

MILTON MATTERS

Issue No 21

Milton Neighbourhood Forum

JUNE 2003



NEXT FORUM

Wednesday 18 June 2003 at 7.00 pm - Dorothy Dymond
Lecture Hall, Milton Campus, Locksway Road

AGENDA

Portsmouth Football Club in Premier Division - Peter Storrie
Traffic Calming in Milton - Simon Moon, Engineers' Dept.

BEEKEEPING IN MILTON

I have kept bees for a number of years, and living next door to the Milton Allotments, I often thought what a great area Milton was to keep bees. So I decided to approach the Milton Allotment Holders Association and the Council and I was allocated a small strip of land on which I could build an apiary.

The first year I moved one hive from my apiary at Southwick to Milton. This was six years ago. I now have three hives on the site. I get the advantage of working my bees close to home and the allotment holders get increased pollination.

I work a New Zealand strain of bee which has a very placid nature, although they can have their off days as I experience from time to time. Honeybees generally will not sting unless they are provoked in some way. Once they sting they die! Although at times you can get an aggressive strain, this is quite rare.

They become active and start foraging around in early March, temperature permitting. By this time, with luck, there should be 5-10,000 bees in each hive and the queen will be already starting to lay eggs to build up the colony. Given good weather and as the summer progresses, to around June/July, the queen will be laying up to 2,000 eggs a day and the bees number around 50,000 per hive. This is when things get busy and I can possibly start to have problems – mainly swarming. This is the disadvantage (if you can call it that) of keeping bees in such a good area as Milton where there is plenty of forage.

Although you can manipulate a hive in certain ways to discourage them from swarming, this is not always successful as their natural instinct when they have warm weather and plenty of food, is to swarm. I extract the honey from the hives from May until late August. The bees store their honey in beeswax combs set in wooden boxes called 'supers' that I remove from the hive as they are filled. The honey is removed from the comb using a centrifuge type honey extractor. It is then filtered and jarred.

Around early September, I have to start preparing the hives for winter. You have to make sure there is at least 25lb of honey in the hive for the bees to overwinter. If not, I have to make the weight up with a sugar solution. This is their winter stores and the minimum they would require to survive until the following spring. We also have to fit mouse guards on the hive entrances as well to prevent mice and rats entering the hive in winter because they also like honey! Apart from a block of candy around Christmas, the bees are left sealed up until they start to move in the spring. Sounds easy doesn't it?



If anyone is interested in learning more about beekeeping, I can be contacted through Milton Neighbourhood Forum - Freepost address on back page - marked BEEKEEPING

SUMMER SOLSTICE SATURDAY 21 JUNE MILTON GREEN COMMUNITY EVENT

2 - 6 PM

Tree Trails and Exhibitions
Local Community Groups

Bring your own picnic, blanket, chairs, etc
Light refreshments and little treats will be provided

**For more information contact
Caroline on 9229 1118**

GUIDE TO LOCAL SERVICES IN MILTON

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

CARDS-R-US - 149 Eastney Road. Tel: 023 9286 2199

Cards, party ware, teddies, invitations for all occasions, balloons
Helium Balloons Delivered. Open Mon-Sat: 9 am to 5.30 pm

GILBERTS TRADITIONAL SWEET SHOP - 181 Eastney Road, Milton Market. Tel: 023 9273 1100. We have provided Weigh Out Sweets to the Folk of Milton for over Ninety Years.

Open Mon-Sat: 9.30 am to 7.30 pm, Sun: 10.30 am to 7.30 pm

REFLEXOLOGY, AROMATHERAPIST, MASSAGE, ETC

Ladies, take time out to relax. Phone your local mobile therapist
Audrey De-Ste-Croix on 023 9261 8787 Mobile: 079 3113 1748

PORTSMOUTH FRUIT AND FLOWER LTD - 169 Eastney Road, Milton. Tel: 023 9273 2530. Fruit, veg, cut flowers, garden ornaments, garden centre. **Free local delivery.**

Open Mon - Sat: 8 am to 5.30 pm

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

High class butchers. Fresh cooked meats. Open Mon: 8 am to 5 pm,
Wed: 8 am to 1 pm, Tues/Thurs/Fri/Sat: 8 am to 5.30 pm.

