

# MILTON MATTERS

Issue No. 44

Milton Neighbourhood Forum

June 2011



*Photo- John Couch*

**HMS Tenacity Band will be at the Picnic on the Green 11 June  
Opening by Brian Kidd at 1.30 pm see page 4**



**Portsmouth  
CITY COUNCIL**

*Contributes to the cost of printing Milton Matters. The Forum is responsible for Editorial content, design and distribution*

**NEXT FORUM - Wednesday 15 June 7.00 pm**

**Mary Rose School, Gisors Road, off Locksway Road  
AGENDA**

**How the Portsmouth Health LINK (Local Involvement Network) works  
for you – Victor Vine**

**The Effects of Cuts to the Respect Youth Initiative  
New Dog Control Orders and other local issues**

## **FORUM MINUTES**

### **2 March 2011**

#### **Police Report**

Sgt. Boyd commented on increase in theft from vehicles, particularly in the Velder Avenue/Eastern Road part of Milton. They advised residents to hide all belongings. Milk is being stolen in the area and residents should bring it in as soon as they can. Also PVC front and back doors should be double locked as they are proving vulnerable.

Police commented on the new crime mapping system and mentioned that even though some of the streets looked like they had a high amount of crime, it was worth bearing in mind that a lot of the incidents were domestic disputes.

#### **Brent Geese**

Debbie King from Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust spoke about the wading birds strategy, paying particular attention to the Brent Geese who migrate to Portsmouth from Russia during October to mid March. The main aim of their strategy is to highlight areas that the geese and wading birds use to graze when they are here and to protect these areas from urbanisation; the planning office will consult this strategy if an application is made on one of the highlighted areas that are used by the birds. [www.hwt.org.uk](http://www.hwt.org.uk)

David Hayward (Senior Planning Officer) then spoke about what is considered when an application is made on one of the protected sites. A lot of the residents felt strongly that not enough research had been done before an application was approved for the university to have an additional artificial turf pitch at Furze Lane.

Mr Hayward said that the university had commissioned an ecologist to gather data and they had also provided an alternative site for the birds to use when the pitch is built. The residents very strongly disagreed with this as geese need all the sites which are in use now. He explained that most of the sites that the birds use have been awarded special protection area status, which is the highest conservation status that there is. The Brent geese and wading birds strategy (available on [hwt website](http://hwt.org.uk)) lists these sites. If an application is made for one of these sites, the planning office has to consult Natural England (Government advisory body on the environment) who will advise if anything needs to be tweaked on a development design, if there are any reasons why an application can't go through and will either support the application or deny their support. An application can't be approved on one of these sites without their support.

Many residents didn't agree with the mitigation strategy as they said the alternative resources put in place for the wading birds are unsuitable with not enough room for the birds to land/take off, unfenced and uneven land which the birds don't like, and far more birds visit the site than the ecologists' forecasted. Mr Hayward said the Planning Department can't act if they don't have enough data and people have not been assisting the Wildlife Trust/RSPB with sightings of these birds. Data on numbers of geese is still needed. Anyone who is willing to look out for geese in winter is advised to contact Debbie directly via website or phone 01489 774400.



## **FORUM MINUTES 2 March**

*..cont*

The Chair thanked Committee Members Lorna and Don Wilkinson for all the work they had done through the past month recording geese on local sites and a disc of their photos and geese numbers had been given to HWT and David Hayward.

Local sites at Milton Locks, Great Salterns, Horsea Island and Lakeside/IBM are now identified by Cllr. Hancock as wildlife sites for protection and only sympathetic development. Mention was made of Langstone Ark project, details available on website: <http://www.strong-island.co.uk/2010/12/21/photographs-wanted-for-the-langstone-ark/>

A query was raised as to how the Portsmouth Field Gun Crew had obtained use of the Portsmouth College Field. A section of the area designated for winter feeding of the Brent Geese has been set aside with Field Gun equipment for practice runs starting on 27 April 2011. Neither of the invited speakers had any knowledge of this new development on a key feeding site.

