

Fareham Today

Spring 2014

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www.fareham.gov.uk/farehamtoday

Your magazine from **FAREHAM**
BOROUGH COUNCIL

A message from the Executive Leader of Fareham Borough Council, Councillor Seán Woodward

2014 promises to be a very busy year for Fareham Borough Council and an exciting one for the Borough. There will be important commemorations to mark the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War in 1914 and the 70th anniversary of D-Day. We will also have the public inquiry into plans for the community of Welborne and the remainder of the new Local Plan. Meanwhile we are pressing ahead with work to enhance the Solent Enterprise Zone at Daedalus where we will be resurfacing the runway, building new hangars and a business innovation centre specialising in companies involved with the aviation, aerospace and marine industries.

Listening to your views is the best way for us to make sure that we provide you, our customers, with the best services we can. We are always listening and there are lots of ways that you can tell us what you think about our services and the local issues that matter to you.

For example, we recently sent out Residents' Surveys to over 4,000 randomly selected homes in the Borough. In it we asked a range of questions to see how satisfied residents were with the services that we provide. The results show that we've come a long way in the last few years and the already high satisfaction levels have risen across nearly all of our services since the last survey in 2011. The work of the Community Safety Partnership has seen a particularly big increase in satisfaction rates. It's also good to see that people are much happier with the work we do to keep you up to date with what the Council is doing and what's going on in and around the Borough.

We are not only interested in hearing your views when we send out the Residents' Survey every other year. The Council wants to hear your views every



year, all year round. A growing number of people are signing up to our E-Panel, which lets you take part in a range of consultations and gives you feedback on surveys you've taken part in. More and more residents are also using our Fareham Facebook page and our Twitter feed @FarehamBC to keep up-to-date with what's going on in the Borough. They are also a great way to let us know if there is an issue we can help you out with. You can find out more about these via the Council's 'Have your say' webpage www.fareham.gov.uk/haveyoursay.

Finally, I would like to remind you that I welcome any suggestions or ideas on how to improve the Borough and promise that every suggestion will be carefully considered. I look forward to hearing from you.

Seán Woodward

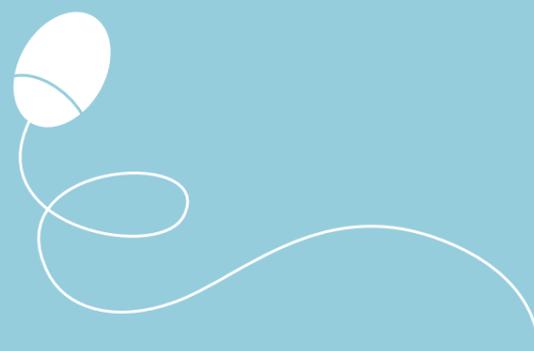
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Join our e-panel and help improve services!

If you live in the Borough and are aged 18 or over, you can comment on topics relating to Fareham Borough Council and our partners online. Just click on the e-panel link on www.fareham.gov.uk/consultations



An audio version of this magazine is available on www.fareham.gov.uk/farehamtoday

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Designed by www.starfishdesign.co.uk • Printed by Bishops Printers Ltd on paper from sustainable forests 023 92 334900

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What the new Innovation Centre may look like.



All change at Daedalus

These are exciting times for the Solent Enterprise Zone at Daedalus. Fareham is working with the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership, Gosport Borough Council and Hampshire County Council to turn it into a world class site for the aerospace, aviation and marine industries.

Two of the largest developments taking place at Daedalus over the next year are the building of the Centre of Excellence for Advance Engineering Skills Training (CEMAST) and a new Innovation Centre (subject to planning permission).

CEMAST – Opening Autumn 2014

Fareham College's CEMAST will offer students the very best industry standard learning environment. CEMAST will have training spaces for over 600 students and up to 200 apprentices a year, who will have access to state of the art engineering workshops, teaching classrooms and a learning resource centre. The centre will help to give students the skills they need to meet the needs of businesses in the aeronautical and marine industries.

The Innovation Centre – Due to open Spring 2015

This cutting edge Innovation Centre is designed to help stimulate new business start-ups in the aerospace, aviation and marine industries. Housed in a new custom designed building, the centre will have office space and workshop facilities to rent and aims to create around 150 new jobs.

The centre will be located next to CEMAST. This is to ensure a close relationship between the College and the businesses based at the Innovation Centre.

What else is going on?

Fareham is working with its partners to make improvements to the runway and build new hangar space in the near future.

Want to find out more?

