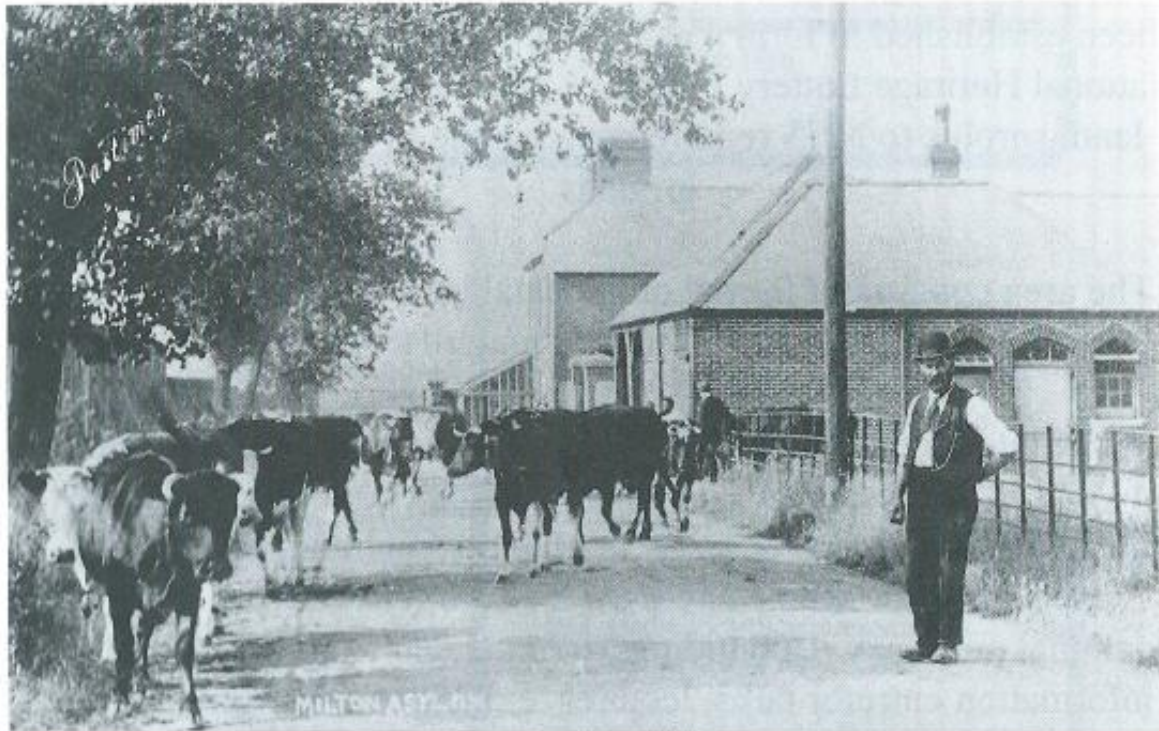


# MILTON MATTERS

Issue No 7

Milton Neighbourhood Forum

March 1997



Milton Asylum - Early 19th Century

## NEXT FORUM

18th March 1998 at 7.00 pm - Milton Campus Lecture Hall

- AGENDA**
- \* Trading Standards - David May & Dave Collins
  - \* Milton Park - 75th Anniversary - Colin Read
  - \* Education - St Mary's East Wing Site an Update
  - \* Fratton Goods Yard & - Rodney Road - Planning Brief
  - \* St James Hospital - Princess Diana Memorial Park Trust

## **St. James' - Princess Diana Memorial Park Trust**

A group comprising of Portsmouth residents and representatives from a wide range of voluntary and supporting organisations has been established to form a charitable trust. its aim is to bid for National Heritage Lottery Funding to purchase 16 acres of green land, surplus to NHS requirements, in the St James' Hospital grounds.

The area consists of formal ornamental land which supports a wealth of wildlife and mature trees.

It is the intention of the trust to utilize the grounds for the benefit of Portsmouth residents. The meadow area could be developed into an arboretum and or an orchard whilst maintaining its 'wild' aspect and the whole site used for both recreational and educational purposes. Th buildings are intended to form a reception / information cntrefor talks, lectures, exhibitions and community projects.

The Trust is committed to serving the people of Portsmouth and offers of help, support and advice will be vital to pursue this ambitious project.

For more information telephone 01705 291118.  
Attend the next Milton Neighbourhood Forum on the 18th March at 7:00 pm at the University's Milton site for more details.



## **Trading Standards**

Problems with a Neighbour's hedge? - Builders who will not finish a job?  
Neighbours who are just too noisy? - Bought a washing machine which keeps breaking down?

Its all in a days work for the City's Trading Standards Officer David May.