Cllr Caroline Scott had put in a bid for lottery funding for a tree trail at St James Field which was rejected, but it will go ahead through local councillors' Neighbourhood Initiatives Funding. She was pleased to announce the oak tree on St James' Green had been replaced.

### **The Carers Centre**

Thelma Turner-Hill explained the type of work the Carers Centre does. She advised anyone who is a carer to pop along as their level of support is very wide. She mentioned that you are still considered a carer even if you provide care to a family member or spouse (she mentioned that a lot of these people had never considered themselves carers). They have Benefit advisers and people who are able to offer legal advice such as gaining Power of Attorney etc. and can and recommend solicitors. They help with respite, group respite, outings and grants.

The Centre is located in Francis Ave, off Goldsmith Avenue, immediately behind Lidl's store.

### **Chaplaincy at St James**

There was concern raised from the audience over the multi faith non trained chaplain at the St James' chapel. They want a chaplain who is trained to deal with patients who have mental health issues but are able to relate to the individual beliefs of patients.

They also wanted to know how the Primary Care Trust changes were going to affect Milton.

### **Milton Common Protection**

The Council does not allow anyone to dig up the Common due to it being reclaimed land and possible contamination. A membrane was put over the tip with a clay cap and digging may damage this. Please report any digging to Garry Sherwood 07767677043

## OUR FAVOURITE GARDENER - BRIAN KIDD



Brian was born in Portsmouth and educated at St Luke's School. In 1954 he joined Portsmouth City Parks Department as a junior garden labourer and was shortly afterwards made an Apprentice and served until his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday which of course, was the normal duration of apprenticeship then.

He attended the IPRA College at Reading and returned to Portsmouth as a junior technical assistant and a few years later, became Deputy Parks Manager. Towards the end of his career he was promoted to become Portsmouth Parks Department's Environment Officer.

Brian is a good communicator whose style is entertaining and light-hearted. He undertakes lectures and talks, has been on television many times, is a regular presenter on BBC Radio Solent and has addressed international conferences. He has not been too busy to aid many local charities by lecturing and attending as the v.i.p.

One of his proudest moments was when Portsmouth won Britain in Bloom in 2000 – the millennium year. Brian had led the city-wide effort to achieve this - his greatest ambition.

Brian was made a Freeman of the City of Portsmouth in 2003, a short while after he had retired. He says he is the only ordinary person ever to have achieved the highest award the City can bestow. Brian is married to Pam. They have one son and unsurprisingly, he is Head Gardener at the beautiful Ventnor Botanic Garden on the Isle of Wight.

Don't miss Brian opening our Picnic on the Green this year at 1.30 pm and taking gardeners' questions afterwards in the Storytelling Marquee up to 2.30 when he dashes off to open another event.

# PICNIC ON THE GREEN

**Saturday 11 June**

**Opening by Brian Kidd**

**1.30 PM TO 5PM**

**ST. JAMES FIELD, LOCKSWAY ROAD**

**HMS Tenacity Marching**

**Band**

**Gardeners Question Time 1.45 - 2.30**

**with Brian Kidd**

**Bouncy Castles**

**Tree Trail**



**Fun races and games**

**Football Competitions**

**Local community stalls**

**Tombola**

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## A FOND FAREWELL TO THE TRAVELLERS' JOY



Our oldest community pub and meeting place is to be razed to the ground and re-developed. Never in its long history has it struggled for trade and has always been a hub of local support.

The politics of the oldest public house in Milton Village being sold to developers is not something we can comment on or influence, but none the less there is a definite sadness when speaking to members of our community about its closure.

The Traveller's Joy has held its heart on its sleeve for Portsmouth FC throughout good times and bad; housing supporters groups over the years. In addition to this support there have been local teams sponsored continuously throughout its history.

Far from being just a venue for football enthusiasts on match days and supporting local sporting groups, The Traveller's Joy has housed a venue showcasing local music talent, comedy nights, receptions and parties.