Free delivery in local area

CTV Maintenance Service - 156 Eastney Road. Tel: 023 9281 6615 **TV, video, audio & microwave repairs.**

Open Mon - Fri: 9 am to 5.30 pm, Sat: 9 am to 4 pm

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

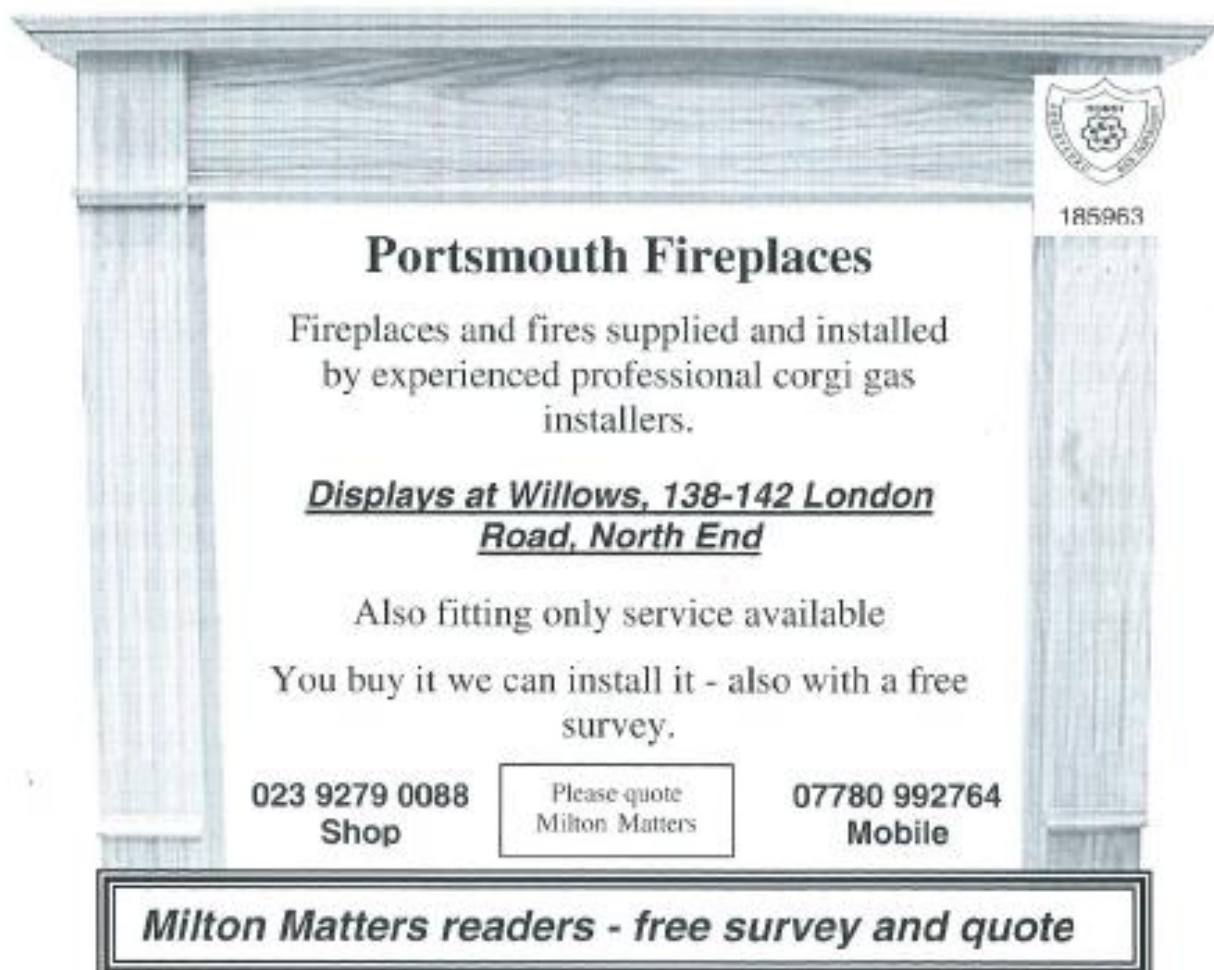
GUIDE TO LOCAL SERVICES IN MILTON (cont)