David and Dave Collins will be coming to the Forum on 18th March to give general advice on Consumer problems. So if you need to know your rights or find out where you can get help then why not come along on the 18th.

## **Fratton Goods Yard**

The Forum has been asked to give comment on a reissued Planning Brief which sets out various guidelines for potential developers.

A copy of the document will be available at the Forum meeting along with your committee's initial response.

We will be seeking ratification (or otherwise) of this response at the full Forum meeting

## **St. James - Princess Diana Memorial Park Trust**

Members of the Trust will be at the Forum meeting to give an explanation of how the group is structured, its aims and needs, as well as presenting a pictorial model of its proposals.

The Constitution will also be presented for acceptance - a stage necessary for its application for Charitable Status.

## **Milton Park - 75th Birthday**

This year sees the 75th anniversary of the opening of Milton Park and a programme of activities is being organised over the weekend of 18th & 19th July 1998.

Colin Read the City Council's Parks Services Manager will be coming along to the Forum on 18th March to explain some of the ideas which are being considered and to receive any suggestions which you may have.

## Milton Modern School For Girls

I joined the staff of Milton Girls in 1960 as head of P.E. It was a happy, disciplined and well organised school reaching high standards in all aspects of education. Girls could take 'O' Level exams, C.S.E. or stay on to the Sixth Form to take 'A' Levels. Many went on to University, teacher training Colleges and other worthwhile professions. The Head-Mistress was Miss Simpson a highly respected lady, strict but very fair. Parents were interested and co-operative which was an enormous help to the success of the school.

Although facilities were poor by today's standards, the school competed with other area schools and we won trophies in Swimming, Netball and Athletics. We had to travel by bus to Victoria Pool and Dundas Meadows for lessons. Most of the time Dundas was ankle deep in mud, now its a new school.!

The school also had a fine musical reputation which was due to "Cookie" alias Mrs Cook - Deputy Head  
She produced G&S operas in which everyone was involved - girls and staff - costumes, scenery, make up and taking a singing part. I played 'Ruth' in the Pirates of Penzance and the 'Duke' in Patience.

Prize Giving was held in the Guildhall with a special guest speaker. The choir would make it a memorable evening with outstanding performances with pieces such as 'The Nuns' Chorus'. it was certainly an uplifting experience.

Our Carol services in St James' Church were of the same high standard. The church was always packed. The choir would enter and process in a darkened church carrying lighted candles. Each girl responsible for her own candle and being severely warned about Not setting fire to the hair of the girl in front! Cookie was a hard task master and her expectations had no limits - woe betide any choir



member who sang a wrong note because Cookie could detect it immediately, even so, girls couldn't wait to get into the choir.

School uniform was the norm but definitely no trousers, and ties were properly knotted. The girls could choose to wear a boater with the School Colours - gold & blue round the crown. The straw boaters were very flattering and so very popular.

The School did not have an electric bell. So at the change of lessons and at home time, a prefect would run round and ring the handbell in the four corners of the building, she received black looks if she was late, especially at the home time.

The hall was a multi purpose area used for assembly every morning for a hymn and prayers, drama classes, choir practice, orchestra, school dinners and gym classes all took place in the hall. Often the first gym class after lunch would look out for the stray pea or chips! In 1975, in the name of progress, the school was disbanded when the present comprehensive system was introduced. It was a tragedy that such a good school was lost to the Milton community. I still meet some of the 'Old Girls' and we reminisce about the School, the good times and the fun times. It was a privilege to have taught there - the best 15 years of my teaching career.

Mrs C. Hurst

### *We Need You*

We are always looking for people to help on the committee as Forum representatives - its only 1 evening a month.

If you are interested why not contact Janice or Ken

## **Milton Park**

The extension to the Milton Park Bowling Pavilion has now been completed and will provide much needed changing accommodation for the 1998 season.

Not all Milton residents will realise there have been bowling greens in the Park since the 1920's. There are three men's clubs and one ladies club comprising some 200 members who regularly play between April and September each year.

There are now proposals to start a junior section.

Gone are the days when bowls was regarded as an 'old mans game', indeed the clubs have members who regularly represent Hampshire and the Portsmouth and District in games.

If you haven't bowled before and would like to try the game during 1998 contact Doug Grist, the secretary of the Milton Park Bowling Association on Portsmouth 649327.

If you have any difficulty then telephone the Bowls Pavilion from 18th April on Portsmouth 822141.

The future of the game lies with the youngsters so if you know of a boy or girl over ten years of age who might be interested in taking up bowls, telephone Rhona Darling, who plays for England and is also a County Coach, on Portsmouth 649100.

The Association is there to help and would like to here from you.

## Letters To The Editor

Dear Sir/Madam

I enjoy reading the "Milton Matters", and have decided to write to you about a situation reference "Footways and Humps".

