and see what they have to offer?
Puppy dog tales and a short story for Easter

An off-beat slant on what’s been happening over the past week, with The Gosport Globe’s Fashion and Features Editor. If you’ve a story to tell, ring 07799 361083

DOG TIRED: Four little Shih-Tzu sleepy heads make quite a handful for mum Rags at feeding time

H is time seems to be going so fast nowadays. I don’t like chocolate, but I love cheese. I think they ought to make an alternative Easter egg out of cheese for people like me that don’t like chocolate. I bet that there would be a market for it. I have had the gumption to be a judge in the ‘Great Schools Bake Off’ this week and will tell you all about it later. RAGG’S puppies are gorgeous. Unfortunately the smallest one didn’t make it and died on the second day but the other four are thriving.

I weigh them every day to make sure they are putting on weight. I have given them all a name because I have a chart where I put their weight and note down everything about them.

Then, when they are old enough, I give their new family all the details about them right from birth when they go to their new home.

The first puppy to be born was a girl and she is a beautiful dark brown and black. She was the biggest pup born and still is. I have named her Martha. The other little girl is black and is named Mitzi. One of the little boys is gold with a black mask and he is called Barney and the other boy is black and called Buddy.

The gold and brown ones will most probably change colour in the next few weeks. At the moment they are just feeding and sleeping but give them another week and they will start to open their eyes and then start trying to walk.

At the moment they are in my bedroom so that I can keep an eye on them. The first few nights Rags woke me up a few times because she wanted to either go out for a wee or was worried because one of the pups was crying, but the last two nights they have all slept through.

Instead of having hot cross buns, how about making some Cornish fruit scones and serving them with jam and clotted cream?

**Ingredients:**
- 2ozs flour
- 2ozs butter
- 2 ozs dried fruit
- Half a teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
- Pinch of salt
- Quarter pint of milk

**Method:**

- Sieve together the flour, cream of tartar, bicarbonate of soda and the salt, then rub the fat in and add the fruit.
- Make a well in the mixture and add sufficient milk to form a spongy, dry dough. Knead gently for a moment, then place on a floured board and lightly roll out to about an inch thick.
- Cut into rounds, arrange on a floured tray and bake at reg 7 or 220°C for about 10 to 15 mins. (I would brush top with a little whisked egg or milk before going in the oven.)

**HETTIE JOINS IN THE EASTER EGG HUNT**

HETTIE had been living with Henry, the very fat but lovable black cat, for three months now. Henry had taught her so much since Christmas Eve when she had moved in. It was difficult at first having to stay awake all day and sleeping at night because hedgehogs usually sleep all day and come awake at night but if she wanted to live with Henry she had to change her sleeping habits.

Life was wonderful now. Every day Henry would take her somewhere and she learnt all about crossing the road safely and that you must not stop and curl up if you hear a car coming, you must run as fast as you can to get to the other side.

Henry made her practice this every day the first week that she moved in with him: "You have to do this, or else you will get squashed and I will lose the best friend I have ever had."

Henry had been homeless before he had found the male person and the last thing he wanted was to lose his new friend. Now, after three months, Hettie was very proficient in crossing roads. Henry tried to teach her how to catch mice but Hettie didn’t want to learn that skill, telling Henry that it was wrong to catch and kill harmless little harvest mice who certainly didn’t deserve to be caught. Henry reluctantly agreed to stop.

So life for Hettie and Henry was great. They had a comfortable house of their own, with soft beds and delicious food at seven each evening. What more could you ask for?

It was the day before Easter Sunday and when the male person put their food outside the back door he stopped to stroke and talk to Henry: “It’s Easter day tomorrow Henry and we have a lot of children coming to join in an Easter egg hunt with our little boy. Tonight I am going to hide lots of Easter eggs all around the garden. I’m sure that all the other children will want to stroke you and play with you, and we are hoping because it’s out in the open, that our little boy will be okay. You know that he has lots of allergies, so when you see him, can you not get too close or let him pet you? I have checked it out and none of the other children has any allergies. I know you understand what I am saying. As it’s Easter Day there will be a special dinner tomorrow — your favourite, liver.”

Henry purred and rubbed himself against the male person’s legs. The male person then went inside and they heard the female person say, “Really dear, the way you talk to those animals! You really do think they understand you, don’t you? You are silliest man I have ever known.”

Henry and Hettie laughed: “She’s the silly one, if she thinks that,” said Henry. “Come on, hurry up and finish your dinner Hettie and then we can go for a quick walk before it’s time for bed.”

An hour later, they were both snuggled down in their beds with their very soft cuddly blankets around them. When they woke up the next morning, they decided to go and look and see where the Easter eggs were hidden. They found quite a lot of them, Henry kept his eye on Hettie because she loved chocolate and there was no way that he was going to let her take one for herself. “Come on,” said Henry. “Let’s go for our walk. The children are not coming until this afternoon.

The children arrived at a party in the garden with Henry and Hettie sitting at the end of the garden to watch them. Each one was given a small basket and then the male person’s little boy came out in the garden with his. “Don’t forget Hettie, we must keep away from him. We don’t want to make him ill.” “Okay,” said Hettie. “There are plenty of other children that we can go and see.” “Do not put your prickles out,” said Henry. “We don’t want any accidents.”

The children started to arrive at about two o’clock and Henry and Hettie sat at the end of the garden to watch them. Each one was given a small basket and then the male person’s little boy came out in the garden with his. “Don’t forget Hettie, we must keep away from him. We don’t want to make him ill.” “Okay,” said Hettie. “There are plenty of other children that we can go and see.” “Do not put your prickles out,” said Henry. “We don’t want any accidents.” “I know that,” replied Hettie.

The children started to hunt for the eggs, then they saw Henry and Hettie and ran down to them. Henry purred as they stroked and tickled him. Hettie heard one of the children say, “Don’t touch the hedgehog. They have very sharp prickles and if you touch them they will put them up and hurt you.”

Hettie was really upset, she wouldn’t hurt any of them.