You can find out more about CEMAST at www.fareham.ac.uk and the general developments at Daedalus at www.fareham.gov.uk and www.solentez.co.uk



'We are one!'

In January, Portchester's new community centre celebrated its first birthday. During its first year the centre has welcomed over 600 users a week, and is now home to 28 regular groups. Facilities include a brand new multi-purpose hall, meeting rooms, pre-school, kitchen and gardens. It's a far cry from the old community centre which dated back to the 1960s and had become unfit for use.

The £2m funding for the new centre was jointly provided by Fareham Borough Council and Hampshire County Council. Fareham Borough Council consulted with the local community about what they wanted the centre to be like, and commissioned and oversaw the project. The design and construction of the centre was managed by the County Council.

Lucy Redfern, who co-manages the centre with Jane Gillespie, said:

"It's been such a successful first year - we have loved seeing the centre so well used by the local community, old and young. It was great that so many residents came along to help us celebrate at our 'first birthday' party earlier this year. The centre is the perfect setting for all occasions,

from wedding receptions and children's birthday parties, to keep fit and baby groups. The rooms can accommodate up to 250 people and staff and volunteers are always on hand to help!"

The centre hosts regular mum and baby groups, tea dance sessions and a literacy group. Other regular activities on offer include pilates, zumba, ballroom dancing, indoor bowls and new age kurling. Visitors are also welcome to pop in for refreshments throughout the week, with seating in the reception area and garden.

On **Sunday 6 July 2014 (10.30am – 2.30pm)** the centre will be hosting its second free family fun day with activities including bouncy castle, wrestling demonstrations and face painting.

If you would like further information about forthcoming events or room hire please go into the centre, call 023 9232 1787, visit www.portchestercommunitycentre.co.uk or www.facebook.com/portchestercommunitycentre

Portchester Community Centre
Westlands Grove, Portchester, Fareham PO16 9BD



Events for your diary

Fareham Monday Market
Every Monday, 9am–2pm,
Henry Cort Pedestrian Area

March

-  **Mayor's Charity Tea Party** (Fareham in Bloom by Matt Wakefield), Thursday 6 March, 2:30pm, Mayor's Parlour, Civic Offices
-  **Fareham Country Market**, Friday 14 March, 9am–3pm, Henry Cort Pedestrian Area
-  **Fareham Country Market**, Saturday 29 March, 9am–3pm, Henry Cort Pedestrian Area

April

-  **Music Month**, Various days 12noon – 2pm, various locations within town centre
-  **Mayor's Charity Tea Party** (Bob Ellis's life in The Arab Emirates), Thursday 3 April, 2:30pm, Mayor's Parlour, Civic Offices
-  **Fareham Farmers' Market**, Saturday 5 April, 9am–2pm, Henry Cort Pedestrian Area
-  **Remember**, Thursday 10 April, a free workshop to commemorate World War One with the sowing of a wild flower meadow, Holy Trinity Church open space, West Street, Fareham.
-  **The Great Easter Egg Hunt** ('The Magical Wood'), Saturday 12 April, start 12.00 noon with phased entry times until last entry at 4.00pm. Meet at Holly Hill Woodland Park, Barnes Lane, Sarisbury Green. £5.50 per child.
-  **Fareham Country Market**, Friday 11 April, 9am–3pm, Henry Cort Pedestrian Area
-  **Fareham Country Market**, Saturday 26 April, 9am–3pm, Henry Cort Pedestrian Area

May

-  **Fareham Farmers' Market**, Saturday 3 May, 9am–2pm, Henry Cort Pedestrian Area
-  **Fareham Country Market**, Friday 9 May, 9am–3pm, Henry Cort Pedestrian Area
-  **Fareham Gardeners' Fairs**, Saturday 10 May and Saturday 14 June, 9am–3pm, West Street, Fareham
-  **British Owls** – More than just wilt (wool) Thursday 29 May, 10am–11am, 11.30am–12.30pm and 2.00pm–3.00pm, Westbury Manor Museum, West Street, Fareham, £6, price includes a guide to owls and what they eat.
-  **Fareham Country Market**, Saturday 31 May, 9am–3pm, Henry Cort Pedestrian Area

June

-  **Fareham Farmers' Market**, Saturday 7 June, 9am–2pm, Henry Cort Pedestrian Area
-  **Fareham Gardeners' Fair**, Saturday 14 June, 9am–3pm, West Street, Fareham
-  **Fareham Country Market**, Friday 13 June, 9am–3pm, Henry Cort Pedestrian Area
-  **Going wild... again**, Thursday 19 June, 1.00pm, a talk on British and European wild flowers with free seeds and botanical art. Allotment Road recreation ground, Allotment Road, Sarisbury. Free with cold drinks provided.
-  **Fareham Country Market**, Saturday 28 June, 9am–3pm, Henry Cort Pedestrian Area