HIGHLY SPRUNG - 255 Milton Road. Tel/Fax: 023 9261 7717
Antique chairs for sale. Suites and chairs built to order. Free estimates.
Collection and delivery.

C J Briar - The Complete Upholstery Service

THE LARDER - 294 Locksway Road. Tel: 023 9271 2433
Open Mon-Sat: 8.30 am to 8 pm, Sun: 9.30 am to 5 pm
Fresh filled sandwiches and rolls, groceries, cards, dry cleaning/repairs

SAVAGES - 77 Meon Road. Tel: 023 9275 0277
Newsagents and Tobacconists, agents for National Lottery and paypoint.
Greeting cards, stationery & large selection of confectionery.
Open Mon-Sat: 5 am to 6.30 pm (Lottery 7.30 pm), Sun: 5 am to 1 pm



Portsmouth Fireplaces

Fireplaces and fires supplied and installed
by experienced professional corgi gas
installers.

**Displays at Willows, 138-142 London
Road, North End**

Also fitting only service available
You buy it we can install it - also with a free
survey.

023 9279 0088 Please quote 07780 992764
Shop Milton Matters Mobile

Milton Matters readers - free survey and quote

WALK ON BY?

Oh, ****, what have I trodden in?

Well if you walk any further than your own front gate, I probably do not need to answer that question; in fact you may have already answered it yourself in the opening statement. At 'Milton Matters' we are not in the business of offending our readers' sensibilities, so for the sake of this article let's just call it 'dog poo'.

Perhaps I should start by owning up and saying that I am a dog owner, at least hopefully my dog realises that I own him and not vice versa! My second admission is that picking up dog poo is (hopefully) never going to be your favourite activity; however, to the rest of the community it could be your most popular one. So this is a heartfelt plea to all dog owners to 'be prepared' when you take your dog for 'walkies' and follow the 'Milton Matters' 'Prepared For Poo' guide:

- ◆ Always have a plastic bag (or two) with you.
- ◆ On the production of poo place hand in bag.
- ◆ Pick up poo (important point: use the hand now covered with the bag!)
- ◆ Turn bag inside out and tie neck (the bag's, not the dog's!) so that the poo is now sealed in.
- ◆ Place bag in nearest red dog poo bin.

(A personal suggestion for those whole feel a little squeamish, use a pair of gardening gloves.)

Why is this important? Well, as if treading in it isn't bad enough, real problems can arise for those nearer the problem – children. Dogs which are not given worm treatments on a regular basis can be infected with worms (*toxocara canis* if you want to be technical).



Like many of us, these enjoy travelling, but rather than going by car, bus or train, they venture out into the world by way of the dog's poo and instead of visiting Tenerife or Ibiza, they like to visit other bodies. Their preferred destination is another dog and they are prepared, and able, to loiter around on the ground for a couple of years until one comes by. If one doesn't, you, me or our children will do at a pinch. It's a little bit like that last minute holiday you took. You weren't thinking of going there, but the price was so good! However, when you got to the hotel, it wasn't that nice so you decide you've got to get out. That's exactly what is happening when *toxocara* causes blindness in kids; it's not its fault, it just didn't like that destination; its got to get out and find a nice sunny dog.

