

MILTON MATTERS

Issue No. 47

Milton Neighbourhood Forum

Oct. 2012

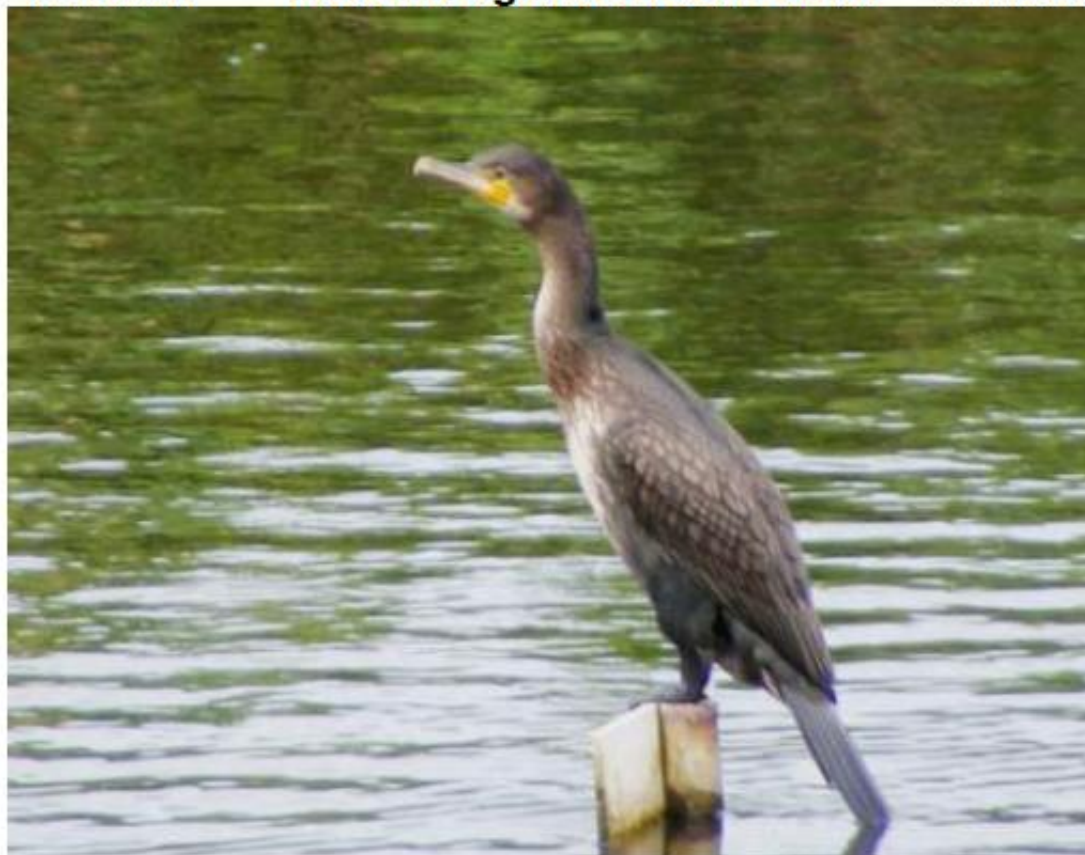


Photo- Lorna Wilkinson

Cormorant on Swan Lake – Milton Common

Wednesday 3 October 7.00 pm

Mary Rose School, Gisors Road, off Locksway Road

NEXT FORUM AGENDA

Your views on Locksway Road Roundabout

Update on Service 13/14 Bus changes

Can you be a Library Friend? Learn about Green Champions

Peter Roberts - Ranger on Milton Common

Milton Neighbourhood Planning Forum

FORUM MINUTES

15 March 2012

UPDATE ON PLANS FOR ST JAMES' HOSPITAL

Ted Griggs and Andy Strange from St James' Hospital, outlined plans for the hospital following the Forum's concerns over tree clearance on hospital grounds

They said that trees are numbered, and clearance is undertaken when there are concerns over danger from diseased trees. Many trees are subject to tree preservation orders (TPOs) requiring every care to be taken when remedial works/removal of trees is necessary.