> Continued on next page
A little girl was screamed on the top of the rat. The child was screaming and then saw Hettie on her. The rat started to squeal as he tried to get away. The male person told the children to go inside. Henry and Hettie immediately ran to where the rat was and saw an enormous rat that was trying to get one of the Easter eggs out of the little girl's basket. The little girl was very frightened and too scared to move. The rat seemed to realise that it had the upper hand and this comes from getting it right from the start. I hope this campaign helps to promote all the considerations necessary before people rush out and get a puppy.

Commitment: Taking on a playful, growing pup involves hard work.

Almost one in 10 Brits who have bought a puppy ended up giving it away, after just one month, according to a survey.

New research has revealed the shocking number of people who have bought a dog on a whim, resulting in 9 per cent rehoming it after as little as four weeks.

Over a quarter (26 per cent) said the reality of the commitment of having to look after the puppy was simply too much to take on and it caused too much damage to the house.

A further 24 per cent said they were totally unprepared for the expense.

Fortglade published the report for National Puppy Day to mark the launch of its ‘Prepare for Puppy’ campaign, backed by TV vet and dog owner Steve Leonard, who says: “The results of this poll are deeply concerning.”

According to the report, over half (54 per cent) admitted they realised it was a mistake as soon as they brought the puppy home, with one in 20 dumping the animal with a dog’s charity and a further 3 per cent relying on elderly parents to take the burden.

“Unfortunately, there is a real lack of education around what is involved when taking on a puppy,” says Steve.

“Raising a dog of any age requires consistent, gentle handling, teaching and care and this is never more crucial than when you welcome a puppy into your family. Preparation is everything – from vaccinations and puppy-proofing to ensuring your dog has a nourishing, balanced diet.

“There will be so much to learn about your puppy, his needs, his character and his health. Getting to know your new puppy won’t happen overnight but there is nothing more heart-warming than seeing the bond between an older dog and its owner, from a lifetime working together to make each other’s lives better – and this comes from getting it right from the start. I hope this campaign helps to promote all the considerations necessary before people rush out and get a puppy.”

How Hettie saves day for Easter egg hunters

Continued from previous page

But the children kept away, only petting Henry.

All of a sudden, they heard one of the children scream. Henry and Hettie immediately ran to where the child was and saw an enormous rat that was trying to get one of the Easter eggs out of the little girl’s basket. The little girl was very frightened and too scared to move. The rat seemed to realise that it had the upper hand and then he went inside and Henry and Hettie heard the male person call the children back out into the garden and into the field at the end of the garden.

The male person told the children to go inside. Henry got ready to grab the rat when Hettie let him go but there was no way that she was going to release him. The male person spoke softly to Hettie and told her to let the rat go and they would chase him out of the garden. Hettie slowly let the rat go, making sure she gave him few more stabs from her prickles as she did so.

When the rat was free, it took off at full speed out of the garden and into the field at the end of the garden.

The male person called the children back out into the garden and said Hettie was the bravest hedgehog in the whole world by saving the little girl. The children all started to clap. Hettie moved closer to them and the children were no longer scared of her.

“Look, she’s put her prickles away now. Come and smooth her,” said the male person and the children all took it in turns to give her head a tickle and to tell her how brave she was.

With the party over and the children all gone home, it wasn’t long before the male person came out with their favourite dinner.

“Liver”? The male person said to them. “I know that my wife says I’m silly for believing you understand everything I say to you but I know you do and cannot thank you enough, Henry’s girlfriend, for saving that little girl. Enjoy your liver my friends and Happy Easter.”

Then he went inside and Henry and Hettie heard the female person say, “You are such a silly man dear, the things you say to those animals.” The male person just walked away with a secret smile on his face. He somehow knew that they did understand him.

After they finished their dinner, Henry said to Hettie “I think that we should have an early night. With all the excitement today, it’s made me very tired.” Hettie agreed and they went to the end of the garden to their house. On the end of each of their beds there was a little wrapped present with a note saying, “Happy Easter to my friends.”

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Hettie opened hers and inside was a little chocolate egg and inside Henry’s was a catnip toy, ‘because he didn’t like chocolate.’

What an exciting day it had been and as they snuggled down in their beds they wondered what their next adventure was going to be.
FEW weeks ago a new shop opened at 61 Brockhurst Road, Gosport, called Newfields Domestic Appliances.

It is run by Greg Board and his son Jim. They sell new and refurbished, plus display domestic appliances of all sorts. I looked around and WOW, the refurbished ones look exactly the same as the new ones.

I was so impressed I bought a new tumble dryer from them at £100 cheaper than the same one in Currys.

They have American fridge freezers pounds and pounds cheaper than I have ever seen.

Please go in to have a look at their huge amount of stock.

You will be very impressed.

Greg has a super sense of humour and makes you feel at home as soon as you enter the shop. Whilst I was in there, a couple came in to buy a cooker. They showed him the one they wanted and he told them that Currys had a special offer that week on the same make of cooker and it was £80 cheaper than his.

I couldn't believe it! Who tells people that someone else is selling cheaper than him that week?

When the couple went, I asked him why he had told them that. He replied: “If you are honest, people will always come back to you. But if you sold them something that they found out afterwards they could buy cheaper elsewhere, they would not.”

Greg is a local Gosport man and has been in business for 20 years. He used to have a unit at the back of Range and sold most things on line.

He offers free local delivery and free installation. Each item is PAT tested and comes with a warranty. Some days they start delivery at 6am to people who work.

They offer a fuss-free, very friendly service and their aim is just to give a good service to the community.

Greg also is very involved in a mental health charity and twice a week has a lovely lady called Pat who comes in for the day and helps. Pat was telling me what she does on her days there and says she does all the washing up for them and helps in the shop. She was such a lovely, happy lady and loves her days in the shop.

By the time I left the shop, I felt as though we had been friends for years.

I have taken a few photos but you need to visit the shop to see everything.

The shop is open Monday to Saturday, 9am to 5pm. For more information about stock, prices and deliveries, telephone Greg and Jim on 02392 525002.
Community initiatives in and around Gosport...

Take on an Oarsome Charity Rowing Challenge...