On behalf of most of my neighbours I wrote to the Engineers Dept of the City Council in 1983 and I have written several times since. The traffic and noise in the road is definitely increasing, and the humps have helped greatly toward the noise. The pavements are so badly patched, and rough, and several times people have twisted their ankles when walking through.

I am enclosing a copy of the letter I have penned again, to the City Engineers Dept.

Being in my late 70's I do not go out evenings when its dark, and that goes for several of the residents, so we have not attended any of the meetings. I did get correspondence from David Hampton reference the Humps being put in Euston Road , and the residents wanted a one-way system instead, as that would save the congestion of traffic, and noise.

Once again thank you for sending the news of Milton.

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### Location Quiz - December 97

Schooner

Tranmere

James

Atlanta

Meon

Eastern

Shelford

Cromarty

Hospitals

University

Rosetta

Church

Haven

St James Church



# Summary of Forum Meeting - 3rd December 1997

## 1. Chairpersons Opening Address.

Janice Burkinshaw welcomed members, councillors and guest speakers and then informed the meeting of developments since the June Forum Meeting.

### 1.1 Southern Water Planning Issue.

A joint meeting with Eastney supported the need for UV treatment and the situation is ongoing with wide press coverage.

### 1.2 Locksway Road Post Office.

The plans to relocate to Chatters store has caused concern particularly with respect to the provision of access for the disabled. A reply to our letter to Head Office stated that alterations to Chatters Store would accommodate the needs of all users of the Post office.

### 1.3 The Drop in Centre - Milton Village Hall.

The first attempt proved a good exercise and will be continued in 1998. A more accessible venue with more suitable timing will be arranged. Local police beat Officers attended and are keen to attend future meetings.

### 1.4 Milton Bowls Association

A junior section is to be formed (see the article on page 6)

### 1.5 Milton Matters Magazine

We are grateful for continued funding from the Community Initiatives Grant.

## 2. Portsmouth City Council - Economic Development, Job Creation and the Millennium Plans for Portsmouth - Mr Paul Spooner.

In a very interesting and comprehensive presentation Mr Spooner spoke about improving job prospects, meeting the needs of the young and elderly, reducing poverty and improving housing. The way forward includes help for local businesses, attracting new investment, increased tourism, regenerating key sites, advice and training. The Government and the EEC would be approached for funds.

Development plans include new retail / office mix for the Tricorn, leisure, business and retail at the Gunwharf, leisure and business plans for Tipner, tourism attractive to Americans and the Japanese.



A 'Festival of the Sea' is planned for August bank Holiday. Old Portsmouth is to become a walking area.

Extension of pedestrianised shopping areas raised a question of parking access for disabled shoppers. The gunwharf development brought fears that construction vehicles would increase traffic problems in the city but a dedicated route has been planned although without time constraints.

New attractions planned include a 'Navy Action Centre' a 'Ballistics Exhibition Centre' in Gosport and better access to the Submarine Museum. Other proposals include encouraging rail travel with tickets inclusive of entrance to major attractions, the Light Rapid Tram scheme and Park and Ride.

The Chair thanked Mr Spooner for his comprehensive talk.

### 3. **Cycleways in Portsmouth - Mr David Hampton**

Mr Hampton explained the Council policy to encourage more cyclists to promote healthy, efficient travel while reducing traffic, pollution and parking problems. However lack of finance prevented completion of further cycle routes this year. Plans include accident reduction with cycle friendly routes, cycle theft prevention, seeking needs of the community and local events. A national Bicycle week is proposed.

The Southsea Sea Front plan will have full Public consultation during Spring/ Summer of 1998.

Shared footpaths are the least preferred option in the design of cycleways.

Questiones from the floor with answers included:

Are cycle parking areas covered by CCTV cameras - Not All.

Cycling in Parks - the approach is to take a sensible and reasonable approach.

Parking on Goldsmith Avenue Cycle Lanes - Business may park for loading purposes.

Signs indicating shared pavements too high and not easily seen - lower signs would present safety hazard - it was suggested that the pavement could be marked more clearly.

A cycleway along the old canal path is still being considered.

Mr Hampton concluded by saying that cycling will be further promoted by Public Consultation and exhibitions, leaflets, use of the 'NEWS' and various

meetings. The Chair asked if Forums could be represented on the quarterly meetings.

**4. Vandalism Milton Park - Mr Seamus Meyer (Leisure Services) and P.C. Dean Johns (Area Beat Officer)**

Representatives of Milton Bowling Association and the Portsmouth Players were in attendance. Your committee had written on their behalf to Leisure Services regarding vandalism at their sites. Mr Meyer explained the role of the Ranger Services covering 100 sites city wide, seven days a week until 11:00 pm and equipped with mobile phones for quick response. He said the system was more economical than individual park keepers. His words were met with some scepticism.