There is land at the hospital deemed to be surplus to requirements, and such land will be disposed of by offering it to other NHS Trusts first. Land sold on the open market is more valuable if offered with provisional planning approval for residential development, and two sites are available now for disposal. Any residential development must take account of trees subject to preservation orders, and there is approval in the current City Plan for development on the sites.

There will be consultation with local residents when any proposals are being finalized, to enable them to comment about things such as access to the site by builders and times of building work. No access to the sites will be available via the hospital, and there will be a Community Infrastructure Levy (which is an amount payable to the local authority and which can be spent on any local authority project or scheme across the city).

Points from residents included:-
Access to the site would be via small local roads, not designed for heavy traffic flow;

Consultation – who would be informed of works and how can residents comment?;
Social housing constituent? – there will be social housing on both sites;
Need for some infrastructure, e.g a GP surgery and/or shop;
Availability of bus transport (if at all).

Residents felt that a full consultation process should be undertaken which St James' Hospital speakers supported.

13/14 BUS SERVICE

Danny Johnson (Passenger Transport Officer for Portsmouth City Council) had spoken about changes to bus services in November 2011. On 4 December 2011 the bus company had removed the No 14 service from the area leaving just the 13 service going one-way to the town centre. This was not popular so he had brought Sherisse Shelton-Smith (FirstBus Business Manager) and Ian Woodcock (FirstBus Staff Manager at Hilsea) to this meeting to give more information to passengers.

Danny stressed that the bus company operates as a commercial venture, and therefore the city council has no power to intervene in any decisions unless the routes in question are tendered (subsidised). However, he had good news for the meeting.

Danny has had discussions with Mark Reddy, FirstBus Regional Commercial Director, and it has now been agreed to register a 13A service which will operate with effect from mid-May 2012.

FORUM MINUTES 15 March

..cont

The new 13A will run between 1000 hours and 1400 hours to “plug the gap” at the southern end of the Eastern Road. This will incur a cost of £13,500 to the city council for a six-month trial.

Ian Woodcock responded to concerns voiced by residents about the draconian way that FirstBus operates, especially its failure to listen and respond to passenger complaints. Telephone complaints and e-mails are unanswered and the Southampton customer services section fails totally to help. A damning indictment on FirstBus.

Those present feared the proposed 13A service may not be good value for money, as it can only operate when FirstBus has vehicles/staff available (1000 to 1400), and not when it is deemed to be needed (0730 to 0930).

Ian agreed to investigate the points raised, especially the abysmal service afforded by the customer services section, and to update Danny Johnson on any the issues/matters raised.

He also agreed to take action to ensure that bus stop timetables are accurate and not months out of date.

SOLENT NHS TRUST

Sarah Austin, Director of Solent NHS Trust, explained how the new Trust will operate in its management of community and mental health services locally. It is mandatory for a Trust to be established, and her attendance at this meeting is part-consultative.

She explained that the Trust has Governors elected from local people to oversee and audit the Trust, and that the primary aim is to retain people in their own homes for as long as possible, thus ensuring a better use of resources, including the hospital resources of St Mary's and St James' campuses.

Her presentation was welcomed by residents, and she agreed to pursue the issue of a lack of chaplain at St James' Hospital, an issue that has been ongoing for about two years.

EASTERN ROAD UPDATE

James Sandy read a document prepared by Adam Bunce, setting out the current position regarding the Milton Road/Velder Avenue works and the Eastern Road proposals:-

Milton Road/Velder Avenue works are almost completed (finish date 16th March).

Problems of timing at the junction will be resolved.

The anticipated completion date for the new hospital entrance (Rodney Road/Fratton Way) is being ascertained from the hospital.

Closure of the traffic lights at junction of Eastern Road/Kirpal Road/East Shore Way is the next stage – if this is successful, there would seem to be no need to introduce the second lane south on the Eastern Road.

The service road between Swordsands and Stride Avenue will be made one-way to prevent rat-running.

