

# MILTON MATTERS

Issue No 25

Milton Neighbourhood Forum

October 2004



In this Issue - Bill Long and his glue kettle - See page 3  
Competitions for kids and adults - pages 4 & 8  
The 'Picnic in the Park' and the new skateparks - pages 6 & 7  
Plus - Police report, our last minutes and local services

## **NEXT OPEN FORUM MEETING**

Tuesday 19 October 2004 at 7.00 pm  
Langstone Church Hall, Shore Avenue (off Salterns Avenue)

### **AGENDA**

The Salvation Army's Good Neighbour Scheme  
Homecheck Service  
Policing - New Initiatives in Southsea  
Update on local issues

# **'THE BREWERS ARMS'**

Advertising feature



There are some excellent pubs of all types in the Milton area, but it would be hard to find a more traditional one than **The Brewers Arms** on the Milton Road.

Since the much-loved landlord Harry left, the pub was seriously lacking in t.l.c. However, George Gale & Company, owners of the property, asked Patsy and Richard Parker, highly experienced landlords within their tenanted group, to hold the pub on their behalf.

Not wishing to leave their seafront home in Bognor Regis for very long, Patsy and Richard had not intended to stay at the Brewers, but Milton and its people worked their magic on them and they are now pleased to be permanent fixtures in the pub which is going from strength to strength.

As well as fine local wine and real ales, the pub has Sky Sports and Sky Premiership. Harry's bar at the rear of the property is now available for hire for small parties and business meetings, but is always open to everyone on match days.

If you have never been in **The Brewers Arms** or have not been in there for some time, there will never be a better time to try it than at the special events the new management is putting on. For example, on Sunday afternoon, 12 September, a party and Bar-B-Q with live music from the great local band the Racketeers was an example of what the pub can offer you. Watch out for details of future events.

# Dymond Building Builder Is Found

"I never thought that I would outlive the Dymond Building"

Bill Long was born in 1920 and lived in Brompton Road, Southsea. At the Reginald Road school he was good at 'manuals' which included metalwork and woodwork. He recalls visiting hobby exhibitions held at the Guildhall where schoolboys used to demonstrate their skills.

He left school at 14 and his father, who worked for Frank Privett, Builder, had his son indentured with the company. The document, which Bill still has today, made clear all parties' commitment to the legal framework of an apprenticeship. The builder undertook to pay his apprentice 5 shillings (25 pence) per week in his first year, rising to £1 per week in his sixth and final year. The company would instruct him in carpentry and joinery whilst his father had to sign the contract agreeing to provide sufficient meat, drink, clothes, washing and mending thereof, lodging and other necessaries throughout the entire length of the apprenticeship.

Bill Long recalls working 44 hours from Monday to Saturday and even working on Good Fridays. Frank Privett, the first Lord Mayor of Portsmouth in 1927, was a strict employer forbidding smoking at work and tea drinking on the job. Bill recalls that when he and the workmen were melting block glue in their glue kettles, they would sneak a 'brew' and squat down behind the benches to get an illicit cup of tea at work!

Bill remembers working on the construction of the Dymond Building at the Portsmouth Council's College of Education at the end of Locks-way Road in 1937. The piece of skirting board discovered during the recent demolition, and mentioned in the last *Milton Matters*, listed his name on the back, with that of M Hodge, L Pharoah and F Tong, and the date as 3 August 1938. Bill remembers Mr Hodge who was also a carpenter and Mr Pharoah who was a labourer. Mr Williams was the bricklayer on the same job and when the superstructure was complete, left to work on Boathouse 4 in the Dockyard, leaving Bill in charge of the Dymond Building. When Bill saw the long-lost piece of skirting board again, he recalled the finest materials had been used for the building - oak panelling for the Assembly Hall provided by a company from Darlington. The man who came down to Portsmouth to measure and pre-fabricate the panelling worked on the job at night. The summer of 1938 was so warm, he spent the days on Southsea beach! Bill believed that a local company in Copnor Road, Marchetti's experts in terrazzo and mosaics, provided the flooring and staircases.

The work was finished by 1939; by then Bill had married his wife Doris.