P.C. Johns said the strength of the force in Milton has increased to three beat officers. he has met with the children in Milton Park and agreed a voluntary curfew of 7:00pm.

In return he was prepared to give them sports tuition which was meeting with success. Safer and friendlier parks are the aim.

Mr Meyer suggested removal of the shelter attached to the Barn. He also hoped for quicker repairs, provision of other facilities, customer focus and to encourage better behaviour.

It was considered that vandalism has eased in response to Leisure Services and Police attention.

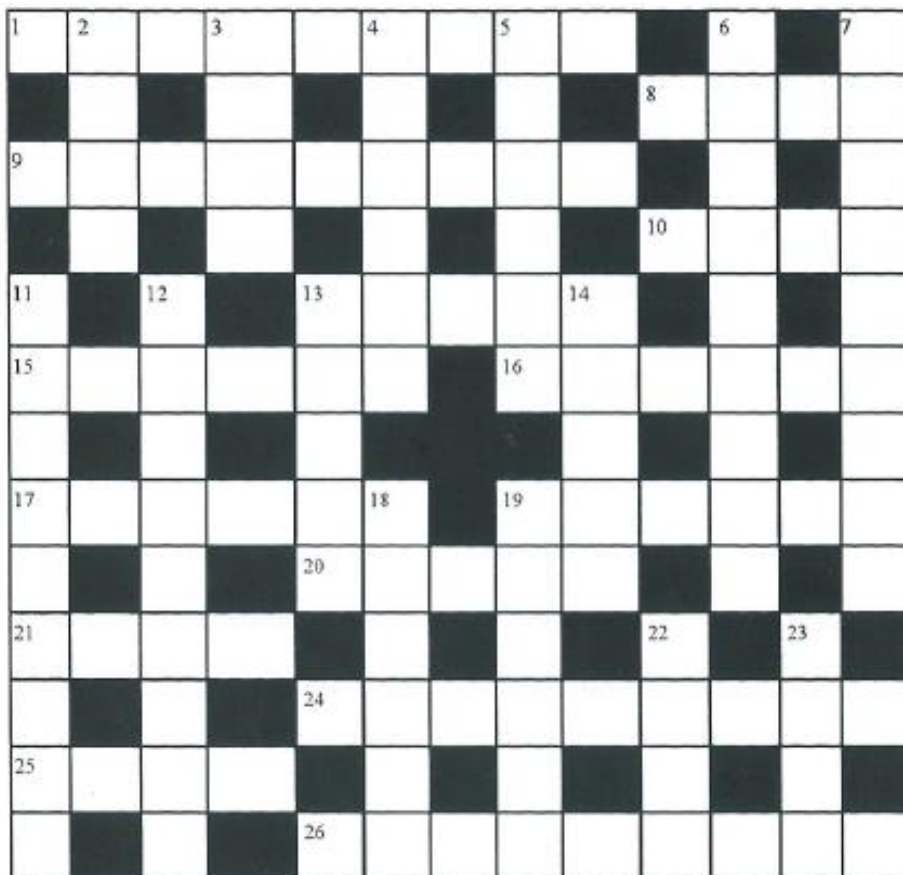
**5. Traffic - Mr Barry Morrison (City Engineers Dept.)**

Mr Morrison displayed plans of the Milton Area showing proposals for parking and yellow line changes aimed at improving traffic flows and parking.

**6. Proposal for Princess Diana Memorial Park in St James' Hospital Grounds.**

The Chair asked members to support the idea and petition for signatures of support to put forward to the Council in a bid to acquire finance from the National Lottery.

The Chair thanked speakers and speakers for attendance and their contribution to the meeting on what was a particularly cold evening



**ACROSS**

**DOWN**

- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. Musician for Hamlin                    | 2. Mike Tyson's nickname      |
| 8. Not rich                               | 3. Fall in drops              |
| 9. Lawman's vehicle                       | 4. Mountaineer's aid          |
| 10. Flexible continuous covering of body. | 5. Rubbed out                 |
| 13. To be superior                        | 6. Group assigned a task      |
| 15. Edible bivalve                        | 7. Misnomer                   |
| 17. Realm                                 | 11. Rugby player              |
| 19. Fictional                             | 12. The aim of 11 down        |
| 20. Make merry                            | 13. Composer                  |
| 21. Between hat and shoulders             | 14. In the vicinity           |
| 24. Apparent worth                        | 18. Smooth musical passage.   |
| 25. Noble                                 | 19. Deprived of               |
| 26. Duration of Christ's Fast             | 22. Three feet                |
|   | 23. Moral or legal obligation |

**Chas Newman - Alverstone Road**



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