3 CHALLENGES TO CHOOSE FROM:
- Portsmouth Harbour
- Langstone Harbour
- The Solent

3 GREAT CHALLENGES:
1. The Pompey Pull
   Portsmouth – Port Solent - Portsmouth (12 Kilometres)
2. Row Around Hayling
   Circumnavigate Hayling Island Northney Marina (22 Kilometres)
3. 40k in a Day
   Gosport to the Needles, the ultimate rowing challenge! (40 Kilometres)

Our qualified rowing instructors will give you all the training you will need. We provide the boats, equipment and all the safety support. There are 5 rowers per team and anyone can take part - all you need to bring is your sense of fun and adventure!

Find out more and book your place:
Email: rowingchallenge@oarsomechance.org
Tel: Stuart McClellan 07741 334625 www.oarsomechance.org

Compete, get fit, have fun - all in one challenge!

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STAY IN TOUCH WITH WHAT’S HAPPENING IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY INCLUDING .......

LOCAL EVENTS
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COFFEE MORNINGS
ALVERSToke PARISH CENTRE

Jan 23rd
Feb 27th
Mar 27th

10:30 am until 12:00 noon
£2.50 for drink and cake

Come and join us for tea, coffee, cake, chat, and more. Come with friends, make new friends, and help raise money for a new Parish and Community Centre.

All proceeds for the Parish Centre Regeneration Fund.
Community initiatives in and around Gosport...

Gosport and Lee-on-the-Solent Lions Club

Invite you to their 33rd
Charter Dinner & Dance
at the Masonic Hall, Clarence Road, Gosport
Saturday, 14th April, 2018
7.00 for 7.30 with Carriages at 11.30pm

Live Music to dance from Phil Owen

4 Course Dinner - £25.00 per Ticket

Dress: Formal Black Tie,
Cocktail or Ball Gowns

Booking form with menu choices available from
Lion President David Andrews
davidandpeggy@live.co.uk
Telephone/text: 07806 430279

Payment in advance. Cheques payable to D. Andrews

Masked Ball

The Diving Museum

Open from 11 to 4pm
on weekends and bank holidays
from Easter to end of October
www.divingmuseum.co.uk

Quiz and Curry Night

In Alverstoke Parish Centre

On 19th May 2018

At 7.00pm

£10.00 per person

To include:
A Quiz with a Right Royal Round
A choice of Chicken and “Free From” curries and Puding
BYO drinks and glasses

Tickets available from the Parish Centre, or email
parishoffice@alverstoke.church to reserve.
**GOSPORT VOLUNTARY ACTION** is a registered charity providing support, advice, information and practical help to local organisations and voluntary projects in the borough on a wide range of issues to together with the financial support of GOSPORT Borough Council, Hampshire County Council and various of a small town group of supporting organisations.

DUSTBUSTERS: a domestic cleaning service for the elderly, frail and vulnerable of the community. The service's reputation is based on high standards of care. Dustbusters is a friendly group of volunteers who meet to plan their involvement in beach cleaning.

VISITING SERVICE: Befrienders are volunteers who visit an older person in their own home who may be socially isolated, or perhaps hospitalised. Volunteers offer friendship with a weekly visit. They may share a cup of tea and a chat; read mail for a person with a sight problem; visit the shops together or take a trip out for coffee at local cafes. The visit is in partnership with a small number of 5,000 older people in the area most of whom live alone. Referrals can be from any source such as Adult Services, health professionals, hospital discharge, GP's, family, friends or self-referral. Tel: 02392 604681.

TELEPHONE SERVICE: The Telephone Service provides a weekly telephone call to older people who may be socially isolated. Volunteers are allocated to people who have indicated a desire for companionship. A trained volunteer makes a regular weekly call to the Befriending Service office to check. The service is available on many different services which are available. One volunteer will contact between six and eight people in each week.

GOSPORT GARDENS: For people who are older, disabled, housebound or frail, watching the garden they once tended become overgrown and untidy can be very distressing.

Gosport Gardens is a garden maintenance service available to the residents of Gosport and Lee-on-the-Solent. Volunteers will help people with gardening, promoting the welfare of families with at least one pre-school child.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** The Community Engagement Team of Gosport & Fareham is a friendly group to existing voluntary and community groups in Gosport and to assist in the development of new projects. It runs up to four open community lunches a year, inviting speakers on varied topics to offer members the opportunity to learn from each other and network. It also organises an annual community conference to bring together voluntary sector organisations and statutory agencies to debate a topical issue and to ensure they work effectively together. Tel: 02392 604690.

**GO VOLUNTEER:** Go Volunteer is one of 350 or more Volunteering Development Agencies throughout the UK. Its role is providing practical support and advice to charities and voluntary groups. Tel: 02392 583836.

**SING FOR FUN:** A music group is a broad based introduction.

**DUDLEYCARE:** Dudleycare offers support, information and counselling for those experiencing unintended pregnancy, miscarriage, abortion or post abortion issues. We provide non-judgmental, professional counselling for any age, their partners and families, within a safe and confidential setting. Post abortion counselling provides opportunity to think through options so that an informed decision can be taken. We are able to supply details of local support providers but we do not refer women to any of the termination.

For more Volunteering Development Agencies across England, visit our website www.cedaroak.org.uk. CedarOak offers support, information and counselling for those experiencing unintended pregnancy, miscarriage, abortion or post abortion issues.

**BRENDONCARE CLUB HANTS:** Clubs for older people meeting in Gosport throughout the week, with activities including games, quizzes, exercise classes and singing. Tel Karen Seale on 01962 857099; website www.brendoncare.org.uk/clubs; email: club.hampshire@brendoncare.org.uk

CEDARAOAK: CedarOak offers support, information and counselling for those experiencing unintended pregnancy, miscarriage, abortion or post abortion issues. We provide non-judgmental, professional counselling for any age, their partners and families, within a safe and confidential setting. Post abortion counselling provides opportunity to think through options so that an informed decision can be taken. We are able to supply details of local support providers but we do not refer women to any of the termination.

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**THE OLD RAILWAY SITE:** Situated in the former Gosport railway terminus, this 20-person meeting room is also managed by GVA and available for hire. It can seat boardroom or theatre style and has tables/chairs and a small kitchen area. Onsite parking for six cars is available and nearby free parking.

LOUD & PROUD: Loud and Proud offers opportunities for young people aged 16 to 25, whatever their background or abilities to engage in a wide variety of confidence-building, volunteering and social activities within the community.