Any resident wishing to discuss specific issues can contact Adam Bunce Adam.Bunce@portsmouthcc.gov.uk



Personal Choice is a charity based at the Oasis Centre at 1a Upper Arundel Street providing a free, Portsmouth based, independent, information and advice service to the elderly, their relatives and/or carers. Our mission is to improve the independence and well-being of elderly people in Portsmouth by not only helping to fill out Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance forms but in many other ways such as organising coffee mornings, events, seminars, educational classes and trips.

We have a new **Wednesday Lunch Club** starting 19 September, costing £3 per person which will include a traditional main course dinner, pudding and a drink.

A Seminar on **State Funded Care** will be held on Thur. 25 October 1.30 – 4.30 pm for professionals and the public to understand this process. Tickets are £5.

Please call 02392 346440 to book

For more information please check out our website at www.personalchoicecharity.org.uk and if you feel your charity would like to get involved with Personal Choice or you would just like to find out more about what we do, please get in touch. **Hannah Joyce, Project Manager.**



Could you be a **Green Neighbour?**

Are you passionate about recycling, and saving money and energy at home?

If you are, or would like to learn more, then your community needs you!

Use your enthusiasm and knowledge to help your neighbours save money and live more sustainably, as well as make your area greener.

Meet new people, take part, have fun and learn new skills.



The Green Neighbours project is starting in Paulsgrove and Southsea/Milton, so if you live these areas, and would like to get involved, please contact:

green.neighbours@portsmouthcc.gov.uk 02392 834670



Residents Parking - it's an emotive issue but the Forum has been approached to see if it can be introduced in Meon Road. Cllr. Gerald Vernon Jackson would like to hear from any resident who supports this suggestion. Please e-mail him on the address on the reverse by 31 October 2012.

Changes in our Area -How can we keep abreast of changes to our area? An application for 9 houses on the site of the White House goes to Planning Committee in September with parking on the land adjoining Essex Road. The Total Garage in Milton Road has applied for 24-hour alcohol licence which is due to be decided on 5 Sept. at Licensing Committee. You have the right to comment on these things, but how do you get to know? Few of these proposals are advertised on lamposts. Do we need community noticeboards?

MAN & VAN

**SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL
REMOVAL**

TEL 07858704845

DO YOU REMEMBER THE BLITZ?

Continuing with extracts of Eddie Wallace's recollections as a City Police Fireman during World War 2

At around a quarter-to-seven on the evening of 23 December 1940, I was sitting in the Rest Room of the Single Mens' Quarters in the Central Fire Station with Bill Hodges, son of the police surgeon, Dr Hamer Hodges. We were listening to a play being broadcast on the radio when we heard a noise like a steam train going through a tunnel and which quickly got louder. Suddenly there was a terrific explosion and the whole station shook. We looked at each other and made a dash for our respective bedrooms to don jackboots and working trousers as it was obvious we would shortly be called out.

Sure enough, a few minutes later the bells went down for a "brigade call" and very shortly after, every engine in the station was on its way to the Conway Street area of Landport. On arriving there, the devastation was appalling. I was one of a crew of a turn-table ladder driver by Constable Bertie Prior and under the command of Sergeant 'Tubby' Hawkins.

There was a huge crater in the centre of what had been Conway Street and scores of houses in that very closely built-up area had simply disappeared leaving nothing more than rubble. People could be heard screaming from what had originally been their cellars but which had been turned into air raid shelters. Gas pipes servicing these houses had become broken in the explosion and as a result were setting all and sundry on fire. Water mains had burst and water was flooding into the basement cellars.

Within minutes ARP Rescue Squads were at the scene and we, as firemen, endeavoured to put out the fires but we faced a grave dilemma. People were either burning to death or were being drowned. It was not until about 30 minutes had elapsed before the Portsmouth Gas Company and Portsmouth Water Company officials arrived and the gas and water mains could be turned off.

This left us firemen without the normal means to extinguish the fires, but we set up a relay of hoses from other water mains in nearby roads to solve the problem.

Over a hundred people were killed that night. Not only householders of Conway Street and adjacent roads, but naval servicemen making their way back to Unicorn Gate at the Dockyard. I am sure that not all the people who had been killed were found. It would never surprise me to find in future years that if the area is dug over deeply, bodies will be revealed. The area is now covered by Market Way and the former Tricorn Car Park site.

