

## The Mayor Dedicates the Anchor Garden

Friday 25th November saw the Mayor of Gosport Councillor Chris' Carter, accompanied by the Mayoress Mrs Julia Carter cut the ribbon to celebrate the completion of the Anchor Garden project in Hardway.

The Mayor paid tribute to all who have been involved in bringing the project forward, the pupils of St John's School who designed the garden, the volunteers from 'Explosion' Museum of Naval Firepower who cleaned and painted the anchor and Barratts Homes Ltd who generously funded the work carried out by Groundwork Solent.

The project was conceived by the ward Councillor Roger

Allen in company with Councillor Peter Langdon who described the finished Garden as a fitting monument to Hardway's nautical heritage. Hardway will be identified with and can be proud of the Anchor Garden that does make a bold and lasting statement for the ward.

The children of St John's School who attended the ceremony were thrilled by the appearance of Billy Barratt who afterwards toured the school.



## Caroline Dinenage MP Working For Gosport at Westminster

With the winter nights drawing in, the Christmas spirit is certainly in the air. I can't wait to return to Gosport to await the arrival of Father Christmas, but I thought I'd give you a quick update first about all the things I've been doing over the past few months.

I've continued to work hard to highlight the great potential of our area. I held a debate in Parliament calling on the Government to help businesses in the South-East, and brought Ministers to the constituency to ensure we get our fair share of support. It was fantastic to hear that all the hard work paid off, as the Daedalus site was designated as an Enterprise Zone. Soon after that announcement came the news that 4 Solent LEP Regional Growth Fund bids have succeeded, including one on the Daedalus site. This is great news for job creation and enterprise, as we move closer to establishing a centre for marine and aviation excellence on the site.



I have also maintained my support for the long-running campaign to honour the Arctic Convoy Veterans. These brave men faced bitterly cold and dangerous conditions to keep the supply line open in WWII. The recent Remembrance Day commemorations reminded me how important it is to secure the recognition they deserve before it is too late, and I've secured a debate on this in Parliament to call for urgent action.

The needs of the current day Armed Forces have also been at the forefront my mind over the past few months. I recently had the enormous privilege of travelling to Camp Bastion with a Parliamentary delegation. It was hugely rewarding to learn more about the duties of our courageous forces out in Afghanistan – and meet some constituents who were serving out there. Being exposed to the demanding conditions our troops have to endure reaffirmed my commitment to stand up for their best interests in Parliament.

Another vital issue for thousands of my constituents is education. I recently held a meeting with head teachers from across the area to discuss how the reforms are affecting them. Though my ongoing tour of local schools has shown me how many fantastic teachers and schools we have, I know that there is still work to do to ensure all children in the constituency get the best education possible.

I'm also working to address the ongoing issue of congestion around the constituency. As well as supporting the new BRT system, I've teamed up with Hampshire County Council to promote liftsharing. They run an excellent website - <http://hants.liftshare.com/> - where you can find people on your route – saving you money and taking cars off the road.

Additionally, I supported a debate in Parliament that urged the Government to tackle fuel prices. It's fantastic that the Chancellor listened and decided to freeze fuel duty – now it's time to look why oil companies continue to enjoy huge profits while hardworking families and businesses suffer!

Finally, another high profile vote in the Commons recently was on whether we should have a Referendum on our membership of the EU. Virtually without exception the sizeable postbag I receive on this issue is strongly in favour of giving the people a say in our relationship with Europe. This is why, with a heavy heart, I voted against the Government and in favour of the Referendum.

All that remains now is to wish you a Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for the New Year!

# What's On Dates for your Diary

## Come and join us at Priddy's Hard as we celebrate Christmas at Explosion Museum.

In the run up to Christmas this year, the Museum will be FREE for Gosport Residents. That's right, from the 17<sup>th</sup> of December right through until Christmas Eve, we will be completely free to all Gosport Residents. What's more, why not get really into the spirit of the season and participate in one of our daily special events, all with a festive theme.



**Please Note (Residents must provide evidence of residency on arrival to enable free entry. A council tax or utility bill highlighting your Gosport address or Postcode will be sufficient.)**



With Christmas card making, storytelling, Re-enactments and Music, everyday has a festive feel at Explosion.

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Carol Concert in the Grand Magazine, Tickets £1.00, 3pm start. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> – Find the Reindeer / Christmas Card Making in the Coffee Shop.

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> - Find the Reindeer / Christmas Card Making in the Coffee Shop.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Carol and Dickens Characters populate Museum galleries.