The group is currently funded by Comic Relief and supported by Gosport Voluntary Action to ensure a safe and inclusive environment.

**GOSPORT CITIZEN ADVICE AUREA:** The services based at Martin Snape House, behind Morrisons, aim to provide information people need for the problems they face and are independent, impartial, confidential and free. Trained volunteers deal with a wide range of topics including housing, debt, employment, benefits, legacy and immigration. Call CAB by phone on 03444 111306. The Adviceline and website is www.gosportcab.org.uk.

**ROYAL ANTIDILUVIANS AND BUFFALOS:** The RAOB (Buffs) meet at our club, 33 Stoke Road, Gosport, Hants, PO12 1LS: tel: 2392581071. The club is open Mon to Sat nights from 7.30pm until 11pm and on a Sunday afternoon from 11.30am till 3pm. We are a fraternal organisation that raises money for national and local charities.

From Tuesday to Saturday nights and Sunday lunchtimes we have Lodges for gentlemen to meet up with like-minded people and socialise and have a drink for charity. We also have a ladies section called the Glades which meet at the club on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. We hold social nights and various fundraising events through out the year. All monies raised go directly to the cause nominated.

**BRENDONCARE CLUB HAMPSHIRE:** Clubs for older people meeting in Gosport throughout the week, with activities including games, quizzes, exercise classes and singing. Tel Karen Seale on 01962 857099; website www.brendoncare.org.uk/clubs; email: club.hampshire@brendoncare.org.uk.

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**More Listings:** Pages 21 & 22

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**Do you run a business that helps people?**

**If so, you could sponsor this page.**

Call Fran on 02392 602418 for details.

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**The Old Railway Site**

Situated in the former Gosport railway terminus, this 20-person meeting room is also managed by GVA and available for hire. It can seat boardroom or theatre style and has tables/chairs and a small kitchen area. Onsite parking for six cars is available and nearby free parking.

**Loud and Proud**

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**Gosport Citizens Advice AUREA**

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**Brendoncare Club Hampshire**

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**CedarOak**

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**More Listings:** Pages 21 & 22
Continued from Page 22

GOSPORT DIS-PLAY CLUB: A charity offering friendship, fun and support to people with physical disabilities in the Gosport and Lee-on-the-Solent areas. It is now recruiting new members in the 35 to 65 age bracket. Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of the month at the Masonic Hall in Clarence Road, Gosport, during the day. A hot, two-course lunch is provided and some transport is available if required. Gosport Dis-Play Club members are a friendly group enjoying many different social activities and quizzes. It also gives carers a little respite and time to relax. If you would like further information about our lively group, telephone Jacqui on 03129 312541 or Marg, 02392 586070.

GOSPORT TOWN BRANCH: Lost & Found service, phone Carole on 0794 676264. Website: www.gosport.cats.org.uk. Email: gosportcats@virginmedia.com. Facebook: www.facebook.com/CatsProtectionGosport. Email: ian@gosport.info, telephone 023 9252 3358.

CORALIE GRYREDMAN: Coralie has been a member of Gosport Swimming Club for many years. Coralie has a number of visitors to the website suggested new members with a friendly welcome.

GOSPORT.INFO: New members are always welcome.

OAKLEY WATERMAN Caravan Foundation: The charity provides respite care for families with children suffering from life-threatening or terminal illnesses. Dougie Leask, dleask@yahoo.co.uk.

HARBOUR CANCER SUPPORT CENTRE: A warm, welcoming and safe place for any person affected by cancer and their families. They hold regular service for patients, relatives, carers and friends. Opening times are: Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm; Saturday, 10am to 1pm and the Harrowsham Charity (10am - 2pm). It is based at Stoke Acre, Gosport, tel: 02392 501503; fundraising@harbourcancer.org.uk.

HASLARD HEART SUPPORT GROUP: Meets at Gosport Hospital on the first Monday of every month at 7pm. Telephone 02392 581267.

HAMPSTEAD CARDIOMYOPATHY SUPPORT: The advice, with regular talks and presentations at locations around the county. Contact Sarah Dennis at Cardiomyopathy UK, helpline 0800 0181 for contact details — free from a landline.

FRIENDS OF LEELAND PARK have acted as the interface between owners Gosport Borough Council and the public since the site’s redevelopment in 1998. They hold volunteer workdays on the last Sunday of each month from 10.30am to 12 noon. It you are interested in joining, just drop into the park, find the coordinator, if you are interested please contact Bruce.

LE LEE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (LHS): The ‘Signposters,’ who are trained volunteers based at the Lee Community Centre, Lee-on-the-Solent. They hold regular service for patients they feel would benefit from it. Anyone can visit the service. GPs will also refer patients they feel would benefit from it.

BIPOLAR UK support group: covering the Gosport area meets at the John Pounds Centre, 23 Queen Street, Portsmouth, PO1 3HN on the first Wednesday of every month from 12 noon to 2pm. Groups are free to attend and are open to all individuals affected by bipolar, including those with a diagnosis, those pre-diagnosed, their family members, friends and carers. You don’t have to register you don’t have to let us know you’re coming - just turn up! Our support groups are intended for people aged 18 and above. If you are aged between 16 and 18, you can attend a support group if an email as a safeguard for your guardian.

THE AMERICAN MODEL RAILROAD GROUP: Based in Gosport, we hold regular meetings twice a month to discuss and promote the serious business of running trains. Further details can be obtained from our website http://gosportrailroadgroup.webs.com/ where up-to-date information can always be found. You don’t have to have an interest in American trains, any interest in trains will do and we are always ready to accept new members with a friendly welcome.

GOSPORT YOUNG AT HEART UNITY CLUB: Members meet every Thursday at the Brenton Care Centre, The Anchorage, off Willys Road, Gosport, from 2pm to 3.30pm for a cup of tea, biscuits, friendships, gossip and a good old fashioned laugh. It is open to anyone aged over 60. There is a big variety of entertainments and trips out. Transport can be arranged. The cost is £2 per week plus raffle tickets and Thunderbolt Lottery syndicate. For more information, please contact Heather on 023 9525 2161.