 **Park events** can be booked by contacting Fareham Tourist Information Centre: Tel: 01329 221342 Email: farehamtic@tourismse.com

 **Town Centre events** – for further information please contact the Town Centre Manager, on 01329 824474

 **Fareham's Independent Farmers Market** – Locally reared produce

 **Fareham Traditional Open Market**

 **Fareham Country Market**

 **Mayor's Charity Tea Parties** – For further details please contact the Mayor on 01489 577772

Meet the Mayor

The Mayor of Fareham, Cllr Susan Bayford, will hang up her mayoral chain of office at the end of May and a new Mayor will be appointed. We asked Susan about her year in office:



running in the London Marathon in April in aid of The Rainbow Centre. If you'd like to make a donation you can do so via Peter's fundraising page at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/PeterGrimwood>

What has been the biggest challenge of the role?

Managing my busy diary! It would be nice to be able to attend every event I'm invited to but that's just not possible. People may not be aware that I'm also still a councillor for the Locks Heath Ward with local duties to attend to, and a mother and grandmother! It would be nice to have a few extra hours in the day but I consider myself very fortunate to have had the opportunity to represent the people of Fareham as their Mayor!

What has been your highlight?

It's impossible to choose one thing – I've been to so many great events. But to name a few – it was really exciting to cut the ribbon on the new Broadlaw Walk Community space in the summer. I also had the honour of launching Fareham as Hampshire's first dementia friendly High Street in the autumn.

I have been privileged to meet many wonderful people in the community and I have really enjoyed attending their events and meetings. I was delighted to entertain the Citizens of Honour in the Mayor's Parlour. It's also been a real pleasure to meet volunteers from my three mayoral charities and those who benefit from their hard work, many of them with inspiring stories.

Tell us more about your work with those charities...

I've worked with three charities that are very close to my heart – The Rainbow Centre for Adult Rehabilitation, The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity and RDA Tradissar (Riding for the Disabled).

I would like to thank the guest speakers who have helped raise money for these causes by attending my tea parties and lunches at Portchester Parish Hall. I must also give special thanks to Fareham Borough Council's Chief Executive Officer, Peter Grimwood, who will be

And your husband, Brian, is your consort...

Brian was Mayor in 2010/11 so it has been very helpful to have his advice and experience to draw on. He has been very supportive and we have both enjoyed the role reversal – well, I hope he has!!

Finally do you have any advice for Fareham's next Mayor?

Enjoy every minute – you only have a year in office, and it goes by too quickly! Also be prepared to roll your sleeves up; being Mayor can see you doing some unusual things. During my year, amongst numerous things, I have sat on a digger, ridden side saddle on a horse and met Peppa Pig!



Portchester Common Walk

Put some spring in your step

Walk Length approx 1 hour

During the spring months, Portchester Common opens up worlds of colour and spectacular views over the Solent – reaching from the Spinnaker Tower to Calshot. As you delve deeper, the wildlife emerges as beautiful orchids and meadows begin to show themselves.

Between the different areas on the walk, you'll be amazed by the diversity of not only the wildlife, but also the atmosphere, as you cross from the open common, into the enclosed and peaceful Anson Grove area, laden with arches and trails sprawling across the hill face.

Portchester Common

As you approach the common from the top of the hill via a kissing gate, the common immediately opens up in front of you, offering a spectacular view across the Solent which will take your breath away, and you can see as far as Calshot on a clear day. Other sights include the Spinnaker Tower, Portchester Castle and boats and yachts sailing in and out of Portsmouth Harbour and Port Solent. Mark Harrison-Jones, Countryside Ranger at Fareham Borough Council, said: "There are 86 species of wild flora within this small section of chalk grassland. Whilst the noise from the M27 can initially be distracting, it is very easy to become absorbed by the encompassing views and the sheer diversity of colour provided by the flora between late February and early October."

As you make your way down through the grassland and across the motorway via a footbridge, keep an eye out for the chalk lining the face of the hills, as we enter the next stage of our journey...



Anson Grove

The noise from the motorway soon fades upon entering the Anson Grove area, as you follow trails under sweeping archways across the hill. In the autumn months, blackberries can be found lining bushes along the pathways, as well as many seasonal flowers – including ivy flowers - later in the year, making it a great destination all year round. Upon following footpaths down the hill, the grove opens up revealing large patches of wild flower meadows that entwine and intersect to create sweeping mosaic patterns, which contain at least fourteen types of wild flower, and are host to many forms of wildlife and insect.