As soon as bombing began in Portsmouth in World War Two, a squad was formed by Privetts to move around the city, making bombed buildings safe for people to be able to continue to live in them. Bill headed this team. He then moved on to work for Portsmouth Aviation and Airspeed making aeroplanes such as the Oxford, from plywood and spruce. Bill moved to Cheltenham to advise them on the quality and construction of wooden framed aircraft used for training RAF crews due to the shortage of metal during the War.

Doris worked for the United States forces nearby and remembered when the US troops had been eagerly awaiting the arrival of US Women's Armed Forces who were being shipped over to the United Kingdom to join them. The troops went to watch the parade of re-inforcements preceded by bands and led by a drum major. The men's spirits flagged when they discovered the new recruits were huge women with blotchy complexions whom the men complained had loud strident voices. They much preferred the British girls with their lovely skin and neat figures! Possibly due to rationing!

Bill lives near Court Lane School and, at 84 years of age, still takes a great interest in construction and the construction industry. It was a delight to meet Bill and Doris Long, to hear their recollections of how different life was in Portsmouth in 1938 and Milton Matters wishes them all the very best and thanks them for their time.

## Film Competition

The logo for VUE cinema, featuring the word "VUE" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font. The letters are a gradient of orange and yellow, with a slight shadow effect.

Are you aged 16 or under and do you have a favourite film that you think everyone should see? Why not tell us all about it.

It could be a recent film or an older one. What happens in the film, what does it mean and why is it so good? Write a film review for *Milton Matters* and we will publish it in the next issue.

And as if that was not enough, 'Vue' cinema at Gunwharf Quays has kindly agreed to donate a family ticket as a prize!

So get thinking and then get writing. Your 'film review' should be no more than 300 words long and should be sent to Mr L Nicholas at Neighbourhood Forums, Portsmouth City Council, FREEPOST (SCE 4514), PORTSMOUTH, PO1 2YZ (or mark it for his attention and e-mail it to [neighbourhood.forums@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhood.forums@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)).

Don't forget to let us know your age and contact details.

Closing date for entries will be 30 November 2004. - *Good Luck!*

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TEL: (023) 9282 2411

Mr Graham Cooke specialises in Matrimonial, General Litigation and Care for the Elderly, including Enduring Power of Attorney. He is the chairman of the local branch of Alzheimer's Society, and visits Carers Groups on request.



Mr Robert Stone and Miss Iris Durham specialise in advising the elderly and their relatives as to Enduring Powers of Attorney, Rest Homes and safeguarding their assets. Mr Stone also deals with Wills, Tax, Trusts and Estates administration.

Mrs Margaret Stroud and Mr David Woodward specialise in the buying and selling of houses and remortgages.



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Mrs Eilis Calvey specialises in Wills, Tax, Trusts and Estates Administration.

THE FAMILY SOLICITORS

Est.1892



# PICNIC IN THE PARK - JULY 2004

We had a great day in St. James' Green with our traditional Dog Show, Sack Races, Egg and Spoon, a bouncy castle this year and stalls run by Baffins Pond Association, Greenfingers, Friends of Langstone Harbour and Compass Group with music in the marquee. Linda Bateman of Locksway Road won the 'Where was this? Competition'.

Our refreshments, bouncy castle, tombola, facepainting, etc., raised over £170 which pays for the insurance for this and any similar event that the Forum organises.



Lord Mayor attends Milton's 'Party'

We are grateful to Langstone Church for the loan of their marquees and equipment and for all the hard work they, our committee and our friends put into setting it up. A number of Milton businesses donated prizes including Bransbury Park Butchers, Portsmouth Fruit & Flower Stores, Rowlands Chemist, J & H Picture Framers, Gilberts Sweets, Scissors Hair Salon, Cut Price, M & S King Butchers, the Spar Shop in Meon Road, David Anthony hairdressers and 'Tanfastic' beauty salon. Many thanks also to Patsy and Richard Parker of the Brewer's Arms for the loan of their public address system and to Olive Green Garage for providing the power for this.



Val and Terry Martin with their prize

And thanks from many local children to illustrator Francis Thatcher for painting faces.

Finally, a big 'Thank You' to all the local residents who came along to support us. It was lovely to see the children taking part and let's hope we can have another successful 'Picnic' next year. If more local organisations would like to join us and have a stall, please do drop us a line. - Chair.