SING FOR FUN: This is a relaxed music group for young people and adults with disabilities. It meets at the Lowery Room, Victoria Square, Gosport, on Thursday, 6pm until 7.15pm and, session two, 7.15pm until 8.45pm. Donations of £3.50 please to cover rent and refreshments. Phone Phil, 0781 1401 988, for details.

LIFE EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY (LHS): Our Society has been at the heart of the local community for over 71 years. We welcome new members of all ages to join us. Membership only £3 per person to hold and receive the show schedule and six newsletters a year. The LHS holds three flower and vegetable shows a regular, the Lee-on-the-Solent. We will also hold two social evenings with guest speakers in April and September. Members can make use of the LHS Trading Hut in Holly Bank that is open every Sunday and Thursday between 10am and 12 noon. If you are interested in joining, just drop into the hut and pick up an application form or contact the Secretary, Bruce Thomas, on 02392 511873 for more information. The LHS now has a website at https://www.facebook.com/LeeRotaryClub.

BASIN HOUSE WATERMANS: A charity offering transport for patients, relatives, carers and friends. Opening times they feel would benefit from it. Anyone can visit the service. GPs will also refer patients they feel would benefit from it.

GOSPORT TALKING NEWS: This service is produced weekly, on memory stick, for blind and visually impaired listeners in Gosport and Fareham areas. Recorded every Monday morning by volunteers at the studio in Stubbington, it contains news taken from the Portsmouth, Southsea and Northern Daily Echo and Gosport Globe, as well as features, entertainment and information relating to visual impairment. Talking News enables those who have difficulty reading the words on screen to keep up with local happenings. And is free! If you know anyone who is visually impaired and would benefit from receiving these weekly broadcasts please tell them about Talking News. They can register by calling our studio on 01329 644364 or you could telephone us on their behalf.

GOSPORT YOUNG AT HEART UNITY club, 2pm to 3pm.

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GOSPORT YOUNG AT HEART UNITY club, 2pm to 3pm.
**GOSPORT DISCOVERY CENTRE:** High Street, PO12 1BT

**An Evening with Rob Johnston**

Gosport Discovery Centre

Wednesday, April 4, 7.30pm

ROB JOHNSTON is a unique guitar player who has played major acoustic festivals and arts centres in the South and has performed live on BBC radio. He has a dazzling fingerstyle and plectrum technique that picks up on many traditions of acoustic guitar playing. Alongside Rob will be his Shanty mates with lots of sea songs and shanties to make the rafters roar!

Alongside Rob will be his Shanty mates with lots of sea songs and shanties to make the rafters roar!

Phone for information check out Rob's website: https://www.rojbjohnston.co.uk.

Tickets £7.50 Telephone booking line 023 9252 3463

Shep Woolley
Gosport Discovery Centre
Thursday, April 19, 7.30pm

YO! HO! HO! Shep Woolley is back by popular demand with a sack of sea songs and shanties to make the rafters roar!

Alongside Shep will be his Shanty mates with lots of sea songs and shanties to make the rafters roar!

Tickets £10. Telephone booking line 023 9252 3463

**CLARVOYANT:** Jenny Docherty, April 26

**Spring Cleaning Intergenerational Market Day**

Drop-in SEARCH @ Gosport Discovery Centre

Tuesday, April 3, 10.30am to 12 noon

BRING along your grandparents and explore the 1950s house in SEARCH Museum with a focus on the theme of Spring Cleaning. Find out what it was like to live in the 1950s. Free, just drop in, no need to book.

**Traction Man Is Here:** Storytime Special

Gosport Discovery Centre

Monday, April 9, 11am to 12 noon

COME and hear the story of a well turned out superhero. This stylish hero has some fashionable flair until, one fateful day, Granny has other ideas!

Hear this inventive and original story and take part in some crafty fun afterwards. Suitable for children aged three to 10 accompanied by an adult.

Free, no need to book but places are limited.

**An Evening of Clairvoyance with Jenny Docherty**

Gosport Discovery Centre

Thursday, April 26, 7.30pm

WE ARE delighted to welcome back Jenny Docherty to host another of her popular evenings of clairvoyance. Jenny has been a serving medium for over 20 years and has demonstrated her mediumship in theatres across England, Scotland and Wales, giving spiritual readings to people from all walks of life including celebrities.

Creating a warm and friendly atmosphere with her great sense of humour, Jenny speaks as she finds. Tickets £8 including refreshments Telephone booking line 023 9252 3463.

**Miscellaneous Listings**

**St Luke’s Church:** At Royal Haslar, Gosport. Open for Sunday service every fourth Sunday of each month at 11am. Phone 02392 580551 for information.

**Best Foot Forward:** Weekly walks led every Tuesday at 10.30am. Meet Dive by Gosport Discovery Centre. Telephone for information on 01329 23142 or email enquiries@barthamw4h.org.uk.

**Shore Leave Haslar:** A horticultural therapy project for service veteran within health support needs. On the second Wednesday of each month, May to September, welcome visitors to the Memorial Garden at Haslar 11am on

**Saturday Gathering Community Swap Shop:** Held on the first Saturday of each month 3pm until 5pm at the Cabin Car Park at the entrance to Browndown, is now friendly Diving Museum, at Stokes Bay, next to the Bayside Cabin: Car Park. 

**Gosport & Fareham Maritime Volunteer Service:** Christine Oliphant, 02392 556252; chris.geo@uwclub.net.

**Lee Players:** Established over 40 years ago in Lee on the Solent, they now perform three major productions a year at Crofton Hall Theatre, Crofton Community Centre, Stubbington Lane, Stubbington. Always on the lookout for new members to act, assist backstage, help with sound and lights and front of house: www.wix.com/leeplayers/leeplayersandmdram俱乐部.

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**Contact details and further information, www.wecanreadgosportferrahm.co.uk, email: wecanread2014@gmail.com.**

**WE CAN Read:** makes a difference. Can you read this? One in six may not be able to. If you know someone in Gosport or Fareham who would love to learn to read, our volunteers can help with free, discreet, one-to-one tuition.