To be continued with the harrowing story of 10 January 1941.

Milton Village Community Association

Milton Village Hall, 182 Milton Road, Southsea, Hants, PO4 8PR

Tel. 02392873788 Email: info@mvca-milton.co.uk

Office Hours: 9.30am – 12 noon Monday to Friday

Hooray! The building work has finally finished & our fab new coffee shop, Pure Ground, has already achieved an official 5* Food Hygiene Rating! Why not pop in and give it a try?

Current Activities at Milton Village Hall



- Mon Music Mad / 60+ Curling / Zumba / Tap Dancing
- Tue Music Mad / Scrapbooking / Yoga
- Wed Music Mad / Little Steps Gym / 50+ Keep Fit / Lego Club
Lighthouse Chapel / Keep Fit
- Thu Weight Watchers / Zumba / Craft Club / Pilates
Line Dancing
- Fri Yoga / Tai Chi
- Sat Drama Class / Indoor Monthly Market
- Sun Keep Fit / AA Support / Lighthouse Chapel / Dog Training

We have 3 areas now available for hire – whether you need a regular meeting place for your club or a venue for a child's birthday party!

Trips & Social Events



*London Theatre Trips * Day Trips * UK & European Weekends Mini-Cruises * River Cruises * Social Evenings*

Now Booking For:

Disneyland, Paris – January 2013 from £279 per adult!

Poland & Auschwitz – May 2013 from £349 per adult!

New programme of socials, day trips & weekends due out soon!

Offer! Rate Held For New Membership Year!



Just £5 per person or £10 per family

New membership year starts 1st September. Membership is optional but great value for money - receive newsletters, priority booking and discounts on hall hire, trips & social events!

Please support your local community centre!

For more info on hall bookings, activities, trips & membership, please contact the office 02392873788

PICNIC ON THE GREEN 2012



How lucky we were on 2 June! After a threat of a shower it became one of the best Saturday afternoons of the summer. The day was rather special for us – 10th Picnic on the Green, 60th year of Queen Elizabeth II Reign and 350th Anniversary of the art of Punch & Judy. You all helped us celebrate in style and we are so grateful to the local supporters, groups and associations who came along on the Diamond Jubilee Weekend to help make it the busiest and best Picnic at St James' Field. The event is not planned to make money, we try to break even whilst providing a fun afternoon when everyone in our area can get together and enjoy the sun. Judging by the crowds, the Punch & Judy man who came all the way from London, was a hit. (He had to turn down several other bookings including Hyde Park, to keep his contract with us) If you would like to tell us what you most enjoy, use the e-mail address MiltonNForum@aol.com.

Milton Forum Committee



See you next year!



NATASHA SANDS

SOUTHSEA

HAIR STUDIO

60 Priory Crescent, Southsea, PO4 8RN

Tel: 02392 816002

OPENING TIMES

MONDAY	9AM-5PM
TUESDAY	9AM-6PM
WEDNESDAY	9AM-5PM
THURSDAY	9AM-7PM
FRIDAY	9AM-7PM
SATURDAY	9AM-4PM

GUIDE TO LOCAL SERVICES IN MILTON



MOTOTECH – Unit 8, Warren Avenue Industrial Estate

For all your mechanical requirements MOT's and recoveries available. Tel: 023 9287 4784

Specialists in Performance and Luxury Cars

BJM UPHOLSTERY LTD

107 Guildford Road, Fratton

Tel: 02392 822642

Foam cut to size, cushions filled,
Also re-upholstery



UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS CLEANING SERVICES

Carpets, rugs, upholstery, ovens

Lettings, offices, communal areas Builder cleans

Free estimates – all quotes beaten

023 9242 2921 Mob: 07752 336743



CTN (Confectionery, Tobacco & Newsagent)

add Stationery Photocopying/Faxing and Greeting Card Specialist
and you have

JG Riley, 90 Locksway Road, Tel. 9273 1574

Open Mon-Sat 06.30 to 18.30 (Lottery 19.30) Sun. 06.30 -13.00

Reboot Computer Solutions – Mobile Computer Services

Fast, Friendly and Reliable

For home and small business computer users of all abilities

Repairs, advice, training, virus removal

Phone Steve on 02392 735751 42 Dunbar Road, Milton

www.rebootcomputersolutions.co.uk



M S KING & SON – 273 Milton Road. Tel: 023 9275 2015

High class butchers. Fresh cooked meats.