# OFFICIAL OPENING OF LOCAL SKATEBOARDING FACILITIES

Eighteen months ago, the very first Street SK8 event was held in the Guildhall Square. Young people across the city began to have their voices heard for open access skate park provision across the city.

In August 2003, four two-day Street SK8 events were held across the city to raise the profile and gauge interest in free skate parks. Fast-forward to 2004 and four free skate facilities are about to be opened. With its mission accomplished, Street SK8 is celebrating with official opening days at each of the new sites.



Monday 25 October - Milton Park, Milton.  
Tuesday 26 October - Stamshaw Park, Stamshaw.  
Wednesday 27 October - Bransbury Park, Eastney.  
Thursday 28 October - Wymering Community Centre, Sevenoaks Road.

Each opening event is from 12 - 5 p.m. and is open to all. The Official Opening will be at 12 p.m. with DJ's, jams and demonstrations,

A Portsmouth City Council, Hampshire Constabulary and Milton Neighbourhood Forum initiative (for the Milton and Bransbury sites), generous sponsorship of this citywide scheme came from ONYX, Big Lottery - New Opportunities Fund, and Barratt Homes.



If you need more information please call 023 9284 1688.

To lower the risk of injury, it is recommended that you wear full protective skate gear when using the facilities, especially properly secured helmets. No responsibility can be taken for injuries incurred as a result of not doing so.

# NAMING THE BARRATT FLATS

The Milton Neighbourhood Forum has contacted Barratts and they agreed that to name their new development 'Westpoint' when it was on the east of the City and to call the flats after American Universities was perhaps not ideal. So we have agreed on a competition with a £75 prize if a name suggested by you is chosen for one of the blocks or for the road through the development.

All you have to do is provide a name for each of the 3 apartment blocks at Barratt's brand new development currently being marketed under the name 'Westpoint'. A name is also needed for the road, which will provide access to and from the development for its residents.

The new development will offer 1, 2, and 3 bedroom apartments plus a number of penthouse suites split over 3 separate buildings. Prospective purchasers will be able to choose from a wide selection of property designs, many of which will have outstanding views over the Milton area and the Park. With 4 names needed, there are 4 chances to win (£75 per name), so not only can readers win up to £300, they also have the opportunity to literally put their mark on Portsmouth.

Complete the form below (or send in a letter) with your suggested name and brief reason why - the history of the site, the canal, the old names for the Foster Hall, etc., or a brand new idea, and take the form/letter into the Barratt Marketing Suite on the site in Milton Road by the closing date, 19 October 2004.

## 1) Apartment block 1

Name .....

reason .....

## 2) Apartment block 2

Name .....

reason .....

## 3) Apartment block 3

Name .....

reason .....

4) Road name .....

reason .....

Your name ..... phone.....

address.....

.....



## 'On The Beat'

- ◆ Hampshire Constabulary has recently launched the 'Safer Communities' campaign. Under the banner of 'Safer Streets', strategies have been developed which focus on the Constabulary's handling of reassurance issues: violent crime (with a particular focus on serious sexual offences and domestic violence); drugs, anti-social behaviour and tackling the terrorist threat.

With the support of local residents, the police and Portsmouth City Council have successfully applied for the area at the eastern end of Milton to be classed as a designated area as defined by Part 4 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 - a detailed map of the area can be obtained from the Beat Office at the address below. This came into effect on 1 June 2004 and is set to run until 30 November 2004.

At the time of writing, Community Beat Officers from Southsea Police have made two arrests in accordance with the new legislation - the first and only arrests to date within the City of Portsmouth. One of the persons arrested received a conviction at Court, and the other was given a police reprimand. You will be reassured to know that Hampshire and the Isle of Wight are among the safest places in the country to live, work and visit. Over the past ten years, the number of domestic burglaries in the two counties has halved and the number of thefts of and from vehicles has fallen by over 45 per cent.

The 'Creating Safer Communities' programme will be the focus of Hampshire Constabulary's operational activities over the next twelve months. The programme is made up of four campaigns:

- ◆ Safer Homes, which targets domestic burglary;
- ◆ Safer Vehicles, which aims to drive down vehicle crime even further;
- ◆ Safer Streets, which will tackle violent crime, drugs, disorder and the terrorist threat; and
- ◆ Safer Roads which will help the police to reduce the number of deaths and injuries on our roads.

