

MILTON MATTERS

Issue No 8

Milton Neighbourhood Forum

June 1998



Milton Creek - see article on page 3

NEXT FORUM

17th June 1998 at 7.00 pm - Milton Campus Lecture Hall

- AGENDA**
- * **Our Health Service - Penny Humphris**
CEO Portsmouth and SE Hants Health Authority
 - * **New Secondary School - an update on progress and forecast of future place requirements.**
 - * **Consumer Affairs - David May**
What to do if you have a complaint.

Our Health Service

In the last few years there have been many changes to the NHS which effect each and every one of us. At our next Forum meeting on 17th June Penny Humphris - Chief Executive of the Portsmouth & SE Hants Health Authority, Karen Southwell of the Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust and Ian piper of the Portsmouth Healthcare trust will be coming along to address the Forum on the following.

How exactly does our local Health Authority work with the NHS Trusts and doctors to provide us with our health care.

Are our hospitals adequately staffed with doctors and nurses.

When can we expect hospital waiting lists to shorten.

What is the future for our local health services and will there be any changes in what they provide for us.

How do the differences between fund-holding and non fund-holding doctors practices effect the health care available to us

If you would like answers to these and other important issues come along on the 17th and find out more about the Health Service.

There will be an opportunity to ask questions of the panel.

Our New Secondary School

September 2000 is rapidly approaching and at our last meeting Cllr Blair outlined the plans for the new school at the St Mary's Hospital site which aims to be open by then.

As promised at the last Forum, Education will be represented at the Meeting on 17th June and will also explain the difficulties in forecasting school places.

Consumer Affairs

At our last meeting the City Council Trading Standards Officer gave a lively insight into some of the measures which are taken to protect our interests. By popular request David has been invited back to give another short address on consumer advice and what to do, and who to contact if you think you have been given unsatisfactory service. His talk will no doubt be punctuated with interesting personal experiences.

Milton Creek

Dear Sirs

In May 1947, my parents moored our converted CMB, the "Palatina", in Milton Creek. The Creek ran past the council houses (on the right in the picture) by the Good Companion pub. Kendalls Shingle Yard was there then, as shown by the cranes. On the left is the boundary wall of the wheat field off St James' Asylum. The wall ran almost from Warren Avenue to Furze Lane, the length of the creek.

The creek dwellers lived in boats or built bungalows, like the one by the wall, where Old Mac lived with about 20 black cats. Drinking water was fetched in buckets from a tap where our lane met Mayles Road. We had oil lamps and stoves. The wooden wireless ran on an accumulator with wire handles which was re-charged by Old Mac.

Meat was still rationed, so when our cat brought back home somebody's rabbit, it was not wasted. To cover our scruffy beach, we ordered tons of shingle and raked it smooth. Crimson fireweed and blue chicory bloomed by the shore, red and cream roses flopped over fences. The only sounds were from songbirds, estuary birds, the wind in trees and tall grass, and the bugle from Eastney Barracks.

The highest spring tide washed up on the boundary wall of the asylum. Sunday strollers used to photograph our boat. In about 1952 the News printed a picture of the "Palatina" from the stern with Mum sitting on deck.

We children - Maureen (Molly), Richard (in the stern of the rowboat) and I, aged 12 - ran wild that spring and summer, beach combing, cockling, exploring wrecked barges, "borrowing" idle rowboats or trespassing. In September I reluctantly enrolled at school (Meon Road). There were superb teachers, notably the Misses Mortimer, Moore and Keyes.

In 1953 the "Palatina" was sold and towed to Gosport. I spent years in Toronto as a busy headmaster's wife, but I never forgot Milton. I now live in Somerset. Visiting Maureen in her Kingsley Road home, I am always sad to see Milton Creek filled in and built on. Exploring St. James' grounds, I find no trace of the old wall except a small corner of it by the new houses on the north-east.

This photo is the only one we have left of the "Palatina" or of any CMB. If anybody has pictures of the boat and could send copies to 6 Ashcroft, Chard, Somerset, I would gladly refund expenses.

Heather O'Dare, Chard, Somerset

Milton Park - 75 years

This year Portsmouth City Council, working with groups from the community are looking to celebrate 75 years of Milton Park being open as a Public Park.

The actual anniversary of this is on 11th July 1998 but due to the World Cup finals being held on the 12th July, the working group set up to look at these events have moved the weekend of celebrations to the 18th and 19th July 1998.

The events in the Park will include, a small children's fun fair, bouncy castle, story telling sessions run by the City Library Services, as well as a number of musical attractions.

Portsmouth Players to celebrate the opening of their refurbished barn, have also a programme of events within the barn.