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> – Find the Reindeer / Christmas Card Making in the Coffee Shop.

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> – Festival Players recreate a Victorian Christmas in the Magazine, and a Wartime Christmas in our Locker Room.

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Find the Reindeer / Christmas Card Making in the Coffee Shop. (plus a special visit from the Surestart Bus)

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Find the Reindeer / Christmas Card Making in the Coffee Shop.

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> – AM only – Presents with Santa in our special grotto.

## Western Wards New Year Supper. Special Guest - Caroline Dinéage MP

At the Boulson Hall, St Faith's Church, LOS

Saturday 14th January 2012

7pm for 7.30

Dress:- Lounge suit, smart casual

Tickets are limited so get yours now

Price £15.00 from Stephen Duncan-Brown 023 92 552325  
Jennifer Evans 023 92 550640

Cottage Pie with a pud' plus a glass of wine.  
There will be a cash bar and of course, don't forget the raffle.  
Donated prizes will be appreciated

[www.gosportconservatives.com](http://www.gosportconservatives.com)



# Gosport Conservative Club

**MONDAY EVENING 8:00pm TEXAS HOLD 'EM POKER**

**TUESDAY EVENING 8-8:30pm LEAGUE CRIB**

**WEDNESDAY EVENING 8:30pm BINGO**

**THURSDAY EVENING 7:00 - 11:00 HAVE A DRINK & A CHAT**

**FRIDAY EVENING 8:30pm 'GAMBLE NIGHT'**  
(11:30pm Bar open)

**SATURDAY LUNCHTIME RAFFLE**

**SATURDAY EVENING 8:30pm 'FREE' LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**  
(Bar open 11:30pm)

**SUNDAY EVENING 8:30pm BINGO**

DO YOU LIKE 'SNOOKER' WE HAVE  
THREE MATCH SIZE SNOOKER TABLES  
IN A PRIVATE SNOOKER ROOM

JOIN THE CLUB AND JOIN IN THE FUN



## Club Open Day

**Date: 11:00am on Saturday, 17th December 2011**

**All are very welcome including non members to an open day at the Gosport Conservative Club, Walpole Road, Gosport.**

**The club is open from 11am until midnight to welcome you and offer you the hospitality that they offer daily to their members.**

**Come along sample the fare and tour the premises soak up the atmosphere. You may decide that you would like to become a member.**



## Conservatives Deliver Good Value for Money - it's official!

That's the verdict of the Audit Commission, the public spending watchdog. They have praised the Conservative administration for making "tough decisions made in the face of budget cuts this year". In its annual report into the council's finances the Audit Commission has given Gosports Conservative run administration a stamp of approval. They said: "Officers and political leaders have taken tough decisions and acted promptly to address the financial challenges faced by the council. It has made good progress in delivering savings".

Remember, all this has been achieved by a Conservative team with the right skills and commitment working together while the other parties are fighting each other and amongst themselves. Recent press reports have revealed that the infighting has even descended to physical violence. With a Conservative majority in Gosport's town hall for the first time in 20 years, the progress made speaks for itself.

### Why Not Join Us ?

Would you like to consider joining Gosport's Conservative Association and the Conservative Party nationally? For as little as £5.00 you can become a registered supporter or a full member of the party for £25.00, with full voting rights. Either way your help will be greatly appreciated and you will join a winning team.

If you want to know more, details can be obtained from;

Gosport Conservative Association, 167, Stoke Road, Gosport, Hants, PO12 1SE.

Tel: 023 92 588400.

Email: [office@goscons.plus.com](mailto:office@goscons.plus.com)



[www.gosportconservatives.com](http://www.gosportconservatives.com)

## Gosport Council's Economic Development Strategy – The engine to drive forward Business Growth & Community Regeneration.

Councillor Michael Lane  
Chairman of the Economic  
Development Board

There have been plenty of challenges and some important opportunities in the last eighteen months and the next year will be full of the same, as your Council seeks to maximise the value to the community delivered for every tax pound spent. Whilst we sustain the most needed services supporting Gosport's Council Tax payers week by week, we need also to plan for the future. This is where the Economic Development effort is targeted. We, your Council, aim to realise the opportunities in Gosport that will create a future that is vibrant and economically sustainable for all those who work and live in the Borough.