**Gosport Access Group and Disability Forum:** A monthly forum to discuss access issues. Membership is free. See www.gosportaccesgroup.org.uk or leave a message on 07784 228394. Contact Access and Disability Group Secretary Maria Batley, c/o Gosport Voluntary Action, Martin Snape House, 96 Pavilions Way, Gosport, PO12 1FG. Email: gosportaccessgroup@hotmail.com. Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Gosport.AccessGroup.

**Gosport Diving Museum:** The award-winning and family friendly Diving Museum, at Stokes Bay, next to the Bayside Cabin Car Park. Visit the Museum at any time of the day and explore for yourself the fascinating history of the Museum. The Museum is open daily from 10am to 5pm and is free to enter. Contact details and further information, www.wecanreadgosportferrahm.co.uk, email: wecanread2014@gmail.com. Ring 07908 694362 for Gosport; 07712 895430, Fareham.

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**Contact details and further information, www.wecanreadgosportferrahm.co.uk, email: wecanread2014@gmail.com.**

**Gosport & Fareham Maritime Volunteer Service:**

Meet every Tuesday between 7pm and 9pm at Fareham Sailing and Motorboat Club, Lower Quay Fareham, PO16 0NA, learning maritime skills and practical boating with our own boat. Please contact Ian Whittigstreet by email to ianandann@talk21.com.
The Ritz Cinema
@ St Vincent
NEW FOR 2018

Victoria & Abdul
Thursday
19th April

Lego Ninjago Movie
Saturday
21st April

League of Extraordinary Gentlemen
Thursday 3rd May

Unrest
Thursday 10th May

Quadrophenia
Saturday
12th May

The Dambusters
Thursday
17th May

Disney's Tarzan
Saturday
19th May

Top Gun
Thursday
7th June

Blade Runner 2049
Thursday 21st June
This will start at 7.00 pm; doors will open at 6.30 pm

The Book of Life
Saturday
23rd June

The Death of Stalin
Thursday
5th July

Film Stars Don’t Die in Liverpool
Thursday
19th July

Tickets available from
www.eventbrite.co.uk
or on the door
St Vincent College,
Mill Lane, Gosport,
PO12 4QA
Tel: 023 9258 8311

CINEMA FOR ALL
Emily’s top young Marine Musician

THE Royal Marines School of Music is based in Portsmouth. It lies deep within the Naval base in what used to be the RN Detention Quarters. Now, instead of holding erring sailors, the old prison’s cells are brought up to exacting standards of musicianship. In the exercise yard they learn how to play music on the march.

The Cassel Prize is awarded annually to the best young musician from the School. There are two other prizes for second and third place.

This year, after a lengthy winnowing process, five soloists were selected from scores of entrants to demonstrate their skills before three judges at the final. For the very last time, this was held on Tuesday in the opulent surroundings of the Mountbatten Dining Room at the Royal Marines Museum, Eastney. The judges, Dr Bob Childs, a brass band specialist at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Dr Liz Le Grove, Director of Academic Studies at the RM School and LtCol Jon Ridley RM, Principal Director of Music, freely admitted that they had a difficult job on their hands.

The five soloists each played vastly differing instruments – trombone, violin, flute, euphonium and clarinet. They were judged on their musical ability, selection of music, presentation, communication with the audience, confidence and every facet of their performance. The winner, Musician Emily Batten, was born in Cornwall but grew up in Wales. She was drawn to music after seeing an orchestra play the Nutcracker Suite. She then played in various wind ensembles on saxophone, cello, piano and clarinet.

Her performance was nothing short of impressive in all three of her pieces. They were showy items by Messager, Gomes and Poulenc; perfect to demonstrate her obvious dexterity. Her tonal quality was excellent. But what was really wonderful was the way she moved, her whole body swayed as if she was consumed by the rhythm of the music. The bell of the clarinet rose and fell with her movement, her whole body swayed. Little wonder that he produced a beautiful, controlled mellow tone from such a powerful instrument.

In third place came Winchester Musician Hollie Branson on violin. Claude Debussy would have loved her immaculately braided flaxen hair. Hollie’s posture was absolutely textbook with her left arm fully tucked under the instrument so that even the highest notes on the lower strings were within easy reach.

The other competitors, Musician Lauren Loveridge on flute and Musician Frazer Wilkes on trombone played admirably, too. And special mention must be made of the contribution by Timothy Higgins on bass guitar, percussionist Owen Muir and Sgt Mark Hall on piano who gave this swingy number tremendous lift.

Stuart Reed

SHOW TIMES COMMENCING FRIDAY, MARCH 30 TO - THURSDAY, MARCH 50

BLACK PANTHER, Daily: 17:30
BLOCKERS, Fri- Tue & Thu: 13:45, 14:50, 15:40, 15:50, 16:00

Duck Duck Goose, Daily: 11:30, 12:30, 13:40, 15:40

The Greatest Showman, Daily: 11:20, 11:30, 13:20, 15:10, 16:00

Isle of Dogs, Fri, Sat, Mon, Tue & Thu: 11:20, 11:30, 13:40, 15:10, 17:30

Midnight Sun, Daily: 20:20

Pacific Rim: Uprising, Daily: 18:00, 20:20

Peter Rabbit, Daily: 11:00, 13:20, 15:40, 18:00

A Quiet Place, Mon & Thu: 20:20

Ready Player One (3D), Daily: 14:10

Ready Player One (2D), Daily: 11:00, 17:20, 20:30

Tomb Raider, Fri - Sun & Tue: 20:20

A Wrinkle in Time, Daily: 10:10, 12:40

ALTERNATIVE CONTENT

RB: New McGregor/The Age of Anxiety/New Weldon (12A)
LIVE, March 27: 19:15
Encore, April 1: 14:00

ROH: Macbeth (12A)
LIVE, April 4: 19:15
Encore, April 8: 14:00

RB: Manon (12A)
LIVE, May 3: 19:15
Encore, May 6: 14:00

RB: Swan Lake (12A)
LIVE, June 12: 19:15
Encore, June 17: 14:00

ADVANCED BOOKING

Avengers Infinity War
Midnight Showing: April 25/26:
Daily: 13:45, 17:10, 20:30

(Programme subject to change—call us direct on 01329 821890)
Exiles miss penalty to hand Gosport & Fareham vital victory

Last-minute reprieve wins a smile of relief

By Rugby Correspondent Brian Seeney
www.gosportandfarehamrfc.co.uk

Gosport & Fareham 1st XV battled their way to what could be a critically important win in their fight to avoid relegation when they beat London Exiles 10-12 in Barnes last Saturday.