So a motto for Milton dog owners in our streets and parks:

'Dog Poo free in 2003'

We are lucky to have saved the main field at St James' Hospital as a park, let's not turn it into a dog's toilet. I have heard it said that there is no need to pick it up there. If the above comments haven't persuaded you, the dog warden's powers (including fines of £50 or prosecution) *do* extend there. The Dogs Fouling of Land Act 1996 makes it an offence not to remove dog poo 'forthwith' from land to which the public has access. Apparently 'forthwith' means there and then; you cannot say that you will return later on to clear it up, so keep that spare bag with you. More dog wardens have recently been employed by the city and prosecutions are pending against some owners who have refused to pick up the poo!

So why not get used to the idea, after all there is a dog poo bin near the entrance to St James' – one of the almost 1,000 throughout Portsmouth, which are emptied every few days - and it is understood that there are plans for more there. Let's see everyone being able to enjoy our latest park!

And think how pleasant Milton would be without the dog poo on the pavements and in the parks; who knows what could follow, perhaps:

'Litter no more in 2004'

Richard Curtis

Minutes of Joint Milton/Eastney Forum held 26 February

Apologies for error in reporting '18 houses with key worker housing for NHS staff would be built on the Forest Lodge Site of St. James. This should be 8 houses.

LINDA SMITH of Old House at Home would like to hear from Milton residents who would like to join her Community Group, phone 023 92 732606.

Youth Action Initiatives – the local Police Beat Officers attended for this item explaining that the proposals for a skateboard bowl and youth activity (basketball, tennis, football) area at the end of Locksway Road on University land are awaiting Planning approval. There was a lively discussion on the merits and disadvantages of the scheme as perceived by residents, including the ongoing costs of running the project, times of opening, noise, standards of behaviour, proximity to residents' houses, and supervision of the site. Youth workers in the meeting explained that there are activities for local young people but this new facility was designed for those who do not undertake a regular activity at present.

Residents agreed that more were in favour of the scheme for a skatepark than against but that the siting of such a facility was a sensitive issue. .

(Since the meeting the Committee has learned that the scheme is to be dropped due to the University withdrawing the offer of land)

Milton Campus Development Brief – a 6.5 acre site surplus to University requirements will be sold shortly and the Council's brief for the developers has been prepared, taking local opinion into consideration. Barry Harmer of City Planning explained that some of the current buildings could be retained or demolished. The Council wishes to encourage retention of the walled garden. The site will be mixed-use with homes (35% social housing, 65% private), plus light industrial or a special school to replace Futchers and East Shore Schools. Residents raised issues on

- Parking and congestion
- Retaining the walled garden
- Devaluation of local housing from light engineering on site
- The setting must be preserved with the trees
- Could the current building be used as an Arts Centre?

Residents Parking Schemes – Ken Ellicome reported on progress on current schemes. Residents commented on issues such as

- Parking on Portsmouth Football Match days
- Proliferation for firms' vans parked overnight
- Costs of operating parking schemes and policing them

Ken warned that schemes do have a 'displacement' parking problem in adjoining streets.

**WANTED - VOLUNTEERS
BY THE LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF
ST JAMES HOSPITAL**

If you have some spare time and would like to help, please contact Trevor at the LoF Shop or Social Centre in the Hospital. Phone 9282 2444 ext. 4258

**TUES & THURS MARKET 9.30-3.0
IN MAIN HALL**

**SELLS books, records, tapes, quality clothes, bric-a-brac
and lots more**

SUMMER FAIR SUNDAY 29 JUNE



DON'T WASTE IT COMPOST IT!