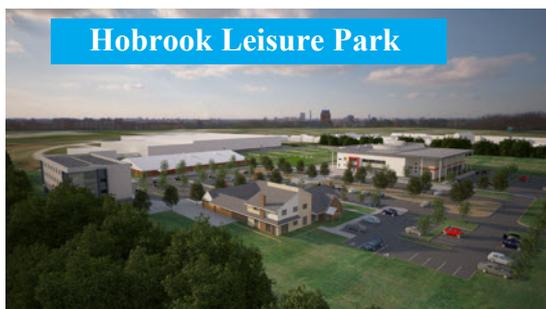


Over the last year we have made some significant progress. This is what others say about us and importantly it is being said by those who can be our partners in the public sector and also, importantly, in the private sector. Partnership is a key theme and policy of the Council. Our track record of delivery demonstrates that we do more than talk - we deliver as a good partner.

I hope everyone will have heard about the continuing progress with the Rowner Renewal project and have seen how good planning and partnership have kept this project on track despite the economic downturn. The first residents have now moved into new,



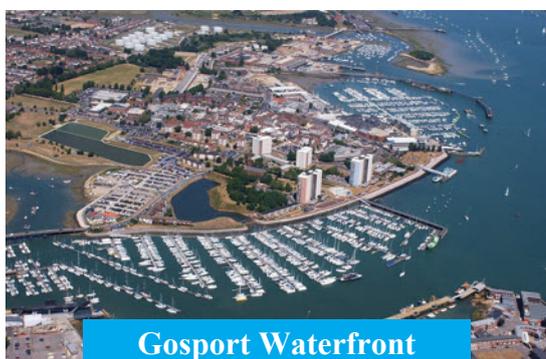
**BRT - On Track**



**Hobrook Leisure Park**

modern and efficient homes. I trust you will have seen, and many of you used, the new ferry pontoon. BRT nears completion and will help ease some traffic flows and make travel times more reliable. And this effort will be supported by work that is now agreed and funded to improve Newgate Lane. You can read

something about Daedalus from Cllr John Beavis over the page, but it is a major success to have fought for and been awarded a Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) with a focus on jobs and emphasis on Marine, Aerospace and advanced manufacturing. To additionally win a Regional Growth Fund award demonstrates how your Council has fought for Gosport and made compelling arguments about both our need and potential for the future.



**Gosport Waterfront**

However well we have done over the last year, we will not be resting on any laurels we deserve. We have created a long-term plan for Gosport – one that joins up all the parts of the jigsaw to show partners the clear and wide range of potential here in the Borough. We have made progress about Daedalus' future, we have progressed plans for the Waterfront, the new Gosport Leisure Park at Holbrook will be delivered next year and we are

working hard to influence and ensure a sensitive and appropriate use for the Haslar Hospital site. This is all important and hard work that your Council has in hand. We understand the real economic issues that we all face, but we have ambition for a more prosperous Gosport and a strategy for making this happen. As Chairman of Economic Development, I hope you will want to join me and my Councillor colleagues in this journey.



**ROWNER RENEWAL - ALVER VILLAGE**

## Conservatives Working for Gosport

[www.gosportconservatives.com](http://www.gosportconservatives.com)

## Daedalus Airfield becomes an Enterprise Zone Councillor John Beavis MBE

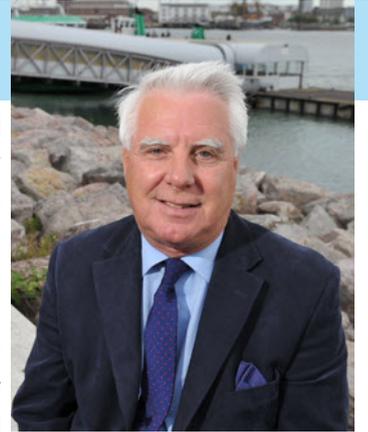
The Solent Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) came into being 1 Apr 11; it will take over fully from SEEDA by Apr 12 in order to give greater local autonomy over local projects such as Daedalus. The Home & Communities Agency (HCA) has taken ownership of SEEDA assets in Daedalus.

**Daedalus Airfield declared an Enterprise Zone.** In August 2011 the Government announced that the Daedalus site will be an Enterprise Zone. One of the key objectives of Enterprise Zones is to allow areas with real potential to



create significant new business and employment opportunities to deliver benefits across a wider area. Key measures include lower tax levels and the potential for simplified planning measures such as a Local Development Order. A Local Development Order (LDO) is a simple tool to allow a Local Planning Authority to introduce new permitted development rights. They are flexible and consistent with local determination, and are part of a move to remove bureaucracy and redefine the issues where planning really makes a

contribution to the local area. LDOs are a means for the planning system to incentivise development in a way that meets a whole range of locally specific policy objectives. However there will be parts of the site or types of development that cannot be covered by an LDO and consequently a planning application will need to be submitted in the normal way. This includes development that affects listed building and their setting; or types of development that could have a significant impact on internationally important habitats. It is hoped to have the final Supplementary Planning Document (SDP) & Local Development Orders (where appropriate) in place by late Spring / Summer 12.