So many fond memories of a diverse focal point in our community have been voiced without a single negative comment. Comments aside, I start to think of purposes for closing places that house such ongoing community activity. (No political comments)

The Traveller's Joy stands firm in the memories of so many whose fathers and forefathers met to sort out the order of the day. Not least of these would be Mr. James "Jimmy" Goldsmith, a bachelor by choice who was in the early days of Milton Village's development, the owner of all the former farm, land and houses.

Mr. Goldsmith frequented The Travellers Joy most days for 2 separate sessions. (Afternoon and Late Evening)



He was a man to be respected and feared. The Squire of the Parish who personally took the local ballot box around to every home at voting time; he was always a candidate and always got elected.

In the early days the pub stood alone on what was Milton Lane with the only shop being a Post Office run by Mrs. Smith. The Pub landlady in the late 1800's was Mrs. Watts. The Milton Farm House stood inside what is now the main gate to Milton Park, Mr. Goldsmith's home, and Milton Lane had very little traffic with peacocks from the farm wandering around the road.

There were the four pubs on Milton Lane, (The Milton Arms, The Brewers, The Cremorne Gardens - now The Pickwick and the original public house the Travellers Joy) Each Pub had a 'Bottle and Jug Department' and it was commonplace to see people carrying beer home for consumption. The pubs were open from 6AM till 11PM at the turn of the century. Women would rarely be seen drinking in the Pubs and would have their ale indoors.

The Traveller's Joy was renamed the Black Lion at one stage. The rear garden, now a garage, was once a fruit garden from which fruit was sold in the pub.

It is sad to think all of the memories from our oldest public house which will now cease and our community will be the poorer for the opportunity for many of the activities to carry on into the future. Where will that social contact we all need and social support from others in our community come from? The pub will be replaced by a block of 7 flats and a veterinary surgery. (\*Credits to Mr. George Rogers )

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**This issue of Milton Matters will be delivered to some of the homes in Eastney Neighbourhood Forum area. There is no change to your Forum boundaries but we are helping publicise the Milton Village Hall to other parts of Milton. Please address any queries on this to the Neighbourhood Forums Unit, address and e-mail on back page.**



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# Milton Village Community Association

Milton Village Hall,  
182 Milton Road, Southsea, Hants, PO4 8PR  
Email: [info@mvca-milton.co.uk](mailto:info@mvca-milton.co.uk)

**Tel. 02392 873788**

**Office Hours:**

**9.30am – 12 noon**

**Tuesday to Friday**

## **SUMMER 2011 & BEYOND**

**Hall Activities  
Membership  
Trips & Holidays**

**New Large Hall  
Opening Soon!**

**Registered Charity No. 1003706  
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## MILTON VILLAGE HALL DEVELOPMENT!

Work has finally started! You may have seen the fencing to the side of the centre – this is to allow contractor access to the rear of the building where the new, second hall is being built. Work on the foundations started as we produce this newsletter and we're hoping that the new hall will be completed by about August. This will more than double our capacity so we will have lots more room for groups to expand and to welcome larger, new groups.

But that's not all, just look what we're also getting:

- New spacious entrance hall
- Old hall separated for privacy
- Toilets get a much needed facelift (already started!)
- Exterior cleaned and repainted (already started!)

Since the last newsletter the joint project with **Langstone Church** to have a **coffee shop** suffered a bit of a setback but we should hear this month whether new funding has been granted for this to go ahead! Watch this space!

**NEW HALL FOR UP TO  
100 PEOPLE OPENING SOON!  
Bookings now being taken!  
Party Rates from £40  
Group Rates from £15ph**

We also hope to be able to put on more activities and social events for the community at the centre – drop-ins, speakers, social dancing, fun evenings etc. **Or let us know what you would like to see at the centre!**



## SUMMER 2011 & BEYOND - TRIPS PROGRAMME

Milton Village Community Association organizes a range of friendly trips & holidays for its friends & neighbours. All activities help us with fundraising to keep the centre open and so we need to fill as many seats as possible! You don't have to be a member to come on the trips – anybody can join us – but if you decide to become a member you receive priority booking and a discount. The following selection of trips for this summer still have seats available:

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Kings Theatre–Bee Gees & Abba Tribute**  
Members £15 Non-Members £16 (Inc. Ticket /Transport not included)

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Day trip to Winchester & Highclere Castle**  
Members £29 Non-Members £32 (Inc. Coach & Admission)

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August – Day trip to Buckingham Palace**  
Members £39 Non-Members £43 (Inc. Coach & Admission to Buckingham Palace plus the Royal Mews to see the carriages)

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August – Day trip to Bison Farm & Park**  
Members £15 Non-Members £20 (Inc. Coach & Admission)

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> August – Day trip to Bournemouth Air Festival**  
Members £10 Non-Members £13 (Inc. Coach – Air Show is free)

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August – Priscilla Queen of the Desert**  
London Theatre Trip, Matinee Performance – Seats worth £66!  
Members £53 Non-Members £59 (Inc. Coach & Top Price Seats)

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July – Mini Weekend to Stratford-upon-Avon and Cotswolds** Members £79 Non-Members £89  
(Inc. Coach, Full Day in Stratford, 1 Nt Hotel with Dinner & Breakfast)

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> to Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September – Cornwall Value Weekend**  
Members £149 Non-Members £159 (Inc. Coach, 3 Nights Hotel with Dinner & Breakfast, Excursion & Entertainment)

Interest also being taken for New Year's Eve Getaway and trips for 2012: Disneyland, Paris, Philadelphia, Scottish Highlands.

For more information about any of the trips, please contact Allison during office hours on 92873788



## MILTON VILLAGE HALL CURRENT ACTIVITIES

### Monday

|         |                      |                  |
|---------|----------------------|------------------|
| 10-11am | Music Mad (Toddlers) | Tel. 07792924861 |
| 2-3pm   | Curling for 60+      | Tel. 92873788    |
| 6-7pm   | Zumba                | Tel. 07582370900 |
| 7-9pm   | Learn Japanese       | Tel. 92823639    |

### Tuesday

|             |                      |                  |
|-------------|----------------------|------------------|
| 10-11am     | Music Mad (Toddlers) | Tel. 07792924861 |
| 5-6.15pm    | Yoga (Teens)         | Tel. 92735178    |
| 6.30-8.30pm | Yoga (Adults)        | Tel. 92735178    |

### Wednesday

|             |                            |                  |
|-------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| 10-11am     | Music Mad (Toddlers)       | Tel. 07792924861 |
| 1.45-2.45pm | Fairy Footsteps (Toddlers) | Tel. 07890675689 |
| 6-7pm       | Dog Training               | Tel. 92815368    |
| 8-9pm       | Keep Fit (Aerobics)        | Tel. 92646868    |

### Thursday

|              |                 |                  |
|--------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 9.30-10.30am | Weight Watchers | Tel. 08457123000 |
| 1-3pm        | Craft Club      | Tel. 92831186    |
| 5-6/6-7pm    | Pilates         | Tel. 07969595960 |
| 7.30-9pm     | Line Dancing    | Tel. 92733081    |

### Friday

|              |                        |               |
|--------------|------------------------|---------------|
| 9.30-11.30am | Yoga                   | Tel. 92735178 |
| 1-2pm        | Tai Chi                | Tel. 92873788 |
| 4.30-6pm     | Yoga (Adult Improvers) | Tel. 92735178 |
| 6.30-8.30pm  | Yoga (Adults)          | Tel. 92735178 |

### Saturday Available for Private Hire

### Sunday

|              |                           |               |
|--------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| 9.30-10.30am | Keep Fit (Stretch & Tone) | Tel. 92646868 |
| 11-3.30pm    | Lighthouse Chapel Church  |               |
| 6-7pm        | Dog Training              | Tel. 92815368 |

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## DO YOU REMEMBER THE BLITZ?



Olive Jamieson who used to live in Glasgow Road, worked in London in 1941 and is pictured here, with other office girls who 'came early and left late to the cacophonous chorus of bombs and guns and sirens. Poorly paid, they never complained'. She said that he planes coming from Germany flew up the Thames and bombed near London Bridge where she worked near a Tube station.