The Bowls Clubs situated at Milton Park, are also celebrating their 50th anniversary the same weekend, with some matches on the Saturday and Sunday as well as a come and try it session on the Sunday.

There will be a full programme of sports development activities such as football and basketball which will be managed by Portsmouth City Council Sports Development Team, and the City Rangers in conjunction with Hampshire Police.

The City Museum Service are also looking to create a display depicting the history of Milton Park.

St James Church have also agreed to co-ordinate an open air Church service at 3 pm on Sunday afternoon.

Your Forum will also have a display of information and people on hand to answer questions, come and support us.

**Summary of Milton Neighbourhood Forum 18th March 1998
7.00 pm Dymond Lecture Hall, Portsmouth University.**

Present

Cllrs. T. Blair
F. Charlton
J. Spurgeon
Guest Speakers
Forum Members

Apologies

Cllrs. V. Bye
R. Cole
N. Sizer
Committee
O. Ilsley
D. Papanicoloau
P. Sawyer

1. Chairperson's Opening Address and activities since last Forum

1.1 St James Hospital / Princess Diana Memorial Park.

Our suggestion for the Park has been submitted to PCC and Janice thanked all who supported this idea.

1.2 Locksway Road Post Office. - Improved access for the disabled has been made.

1.3 Milton Common Brambles - Leisure Services have apologised for excessive cutting back to eliminate brown tailed moth larvae.

1.4 Tree Felling at St James site - Only old diseased trees have been removed.

1.5 Southern Water Sewage Treatment - We await Environment Agency report.

2. Southsea Food Outlets - Gareth Williams (City Planning Dept). PCC are consulting all Forums due to concerns being expressed about the rapid increase in numbers and variety of food outlets causing a lack of balance, and explained the council reasons for issuing guidance. A vote to support the Planning Guidelines to restrict growth showed 35 for and 1 against.

3. Community Initiatives Funding - Janice outlined the funds available and criteria for submissions which include environmental improvements, safety, building works, training and new projects. Any ideas will be welcomed.

4. Fratton Goods Yard / Rodney Road Industrial Estate Planning Brief.

We had been asked to comment on a draft consultation document before tonight's Forum. Discussion by our committee led to Vice Chair Ken Rowlands formulating a response. He explained the changes from the original planning brief -

Rail Track has decided to retain the "Train Care" facility parallel to Goldsmith Avenue which means that the link road would now emerge opposite Frensham Road. Regeneration of Rodney Road Industrial area is now included.

The brief pre-supposes redevelopment of PFC (should it chose to) as a pre-requisite of any site development.

Ken told the meeting that its your land and its what you want and not what the Council puts on us. We should take advantage of the changes by redefining the original objectives .

The area west of the link road to be reclassified as housing in line with government policy for brown field sites. This would stimulate the local trading community.

East of the link road to be a mix of industrial / leisure including PFC.

Rodney Road Industrial Estate to be regenerated for industrial usage.

The ensuing debate included issues of contaminated land, types of housing, access roads and the need to retain some rail goods facility. The Chair called for proposals for the Forum's final response to PCC.

West of site for housing	- For 4 Against 7
East of site for Industrial / Leisure / PFC	- For 21 Against 0
Regeneration of Rodney Road Ind. Est .	- Unanimous
Retention of some rail goods facility.	- Generally accepted

5. St James - Princess Diana Memorial Park

A trust has already been formed and charitable status has been applied for but it needed to be formally adopted by the Forum. Mr Salt from the Trust, explained that the main aims are:-*To provide Public open space.by purchasing the land, co-ordinate activities and work with similar groups.*

The proposed, circulated constitution is recognised by the Charities commission and Mr Salt recommended that we support a resolution to adopt the constitution

- carried unanimously by the Forum

6. Trading Standards - Mr David May.

Mr May discussed public concern on tactics adopted by some gas supply contract salesmen and issued advisory leaflets for forum members. He fielded questions on funding, food premises inspections, genetically modified food, weight rules and weighing machine checks and the work of his department in keeping up standards in pubs, garages and supermarkets.

7. Noise Problems - Dave Collins

Spotter Plane nuisance - quieter aircraft planned for next year.

Car Radios - difficult unless very localised.

Motor Vehicle Dirty Exhausts - lots of complaints, new test equipment and procedures explained.

Noise from Childrens Homes - a difficult area, but close liaison with Social Services established.