If you have any questions in relation to the Safer Communities programme, or any other matter, then please contact the police at:

- ◆ the Southsea Community Beat Office in Highland Road, Southsea (tel: 0845 045 45 45); or
- ◆ visit the Hampshire Constabulary website: [www.hampshire.police.co.uk](http://www.hampshire.police.co.uk)

*- Hampshire Police*

**MILTON NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM  
MINUTES OF OPEN FORUM MEETING – 15 JUNE 2004**

**UPDATE ON LOCAL ISSUES**

**Skateboarding facilities in Milton & Bransbury Parks**

The Council is making progress re planning and insurance.

**New City Plan**

Portsmouth City Council is incorporating some recommendations into the City Plan. This should be in local libraries in July.

**New housing development**

The Neighbourhood Forum took up the question of road names in St. James, but the Hospital's suggested names have been accepted. The Forum is trying to persuade Barratts to consider new names for the 'West Point' development on the old Milton campus site.

**Traffic**

Vernon Avenue residents are concerned about proposals to change the access to the traffic lights at Rodney Road/Velder Avenue. No changes are proposed to the layout at present.

**Police Action Zone**

The Police Action Zone took effect from 1 June 2004 and covers the eastern side of the Milton Ward.

Children under 16 can, if necessary, be removed to their home address after 9 p.m.

**Residents' parking**

A 'spoof' letter – somewhat alarmist – is going round the area regarding residents' parking. There is no official survey being carried out at present. In July there will be a survey in central Southsea, there are no plans for Milton at present.

**Portsmouth University**

Student car parking near Halls of Residence is a problem. A student representative may be invited to meet Milton Neighbourhood Forum.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

John Slater (Portsmouth City Council) explained likely areas of residents' involvement with planning applications and plan making.

Representatives from Hedley Greentree Partnership explained the proposals for the Fratton Park development and the benefits for the club of staying in the city. Increasing the existing South Stand would adversely impact on Alverstone Road. The stadium capacity will be increased in two stages to 35,000, funded by the supporting residential development of 536 apartments in eight buildings, the highest being 17 storeys. There will be 750 car parking spaces.

## **Forum Minutes – Continued**

### **BENEFICIAL SCHOOL**

There is a draft Planning Brief for the East Shore School on Eastern Road. The site is 1.5 hectares (1.5 football pitches) and will be released by the move of East Shore and Fitcher Schools in 2006 to a new school on Milton campus.

Major issues in developing the site are the views of local people, prevention of crime, lack of a local convenience store and doctors' surgery, Eastern Road pedestrian crossing, trees to be retained. Constraints to the development are the amenities to the rear and a sewer under the centre of the site. Housing is the proposed use, with possibly a surgery or shop. Mixed use for this site was not mentioned. Keeping traffic moving along Eastern Road needs to be taken into account together with noise levels.

A minimum of 45 new housing units on the site is suggested.

Copies of the planning brief will be in local libraries and on the Portsmouth City Council website for comment by 5 July 2004.

### **PRIMARY CARE TRUST**

Judy Hillier gave an update on plans for St James Hospital, with 'Oakdene' (a 14-bed unit), replacing a St James ward with the same type of patients. They will have single sex rooms, giving privacy to support recovery and will move in during June. A new 26-bed unit, 'The Orchards', will replace Foxleigh and Solent Wards and will include occupational therapy facilities. This is planned to open on 12 October 2004.

Other than above, there are currently no plans for new buildings on the St James site.

The 'Woodlands' building is being converted for hospital consultants and administration staff. The space released should then be available for intermediate care services or chronic disease management (i.e. to keep patients out of hospital).

There had been concerns by local residents about security on the St James Hospital site, with reports that the police were frequently being called out to the hospital. Judy Hillier explained that this might be for reasons other than connected with the hospital or patients, e.g. local youths on the site. An external security firm has been contracted to patrol the site. It was noted that the hospital social club had become a local facility rather than being restricted to use by hospital staff.

Local residents also noted that there was a 15-foot high security fence around the 'Oakdene' unit. This is to be screened by plants.