It is the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Blitz. Do you have memories you could tell us? Portsmouth suffered with all the major cities in the country. The Blitz locally started with the first bombs falling on 11 July 1940 when 18 people were killed with the Rudmore gasometer containing 500,000 cubic feet of gas exploding and the Drayton Road School First Aid Post being hit killing 11 people. In August another 13 were killed when a furniture depository next to the old Eye and Ear hospital and the nurses home were hit. One bomb fell between sections of an underground shelter containing 200 people and the Harbour Railway Station and St Johns Church King Street were gutted by fire. Barrage balloons were floated over the city to try to confuse and deter the bombers. Air raid warnings continued on a daily basis so people had to drop everything and dodge into the nearest shelter whether it was in their garden or on the street. It was a very necessary precaution because the next raid at 4.20 in the afternoon, 57 high explosive bombs were dropped, 4 unexploded, 3 delayed action bombs which waited 20 hours to explode, and 3 oil bombs fell that day destroying 77 properties, and killing 125 people. The hits were on the Princes Cinema in Lake Road and the Station.

If you can tell us your personal experiences please send these to the Chair who puts the magazine together. (jmadjan@aol.com) 14



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## RESOLVED ISSUES - NEXT FORUM

**A**t an allotment at Eastney Lake, which was being handed over to a new tenant, the Council's Contractor filled in a pond which contained newts and frogs. The Forum Committee were advised and raised the issue with Peter Burrard-Lucas the Council's Environmental Officer within the Parks Department. Was there a Contractor's Environmental Policy? Peter advised that minor works sub-contractors do not normally have to present these. However, he did investigate the matter and was pleased to report that the contractor had had the good sense to notice the amphibians and remove them from the pond, placing them in a nearby wet ditch.

To prevent this happening again, he suggests tenants leaving plots should advise the Allotment Association or [Peter.Burrard-Lucas@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:Peter.Burrard-Lucas@portsmouthcc.gov.uk) of any wildlife they know about on site so that work can be carried out at the best time of year.

**At the Forum on 15 June, we shall hear from Victor Vine, Portsmouth Local Involvement Network, who can answer YOUR questions on how this new Health body can help us at a time of dramatic change in NHS.**

## PORTSMOUTH YOUTH PARLIAMENT

### Calling all young people!

Hi there, my name is Ben Dowling, I'm 17 and live here in Milton. I am the Chairperson of the Portsmouth Youth Parliament but more importantly I represent all young people (under 19-year-olds) living or working in Milton on the Youth Parliament.

It's really important that I take forward any issues or concerns the young people in Milton have so below are details of how you can contact me.

Email: [miltonpyp-ben@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:miltonpyp-ben@yahoo.co.uk)

Facebook: **Ben Dowling**

Twitter: **@btdowling**

I want to hear what you love about Portsmouth, what you hate, what you'd like to see changed, anything great you've done. For more information on PYP, just type us into Google! You could also listen in to our weekly radio show on **93.7ExpressFM on a Monday evening at 7pm)**







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MEMBERS**

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Dave Wilcox – Vice Chair  
John Couch – Treasurer  
Dominic Goodyear  
Jenny Bellinger  
Stephen Rogers  
Chris Hill Julie Keen  
Lorna Wilkinson  
John Christopher  
Larry Nicholas (co-opted)

**Ward Councillors – Milton**

Cllr Sarah Dineage  
30 Hamilton Court  
Ashby Place, Southsea  
(07590 286419)  
Cllr. Caroline Scott  
15 Locksway Rd, Milton  
(02392 291118)

Cllr G. Vernon-Jackson  
39 Lindley Ave., Southsea  
(02392 834551)  
[geraldvj@gmail.com](mailto:geraldvj@gmail.com)

Peter Mills  
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71 Highgate Road, Copnor  
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*Please contact any Forum Representative or Ward Councillor for  
more information or assistance*

***If you would like to be a Neighbourhood Forum  
Representative please write in to the Neighbourhood  
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