8. Milton Park 75th Anniversary Official Opening - Colin Read (see P4)

9 Proposed New School at St Mary's Hospital East Wing

Cllr Tom Blair - Chair Education Committee and Chris Williams - PCC Education Dept. explained the need for a new school and forecast placement requirements to the year 2003/4 as follows:

1997/1998	9172	
1998/1999	9525	existing places 9700
1999/2000	9990	
2000/2001	10254	
2001/2002	10390	
2002/2003	10505	
2003/2004	10590	

Siting - Of 33 sites 4 were shortlisted;

St Mary's Hospital East wing (6.2 acres)
Dundas Lane
Central Depot - Eastern Road.
Milton University Site.

Advantages of St Mary's Hospital Site

Achievable time scales, location, good access, minimum local impact.

Disadvantages: Close to Cemetery, no provision for playing fields.

Timetable of events as follows.

- April 1998 - Publish Statutory Notices.
- June 1998 - PFI tenders
- Oct 1998 - Best and Final Offer
- Mar 1999 - Start on Site
- Sept 1999 - Penhale Annexe 230 year 7
- Sept 2000 - New School opens.

There followed a series of questions and answers:

Q - Where are sports to be played?

A - Some hard courts but mainly share with other schools.

Forum says we must bid for more land in lieu of houses.

Q - Do figures take into account new housing developments?.

A - Yes

Q - (From Chair) Including 400 new homes at St James/St Mary's

A - Education Committee is aware of needs.

Q - How does the school size and acreage compare with ALNS?

A - ALNS is a larger site for 900 places - St Mary's is for 1000 places

Q - What will be the traffic impact of the proposed school?

A - City Engineers are in consultation process

Q - Where are the detailed plans?

A - Not available yet. Land deal currently being negotiated for.

Q - Can places for Milton children be guaranteed (multiple requests)?

A - Cllr Blair repeatedly stated that the school will meet the needs of the S.E. of the city.

Concern expressed from the floor in respect of the proximity of Mill House to the proposed school. Cllr Blair stated that the Council are aware and will consider the matter when the time comes. The new school will be included for regular updates at future Forums In closing the meeting Janice extended our thanks to all the speakers.

Locks Sailing Club

Locks Sailing Club was founded in 1907 at the South Western corner of Langstone Harbour, next to the sheltered Eastney Lake by local fishermen racing their boats for pleasure. It has concentrated on racing and the promotion of the sport of sailing at a minimum cost to members for over 90 years. The club compound at 6 Longshore way (an extension of Locksway Road) is tucked in between private houses and the shore, providing space for 55 dinghies many of which are involved in the racing programme, which includes an autumn and sometimes a winter series. Active dinghy racing members are especially welcome and you will find no shortage of racing opportunities to hone your skills.

There is a junior programme during the summer introducing the cadet members and children of members to sailing and racing techniques, run by qualified and very experienced members and a Junior regatta held every year with its own trophy presentation.

We also have a cruiser section and let out 40 cruiser moorings in Eastney lake. Throughout the summer months they sail to varied local destinations and often across the channel to meet up for fun gatherings. They also take part in local racing events and regattas.

The Locks Sailing Club is a friendly family club which can offer something for every member of the family including , a swimming session at Eastney Swimming Pool every Saturday from 12 -1pm, regular Saturday quiz nights in the bar, a Fitting Out Supper. The Annual Prize giving Dinner and Dance, the regatta and barbecue, New years Eve Party and other social events.

We are a self help club with members volunteering and sharing bar duties, rescue boat duties and officer of the day, all of which is great fun.

We would like to invite anyone interested in dinghy racing to come along and meet us to find out more or phone the club on 01705 82983 or contact the secretary on 01705 735017

Christina Holden
Commodore Locks Sailing Club

Milton Village Community Association

Meon Road School
Shelford Road
Milton, Southsea
Telephone: 830040

Milton Village Hall
Milton Road
Southsea, P04 8PR
Telephone: 873788

Contact Person: Allison Udy, The Administrator
Telephone: 873788 between 9 am and 11 am for bookings and enquiries

All correspondence should be addressed to Milton Village Hall

Opening Hours: Daily, from 9 am to 10 pm
(Available for hire during this period)

Toddler's Groups:

Pre-School Group - Mums & Toddlers Groups - Messy Tots

Junior & Youth Groups:

After-School Club - Cubs - Beavers - Judo - Scouts - Yoga

Adult & Senior Groups:

Keep Fit - Centre football team training - Weightwatchers - Slimming World
Milton Neighbourhood Forum - Senior Citizens Club - Yoga - Disabled Club
Amateur Winemakers Circle - Co-op Women's Guild
Fratton Park Resident's Association

Facilities & Resources:

Both halls are available for private hire for up to 100 people
Garden area & barbecue facilities available at Milton Village Hall
Alcohol is permitted but cannot be purchased on site
Kitchen facilities available in both halls
Milton Village Hall is wheelchair-accessible, with wheelchair-accessible toilet
Photocopying facilities available at Milton Village Hall

The Community Association manages the all-weather sports facilities in
Milton Park, available for tennis, football training etc.
These have floodlighting for winter months.
Contact the Administrator on 873788

WANT TO GROW YOUR OWN?