It involved a nail-biting finish when a penalty in the dying seconds could have denied them the precious points their efforts deserved.

The referee’s whistle blew for full time immediately after Exiles missed a kickable penalty which brought a collective sigh of relief from the Gos players and the handful of supporters there to cheer them on, putting a rare smile on the face of Head Coach Barry Bridgman.

"That was a relieved smile," said Bridgman as helicopters clattered away overhead, covering the nearby University Boat Race. We made very, very hard work of that but we got the win in the end. There was plenty of dog and there was no lack of will there but the technical aspects of our game weren't so good and we were way off today. But the try at the end off the scrum was a really good try. We were held up and I was thinking maybe a yellow card was going to come because there was a bit of skulduggery going on there. All that matters is that we got four points out of it. I would liked to have got five points but when you look at it, this was never a four-try game for either side."

"We've come away to a team that had a good start to the season even though we beat them at home and have tailed off, so we probably caught them at the right time today."

"They played to their strengths and did well in broken play and kicked well in the first half. In the second half we worked with that much better. We were lucky they didn't have a goal kicker because we would have lost if they had."

"Gos trailed to a 13th-minute penalty until the second minute of first half time added on, when returning No 8 Sean Shepherd scored the first of his two tries in the game and fly half Sam Foster converted."

Gos were caught napping just two minutes into the second half when Exiles scored a converted try thanks to some indifferent tackling. But they battered away with a late surge and on 74 minutes, after being correctly adjudged to have been held up over the Exiles try line three times, Shepherd grabbed his second try.

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"They played to their strengths and did well in broken play and kicked well in the first half. In the second half we worked with that much better. We were lucky they didn't have a goal kicker because we would have lost if they had."

"Gos trailed to a 13th-minute penalty until the second minute of first half time added on, when returning No 8 Sean Shepherd scored the first of his two tries in the game and fly half Sam Foster converted."

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Defeats for Andover (13-50 at home to Twickenham) and a 24-17 loss for Winchester at Effingham & Leatherhead helped the survival battle because now Winchester with 30 points can't catch Gos, who have 44 points and two more from their three remaining games will ensure they avoid the bottom two places.

Said Bridgman: "It's a good thing for us that two out of the bottom three teams lost, which helps our cause a bit. I think two points from three games will do us depending on what happens with the other teams below us. It underlines how very important it was to get that win. Winchester can't catch us but others can so it is still all to play for."


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Chris Roberts captures 1st XV action against London Exiles

MOVING FORWARD: Tom Batley with the ball against London Exiles

OVER THE LINE: Smiling Sean Shepherd scores his first of two tries

IN POSSESSION: Gos skipper Wes Dugan gets the ball away

HIGH JUMP: Ben Roberts takes a Gos line out against London Exiles

DISPUTED DECISION: Visitors Gosport & Fareham RFC 1st XV are held up over the try line in Saturday’s match against London Exiles

TIGHT SPOT: Shaun Taylor on the ball for Gosport & Fareham RFC

GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS: Simon Trivett burrowing for the ball
LAST weekend saw the Solent Devils in the battle for the league title, beginning their huge double header on Saturday at home to Bracknell Hornets.

The Hornets had beaten the Devils in Bracknell just three weeks ago, taking the competition 2-1 and giving Oxford City Stars some breathing room at the top of the table.

This time, however, the Devils really wanted to get the two points, closing the gap on Oxford to just one as both the Gosport players and Stars prepared to face each other for their final two games of the season.

The huge battle in Gosport started with both teams showing they were going to play a physical and fast game, not giving either any kind of chance in front of goal.

And they each managed to hold each other from the door for the entire first period. Despite a smattering of penalties, the teams headed to the break 0-0.

After knocking the puck from the ice and into the netting, Matt Jordan was seated in the penalty box to see the deadlock broken four minutes into the second period.

Alex Trendall passed the puck to Mark Pitts in centre ice, Pitts taking it to the Hornets goal under pressure. A quick pass as Mitchell Murray followed in to support saw Murray knock it between the pipes.

Just past the half-way point, the referee raised his hand to show a pending penalty against the Hornets after Conor Sheehan tripped Will Crossley in centre. And as Christian Cole headed out of the Devils goal to bring on an extra skater, Richard Facey was already heading across the Bracknell blue line.

Under huge pressure, Facey dropped the puck back to Crossley, now on his feet, and he knocked it through to Alex Murray who fired a one-timer straight past James Richardson, making the score 2-0.

From the face-off in the third period, Mitch Murray passed to Trendall who went on the attack. His shot was knocked away by Richardson but Pitts was there to bury the rebound.

A little over a minute later, a face-off in the Devils zone was won by William Stead, scooping the puck out to Tony Barclay.

As Christian Cole committed to stopping the shot from Barclay, he pushed the puck under the diving netminder to Tom Fisher, who had plenty of space to finish the play and start the Hornets scoring.

The next seven minutes saw the Hornets take three penalties and concede three power play goals, Drew Campbell with the first and Facey with a pair of his own.

Two minutes later, Alex Murray picked up his second goal of the game on an even-handed play that had Facey and Campbell pressuring the netminder for several shots until he was so far out of the goal Murray would have been hard pressed to miss his target.

A minute later, the Hornets stung again, Tomas Gilheany setting up Fisher for his second of the evening.

To finish things off, the Devils once more beat Richardson, Mitch Murray with the goal to cap the game after an assist from his brother, Alex, and Kyle Goddard.

The 8-2 victory now saw the Devils sitting behind league leaders Oxford by a single point and ready to head to Oxford for their second game of the weekend.

This being a ‘must win’ confrontation for both teams, gave it the feeling of a play-off event.

But somehow the players were managing to stay grounded, focusing on the task ahead rather than letting the excitement get the better of them.

Both teams were playing fast, technical, physical hockey, pushing the other while trying to defend their own goal.