St James Hospital is being converted to an Intermediate and Community Care Hospital, so there will be a gradual change of services undertaken there so that it is not exclusively for mental health.

# HANDYPERSON & GARDENING SERVICE

Age Concern is publicising a Handyman & Gardening Service.

This is a free service for those aged 59 and over who live in postal districts PO1 – PO6. To get those little jobs you can't quite manage any more, ring 92368892.

Social Services Older Persons' Care Management has made some changes in their Helplines.

- ◆ Older Persons' Helpdesk for general enquiries for over 65's ..... 023 9289 3800
- ◆ Specific enquiries for over 65s .....023 9227 56321
- ◆ Rehab Team and Occupational Therapists .....023 9283 9100
- ◆ Prevention Team .....023 9268 8390

(Civic Offices main number 023 9275 6321)

**RECYCLING** – We have all heard enough about the saga of the green wheelie bins. However, let's not take our eye off the real problem of too much waste. It takes up to 100 years for an aluminium can to decompose naturally; plastic bags 10 to 20 years, plastic bottles and glass indefinitely. So let's all make sure we fill up the receptacles provided with our waste, keep our litter away from our city streets and put chewing gum in a bin, not on the ground.

Home composting also helps prevent waste going to landfill or incineration. Phone Blackwall on 0845 073 8990 for a composter for your garden in two sizes at £14.75 or £13.80 inc. delivery.

**Portsmouth City Council Neighbourhood Forum Unit contributes towards the cost of printing *Milton Matters*.**

**All Portsmouth City Council documents are available in:**

- ◆ Large Print.
- ◆ Braille.
- ◆ Translation into Bengali or Chinese.

**For further details contact 023 9283 4059.**

**For Bengali Translation Service phone 023 9284 1651.**

**Cantonese Translation Service phone 023 9284 1652.**

# GUIDE TO LOCAL SERVICES IN MILTON

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confectionery. Open Mon-Sat: 5 am to 6.30 pm (Lottery 7.30 pm),  
Sun: 5 am to 1 pm.

**ADVERTISING RATES**  
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Contact John Couch (see page 20) for your next advertisement

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# MILTON NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

## CHAIRWOMAN

Mrs J Burkinshaw  
202 Moorings Way  
Milton, PO4 8YN

## VICE CHAIRMAN

Mr D Wilcox  
31 Broom Square  
Milton, PO4 8LP

## TREASURER &

### Advertisements

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Milton, PO4 8SA

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Mr R Curtis  
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## LINK OFFICER

Mr L Nicholas  
Link Officer  
Civic Offices  
Guildhall Square  
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## MILTON NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM REPRESENTATIVES

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Mr P Mills  
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11 Apsley Road  
Milton, PO4 8RH

Mr J Couch  
14 Vernon Avenue  
Milton, PO4 8SA

Ms L Parsons  
23 Glasgow Road  
Milton, PO4 8HR

## WARD COUNCILLORS

### MILTON

Councillor A Bentley  
35 Stanley Ave  
Copnor, PO3 6PL  
(023 9261 0285)

Councillor C Scott  
15 Locksway Rd  
Milton, PO4 8JN  
(023 9229 1118)

Cllr. G Vernon-Jackson  
39 Lindley Avenue  
Portsmouth, PO4 9NT  
(023 9261 1718)

### BAFFINS

Councillor N Bentley  
35 Stanley Avenue  
Copnor, PO3 6PL  
(023 9261 0285)

Councillor G Goble  
34 Gladys Avenue  
North End  
Portsmouth, PO2 9BG  
(023 9251 4744)

Councillor M Andrews  
17 Dolphin Court  
24 St Helens Parade  
Southsea  
(023 9286 1055)

If you would like to be a Neighbourhood Forum Representative please write in to:  
Freepost Address, Neighbourhood Forums  
Portsmouth City Council, FREEPOST (SCE 4514), PORTSMOUTH, PO1 2YZ

For more information on Neighbourhood Forums go to the Portsmouth City Council  
Website: [www.portsmouth.gov.uk/](http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/)  
Your council/Neighbourhood Forums  
or e-mail  
[neighbourhood.forums@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhood.forums@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)

Please contact any Forum Representative or Ward Councillor for more information or assistance.—