Milton has a large number of allotments and a tradition of making good use of the City Council's plots situated off Locksway Road, divided into three areas - Hope Cottage, Milton Piece and Eastney Lake. The Council rents out the plots at £3.30 per rod per year and plot sizes are either 5 rod or 10 rod. Portsmouth's rents are very low compared to neighbouring areas. For this you get a new plot sprayed with Roundup to clear the weeds and any rubbish on the site is removed. You do have to dig the plot yourself but it could be the exercise you are looking for!

A 5 rod plot is ideal if you are just thinking of starting out to grow your own vegetables. For £16.50 per year you can have enough ground to produce potatoes, onions, peas, runner beans, cabbages, sprouts, carrots, swedes, all cultivated under your control so you know what has gone into their production. If you move to a larger plot you can include fruit, sweetcorn, tomatoes, cauliflowers, broccoli, french beans, and specialist crops like asparagus or early salads under cloches. The allotments have new secure fencing to control access to the site.

There is a thriving and active allotment shop on site open Tuesday and Sunday mornings, selling seeds, organic fertilisers, surplus plants, tools and offering hire of shared power tools. There is always someone on the plots or in the shop willing to give you advice and tell you what you should be planting and what will grow well. The Eastney and Milton Allotment Association holds a super show each September selling surplus produce and reasonably priced equipment and of course, showing the best vegetables.

So why not give it a try. There are some plots not taken. Phone Sally Jones Portsmouth 834175 at the Civic Offices. She will give you prices of the reductions for the over 60", shed hire and an allotment pack if you take out a plot.

COMPETITION

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT MILTON COMMON?

ARE YOU UNDER 16?

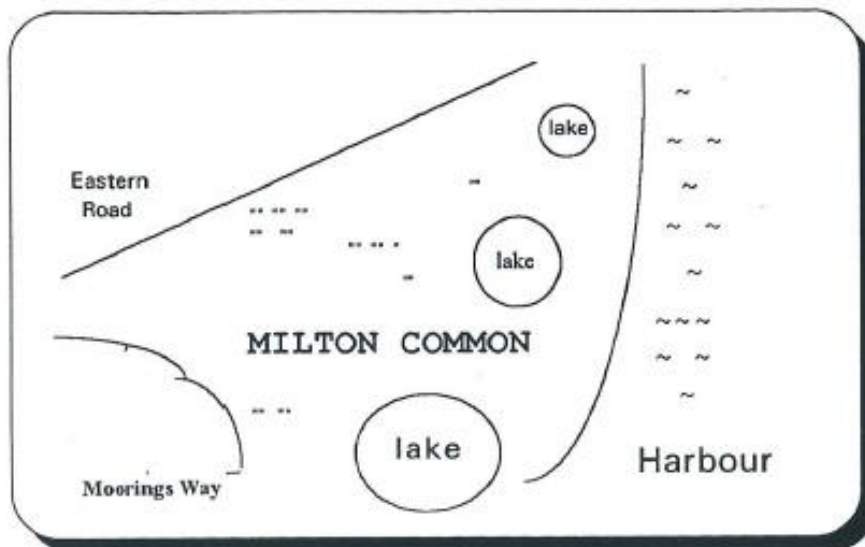
DO YOU WALK OR BIKE ON THE COMMON ?

CAN YOU ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT THE WILDLIFE THERE?

Here is a simple quiz. All the answers can be found on the Common.
Put your answers in order on a sheet of paper with your name, address and age, and send it to the Freepost address on the back of this magazine by June 16th.

The correct replies will be entered into a prize draw and the answers published next month.

- 1) What are the names of the 3 lakes on the Common?
- 2) Which birds of prey are regularly seen there?
- 3) What food do the birds of prey eat?
- 4) What is Tettigonia Viridissima?
- 5) Which bird catches eels on the lakes?
- 6) Whose tadpoles hatch in June?
- 7) Name 3 types of fork-tailed birds found in Summer on the Common?
- 8) Which butterfly feeds on the nextar of Bramble flowers?
- 9) Who may you find sunbathing on the Common?
- 10) Who drew the pictures of wildlife on the Common?
- 11) Milton Common was created by tipping household waste from Portsmouth on the mudlands called Milton Lake.
When did this reclamation end?
- 12) How did Moorings Way get its name?



MILTON NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

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Please Contact
Any Forum Rep or Ward Cllr
for More
Information or Assistance