Open Mon: 8 am to 1.30pm, Wed: 8 am to 1 pm,

Tues/Thurs/Fri/Sat: 8 am to 5.30 pm

Free delivery in local area



GUIDE TO LOCAL SERVICES IN MILTON



STEPHEN HARDHAM CARPENTRY
For all your carpentry needs no job too small.
Honest, friendly and reliable service
Phone 07747 721427 for a free no-obligation quote



FOXY FEET

For foot care needs in the privacy of your own home.
Nails Trimmed, Corns and Hard Skin Removed
General Foot Healthcare & Advice Contact Linda Fox,
Foot Health Practitioner Tel: 07545 166469



TWINE 4 TRAVEL

For hassle-free travel, whatever the reason, contact Dave
Twine, 07890 652706 info@twine4travel.co.uk Airports,
docks, local/distance transfers and special occasions catered
for in comfort



CTV Maintenance Service

Eastney Road, Tel 023 92816615

LCD Plasma Large Screen Repairs Digital Service Centre
Projection TV – Flat Screen Specialists alanctv@btclick.com



THE JOHN DOYLE PARTNERSHIP – Accountancy Services

Marian House, 62-64 Priory Crescent. Tel/Fax:023 9261 0450

Payroll and accountancy services for small businesses, sole traders,
partnerships and limited companies. Contact Kevin Doyle

www.thejohndoylepartnership.com e-mail info@thejohndoylepartnership.com



REFLEXOLOGY, Aromatherapist, Massage and now HYPNOTHERAPY

Ladies, take time out to relax. Phone your local mobile
therapist Audrey De-Ste-Croix on 02392 00683
Mobile 07843107365

ADVERTISING RATES

Full page £100. Half page £50. Directory entry £15. 10% extra for colour. Contact
John Couch (02392 643490) for your next advertisement
John.couch4@ntlworld.com



Music and the Old House at Home in the 1960s

In the early 60s, I used to play in a trio at weekends in the Old House at Home in Locks way Road. I played organ with a guitarist and a drummer, and we would play traditional pub music plus all the latest offerings from popular groups of the time such as Herman's Hermits, the Searchers and Manfred Mann. In fact, we catered for all, and the pub would be very busy, with an early arrival needed to get a seat.

In those days, the pub was rather basic, with an old fire with a flue/chimney going up to the ceiling in the middle of the public bar. On one occasion, I recall a gentleman (he was a patient from St James' Hospital) standing next to the fire, drinking a pint, when suddenly his overcoat caught alight as he had stood too close to the open door of the fire – the only person who was unconcerned was the patient, who calmly used his hands to put out the fire and said "it's not important, it's only my old one"! The landlord was Mr Smith, who was very good to us and liked live music – no doubt, we attracted extra customers – and there were always two barmaids working.

I remember with some affection one barmaid at the pub, who was always asking me to play the Searchers' number "Every time that you walk in the room" – I always thought that she had her eye on me, but she was very tall (and I wasn't) so it was destined to only ever be a musical entanglement! Another person who springs to mind was a rather attractive lass called Thelma Rice or Price, who lived locally and often bought me a drink.

The music scene was high profile in Portsmouth in the 1960s, and I played with a group called the J. Crow Combo, and John Crow lived I believe in Rosetta Road. The Combo was managed by Ricki Farr, who set up the "Birdcage" venue, firstly at Kimbells and later in Eastney – he subsequently organised the 1969 IOW music festival and is an impresario in America now. The group turned professional later, but managers then (as now probably) were not particularly scrupulous and so I left and continued playing local clubs and venues.