**HOME COMPOSTER
SPECIAL OFFER**

Giant 330 litre capacity compost bin
(height 100 cm - diameter 80 cm)
ONLY £14.75 inc delivery

Compact 220 litre capacity compost bin
(height 90 cm - diameter 74 cm)
ONLY £13.80 inc delivery

**To order your composter call BLACKWALL on
0845 073 8990**

A POTTED HISTORY

GREENFINGERS was established in 1989 utilising the old hospital farm site, which is now going to be the new housing estate. We moved in 1991 when the land was first earmarked for housing. Our present site is at the back of the hospital grounds. Over the years I have seen the grounds become smaller as it has been sold off, so I am very pleased some of the land has been reserved for a 'green' and of course, our garden is a welcome area for people visiting patients.

Years ago we came under the umbrella of the Health Trust, although we have always been self financing, creating income through training. We have young people and long term unemployed working towards NVQ Amenity Horticulture Levels 1 & 2. Work placements for learning disabled and people recovering from mental health problems are referred to us from Social Services. Strangely enough St. James Hospital never refer patients to us. We also take on contract gardening and landscaping and we now have a team of four qualified gardeners employed with us to carry out such work. In 1999 we became part of the **Shaw Trust** which is a national charity, as they have many horticultural projects up and down the country. We still have to generate our own income but Shaw Trust are very supportive of what we are trying to achieve. From April 2003 we lose the name *Greenfinger's* and will be called **Shaw Trust Horticulture** but we shall still operate a friendly, professional service. Do come along and visit our plant nursery

Opening times

Mon - Thurs 8.00 am - 4.00 pm
Friday 8.00 am - 12.15 pm
Saturday 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Project Manager, KATHEE PITT

SIDS

All aspects of quality hairdressing
Carried out in a friendly atmosphere
Open 6 days a week

Specialists

In

Designer

Styles

SIDS Ladies Hairdressing

Tel. 023 92 291150, 3.5 Locksway Road

Open Mon to Fri. 9 am – 6pm

Sat 9 am – 5pm

SIDS Mens Barbershop

Tel. 023 92 614242, 9/11 Locksway Road

Open Mon 8 am – 7 pm

Tue to Fri 8 am – 6pm

Sat 8 am – 5 pm

MILTON NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

CHAIRWOMAN

Mrs J Burkinshaw
202 Moorings Way
Milton, PO4 8YN

VICE CHAIRMAN

Mr D Wilcox

TREASURER

Mr J Couch

SECRETARY

Richard Curtis
27 Locksway Road
Milton PO4 8JN

LINK OFFICER

Mr L Nicholas
Link Officer
 Civic Offices
 Guildhall Square
 PORTSMOUTH

*If you would like to be a
Forum Representative do
write in to:*

Freepost Address

Neighbourhood Forums
Portsmouth City Council
FREEPOST (SCE 4514)
PORTSMOUTH
PO1 2YZ

FORUM REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs P Priest
10 Broom Square
Milton PO4 8LP

Mr P Mills
28 Morgan Road
Milton PO4 8JS

Mrs L Mills
28 Morgan Road
Milton PO4 8JS

Mr D Papanicolaou
11 Apsley Road
Milton PO4 8RH

Mr J Couch
14 Vernon Avenue
Milton PO4 8SA

Vacancy

Mr Angus Donoghue
25 Bertie Road
Milton

Mr D Wilcox
31 Broom Square
Milton PO4 8LP

WARD COUNCILLORS

MILTON

Councillor A Bentley
35 Stanley Ave
Copnor PO3 6PL
(9261 0285)

Councillor C Scott
15 Locksway Rd
Milton, PO3 8JN
(9229 1118)

Councillor G Vernon-Jackson
39 Lindley Avenue
Portsmouth PO4 9NT
(9261 1718)

BAFFINS

Councillor N Bentley
35 Stanley Ave
Copnor PO3 6PL
(9261 0285)

Councillor G Goble
34 Gladys Ave
North End,
Portsmouth PO2 9BG
(9251 4744)

Councillor M Andrews
17 Dolphin Court
24 St Helens Parade
Southsea
(9256 1055)

Please contact any
Forum Rep or
Ward Councillor for more
information or assistance