Fourteen minutes in, Drew Campbell took a penalty for hooking, when the Stars made a big push, Stewart Tait and Jake Florey providing the assists to Dax Hedges, as Hedges scored the only goal of the period.

Almost half way through the second period, ex-Devil and prolific scorer for Oxford Matthew Lawday doubled the home team’s lead, Joe Edwards with the assist on goal two.

As the clock headed towards the halfway point in the third period, Edwards picked up a goal of his own, Joshua Florey with the assist, leaving the Devils 3-0 behind with only 11 minutes left to play.

Devils captain Alex Cole picked up a late consolation goal with just over three minutes to play in the game, the solo assist from Mark Pitts.

However, with such a short amount of time left, all the Oxford team needed to do was defend, which they did well, preventing the Devils scoring any more goals.

This victory for the Oxford City Stars saw them win the league, with one game remaining (to be played in Gosport, Saturday, April 7) and be presented with the league cup on their home ice, in front of a huge crowd.

Now the Devils begin their preparations for the play-offs, while wanting to give a good account of themselves when they host Oxford in two weeks.
**Trains take the strain**

By Josh Miller
www.gosportbfc.org.uk

THE BOROUGH hit the road on Easter Monday for their encounter with Weymouth FC at The Bob Lucas Stadium. Earlier on in the season, the reverse fixture saw The Terras, now sitting third in the league table, win 4-0 at Privett Park.

Gosport, sitting at the foot of the table, travel very much the underdogs.

For fans intending to avoid Bank Holiday road traffic and travel to Wemmouth by train, there is an hourly service to and from London Waterloo (approximately a 2hr 45min journey) via Southampton run by South West Trains and a more infrequent Wesssex Trains service to and from Bristol Temple Meads (approximately 2hr 09min journey) via Westbury and Yeovil.

Weymouth Railway Station is situated in King Street, two miles from the Bob Lucas Stadium. For further travel information follow the link to the Weymouth FC website: http://theTerras.com/index.php/club-info/directions-to-the-bob-lucas-stadium/.

In other news, the Gosport Borough FC Board is looking for general volunteers to help out around the club. In return, they will receive free entry to home games.

An appeal on The Borough website states: “The people of Gosport have a real opportunity to get involved with the football club. Volunteers are needed for general odd jobs around the club. “The roles may suit retired individuals looking to get involved and help The Borough progress forward. To get involved email raytainton@hotmail.co.uk.

And Real Madrid’s Premiere Academy Football Camp is coming to Gosport with Board members pleased at the number of parents signing up their kids for the training event. Targeted at boys and girls aged seven to 15, professional Madrid coaches will provide five days of fun and professional training under the guidelines of the Spanish club’s five-star academy, using the latest training equipment.

The camp starts on July 30 and ends August 3, five days of professional training with nutritional lunches provided. A full Real Madrid football school uniform, drinks bottle and football by Adidas are included in the package.

Madrid’s Premier Football Camp will provide professional match analysis with a personalised scorecard for each participant. Not only will the coaches be teaching the physical side of football but the conveyance of athleticism, social and cultural values of the professional game.

**VOLUNTEERS WANTED:** Helping out at Privett Park means free tickets to Gosport Borough FC matches

Youngsters with the highest scores qualify for the Creator Camps. The winners then have the unforgettable opportunity of playing as ambassadors of their country at The Bernabéu.

The club urges: “Secure a space for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. With only limited availability, don’t leave it too late with a high volume of kids already signed up.


**ANSWER: 39.Rh6 forced black’s resignation. If Kh6 40.Ng4 Kh7 41.Qg5 and black is helpless. If Qf8 then 42.Qh5+ Kg8 43.Nh6+ Qh6 44.Bxh6.

39...Kg8 since white would just take the g5 rook.**

**It’s a Square World: Solution**

**Plans to help fans beat the Bank Holiday Monday traffic jams**

**Stadium revs up for festival**

**Football/Speedway**

**The Gosport Globe**

The football family held at the Smallbrook Stadium near Ryde on the Isle of Wight, Jack Up The 80s, is back for a second year.

The festival which prides itself on both family fun and supporting island charities and good causes, takes place on from August 10 to 12.

With 80s icons such as Toyah, Leo Sayer, Shalamar, T’Pau, Martin Kemp, Chesney Hawkes, Jaki Graham, Shakatak and Sive already announced, plus more to come, promoters say it is sure to be another great weekend of music and fun.

Event organiser Sarah Moss said: “The team at Jack Up The 80s have individually been keen supporters of the speedway since it started on the island in the mid 90s.

“This exhilarating sport not only provides a great evening of entertainment but owing to the continued success of the Warriors, helps to put the island firmly on the sporting map. Like Jack Up The 80s all of these events are important for the Island economy and the Warrior Way is very much in keeping with the ethos of our family friendly festival. Smallbrook is a great facility and we moved our event to the stadium last year in order to dovetail with the hard-working volunteers and speedway enthusiasts to ensure a secure future for the venue, thereby reinforcing our commitment to both the team and the local community.”

And Wightlink Warriors co-promoter Barry Bishop said: “The fun, family weekend is a firm favourite in the festival calendar bringing people from across the UK and Europe to the Isle of Wight.

“Last year we had the opportunity to showcase our bikes and promote our club which raised a lot of interest in what we do, the clubs family ethos and speedway racing in general. Our landlords, and a fantastic job working with the Jack Up The 80s team showcasing what can be done at Smallbrook Stadium for the benefit of the Island’s economy and wellbeing of our residents, which in turn helps support all of the sports held at the stadium including speedway.

“It is a great pleasure to say, Jack Up The 80s welcome back to the ‘Wightlink’ Warriors 2018 Sponsorship Team.”

Full details of the event can be found at https://jackupthe80s.co.uk.

Meanwhile, however, bad weather has forced cancellation of the Warriors Press & Practice Day and Barry said yesterday, Friday: “It is with absolute devastation that I have to inform everyone that with a sodden track and a terrible forecast, we have been left with no option but to call off our eagerly anticipated press and practice day on Easter Saturday at the Andrew Younie Smallbrook Stadium.”

Weather permitting, the Warriors will launch their 2018 season next Thursday, April 5, with the Vince Mapley Memorial Trophy and a meeting preview will be released over the Easter weekend.