It now seems that I have come "full circle" as they say, as I continue to have an involvement locally with the Milton Neighbourhood Forum. Milton is a rare find in a city like Portsmouth, retaining that village feel, and I still remember with great affection those days gone by when I played music at the village pub. What a shame that there is not a call for some "real music" in pubs now, especially as there is the non-smoking policy in force. Where there is live entertainment today, there is usually an entrance charge – in the Old House at Home in the 1960s it was free!

FORUM ISSUES

The next Forum will be held on **Wednesday 3 October at 7pm at the Mary Rose School in Gisors Road, off Locksway Road.** We have a range of topics.

Peter Roberts the Council's Ranger for Milton Common has news about the wildlife and birds on the Common and developments he has planned, with your help, to make this an even better habitat.

Green Neighbours is a new scheme being piloted in Milton you can hear all about it and make your own views known on how it can best be implemented here.

Danny Johnson our expert on local Bus Services is bringing you an update. We have invited Baffins Councillor Lynne Stagg to fill us in on the new **Police & Crime Commissioner Role.**

Beddow Library in Milton will tell us how to become a Library Friend and help to improve the service you get from your library.

The forum has applied to become a **Neighbourhood Planning Forum** so we can give you the result of this and explain what it could mean for Milton.

We have a new e-mail address for the Forum, MiltonNForum@aol.com.

NOW OPEN! CAFÉ ADJOINING MILTON VILLAGE HALL



Cappuccino **Hot Choc**
Espresso **Cold Drinks**
Latte **Ice Cream**
Tea **Cakes**
Jackets **Quiche**
Sandwiches **English Breakfast**

Pure Ground
Coffee Shop & Community Café

**We're on the edge of the park
near the library**
Mon-Sat 8am-4pm

sids hair & beauty



Would you like a stunning beauty experience?

*Come and try new treatments in our new
Beauty Salon.*

A relaxing PRIADARA facial will bring a glow to your skin and help to erase lines. This lovely new range contains biotic, herbal and flower extracts and essential oils of the highest quality.



Get **Minxed!**

Stylish, designer nails as seen on celebrities. Choose patterns and colours for this season's hottest look.

Come in and meet Emma Moth our Beauty Therapist

We also offer Unisex Beauty treatments including Gents waxing.

Salon open Mon to Sat 9am until 6pm
Tel. 02392 291150 lines open from 8am

3/5 Locksway Road, Milton, Portsmouth

**Promotion
20% off
of all
Beauty
Treatments**

MILTON NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM COMMITTEE

Janice Burkinshaw – Chair	Peter Mills
Dave Wilcox – Vice Chair	Lyn Mills
John Couch – Treasurer	Demitris Papanicolaou
Margaret Nicholas (Secretary)	Phyl Priest
Jenny Bellinger	Dominic Goodyear
Stephen Rogers	Julie Keen
Chris Hill	Sajal Acharjee
Lorna Wilkinson	Don Wilkinson
Ben Dowling	Larry Nicholas (co-opted)
Troy Hood	

e-mail: MiltonNForum@aol.com

Ward Councillors – Milton

Cllr Will Purves
53 Boulton Road
Southsea, PO5 1NS
(07590 282135)
Cllr. Caroline Scott
15 Locksway Rd, Milton
(02392 291118)

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

Baffins

Cllr. Darren Sanders
59 St Mary's House
St Marys Rd, Portsmouth
(02392 177575)
Cllr. Lynne Stagg
71 Highgate Road, Copnor
(02392 780245)

staggl@tiscali.co.uk
Cllr. Darron Phillips
79 Folkestone Road, Copnor
(02392 647337)
darronphillips@msn.com

e-mail your ward councillor at portsmouthcc.gov.uk preceded by name e.g. Cllr.Sarah.Dinenage@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

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 Forums Freepost address:-Up

FREEPOST (SCE4514) PORTSMOUTH PO1 2YZ

or e-mail Neighbourhood_forums@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Supported by



Portsmouth
CITY COUNCIL

The Neighbourhood Forum is responsible for editorial content, design and distribution of Milton Matters.
Printed by Bishops Printers