## Haslar (Our Enterprise)

Planning applications for the Haslar site including the Veterans' Village and medical services are expected in early 2012

In these trouble economic times Gosport's Conservative councillors are nevertheless working hard for the future of our town and our community. With more than half the workforce having to find employment outside of our borough, improving the local economy is

our prime concern. Many plans in addition to those already mentioned are in place and being acted upon, such as the completion of the superb Alver Valley Country Park, continued regeneration in Priddy's Hard Heritage Area, £5m re-alignment of Newgate Lane with a new cycleway and traffic control measures to reduce congestion. Already we have seen the completion of the new highly acclaimed ferry pontoon, but there is still much to do and with everyone working together, prosperity in an improved environment can be achieved for us all.



**With your support we can make continued progress,  
providing strong leadership and the determination to do the best for Gosport.**

## Our need for affordable energy can't be met by wind farms and solar panels says Peter Langdon.

Solar panels will blight a third of the countryside if Britain relies on them to meet its energy needs. Vast swathes of countryside would have to be built on in order for the country to meet the renewable energy target set by energy minister Chris Huhne (who seems to be living in another world).

The problem with renewable energy is that it is "inherently diffuse". This means a huge amount of land is needed to generate significant amounts of power. If a country opted for solar power to "dominate" its energy supply, it would need to cover a third of the land in solar panels.

Regarding wind energy, even if 10% of the country was covered with wind turbines it would generate only a eighth of the nation's energy needs and this only when the wind is blowing. Offshore wind energy is prohibitively expensive.

**Whatever mix of renewables you take, the total land area occupied by renewable energy sources to supply today's lifestyle would be about half the UK.**

For households considering PV solar panels on their roofs, the recent very sensible decision to halve the "Feed in Tariff" means that the return on investment in these panels is now likely to exceed 35 years, by which time the panels may have exceeded their useful life by a decade. And it needs to be remembered that your energy bills are already 20% higher to subsidise these schemes than they otherwise would be. Solar energy won't warm your home on a cold Winter's evening!

During the long spell of cold last winter the UK's 2,500 windmills produced a bare 2% of the country's energy needs. You can't store electricity economically.

The levelised cost in pounds per megawatt-hour of generation resources in 2016 are estimated to be:

Conventional coal	60.5
Natural Gas	70
Advanced Nuclear	74
Wind	93
Wind Offshore	119
Solar PV	247

This shows just how expensive 'green' energy is. It is even more expensive than this because conventional plant still has to be built and on standby to cater for the times when the sun doesn't shine and/or the wind is not blowing.

When the world's oil reserves decline we will need 30% more energy to replace that which drives the country's transport. Biofuel replaces food crops, hence there is conflict. The future for transport, I am convinced, lies with hydrogen fuel cells. Battery driven transport is useless for reason of weight and battery charging times. Electricity does not like being stored. Nuclear power can provide the quantities of electricity needed to produce hydrogen.

As oil reserves decline, only Nuclear power and gas (of which there are at least a hundred years of reserves globally) and the UK's shale gas (where there are estimated to be sufficient reserves to fill the gap until new nuclear power stations have been built) can satisfy the country's energy needs. That is where the Government should be investing and doing so with urgency. If we try to rely on solar, wind and the insignificant amounts of energy that can be extracted from tide, wave, geothermal and biomass, we will all face a very bleak future.

If we continue to go down the renewables route without the rest of the world doing the same, we will well and truly price ourselves out of the world's markets. That would be disastrous for the UK bearing in mind the present world and EU economic climate. Who will buy a UK built item if the energy cost to make it causes the selling price to be far higher than the competition?

And finally, taking a view about global warming gases, The UK's contribution is a mere 2.5% of world production, this less than that which passes from both ends of the world's cows and population. If the UK stopped generating CO2 altogether the global effect would be insignificant. However, that does not mean we should not make every attempt to conserve fossil fuels, these being finite, but I suggest, only by means that are economically sensible to implement, such as home insulation.

Yet to be determined is whether or not Global Warming by man is the greatest delusion in history. That, however, is another story!



Wishing you all  
A Very Happy Christmas  
And all that you would wish for  
In the new year



From all at  
The Gosport  
Conservatives  
Association