Following the path past the meadows will lead you to a spectacular patch of naturally occurring orchids, and when visiting during the spring months, they will provide you with vibrant bursts of diverse colours, as the flowers blossom. This is undoubtedly the highlight of the walk, and definitely makes coming to Anson Grove a necessity.

On your way back up towards the common, you will come across a stopping point with a bench, at which you can sit and stare out at the view through a convenient parting in the trees.



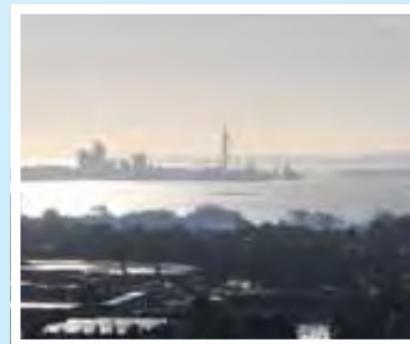
Butterfly Corridor

As its name suggests, this narrow path is the best place on the walk to spot butterflies, which are attracted to the many flowers that grow here. However, this path has great historical significance attached to it, as it was once used in the Victorian era as a narrow gauge railway. It's thought it was used to transport bricks from Bursledon Brickworks to many of the forts and buildings in the area that were built during this period.

It is during this stretch of the walk that you should keep your eyes peeled for a Walnut tree that sits within the treeline. As you head back to the start along the highest point of the route, make sure to take in the views one last time before heading home.

The Important Stuff

- Not accessible to wheelchairs or pushchairs
- Limited parking by entrance or slightly downhill from entrance
- Dog walking is permitted, including off lead
- No toilets on walk
- Nearest refreshments at Fort Nelson Café



Bringing People and Parks Together

Remember – World War One Commemorations

To commemorate the centenary of the First World War, a number of horticultural projects and community events will be organised this season.

The Holy Trinity Church in Fareham Town Centre is being re-landscaped with the addition of trees, red flower carpet rose beds, seating and a small meadow area, making for a fitting remembrance in a peaceful location. The works started last November and will be completed by July this year.



Meadows

Wild flower meadows have become a national phenomenon in recent years, capturing the hearts of people with their natural stunning beauty and the wild life benefits that come with them. The largest sown in Fareham last season was at Linden Lea in Portchester where it attracted much media attention and was loved by the local community, creating a stunning summer display.

To commemorate those lost in the First World War the project is being extended this year. More meadows will be planted, including at the QE2 recreation grounds at Bath Lane, Wicor, Allotment Road and Seaford Park, along with parks and highway locations.



This year, both annual and perennial mixes will be trialed from native and European species in a host of different colour combinations, with a special poppy and red themed mix sown at the Holy Trinity Church open space.

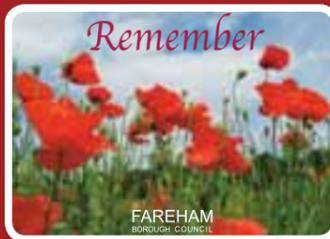
Meadow style planting can be a challenge with soil types, location and the weather affecting their success. To get our community sowing in their own gardens a free workshop will be held at the Holy Trinity Church open space at 1.30pm on Thursday 10 April when a horticulturist will be on hand to talk about the subject, and free seeds will be available.

For more information on remembrance seeds, Fareham in Bloom, horticulture and parks events please contact:

Matt Wakefield
Horticulture
Development Officer
Tel: 01329 824543

Flanders poppies

The Flanders Poppy is a symbol of remembrance and our residents can take part in their own personal commemoration as we have arranged for individual seed cards, each with its own small pack of poppy seeds, to be provided free at various locations within the Borough. The seed cards titled 'Remember' will be available from March. You'll be able to get yours at parks events, in garden centres, community centres, from the Civic Offices and Fareham Tourist Information Centre or on request.



Carry on Gardening

Community participation is at the heart of the Fareham in Bloom campaign, which some 19 years on, goes from strength to strength. An ever increasing number of residents, local community groups and businesses are now taking part.

Some of our participants have been supporting us since we began in 1996, and over the years we have been privileged to see some spectacular examples of horticultural excellence, which add to the beauty of the Borough.

We are particularly looking to encourage more business entries for 2014 and will be holding a workshop at St Margaret's Nurseries, Titchfield from 10am – 1.00pm on 17 May, when there will be demonstrations, help and advice. The first 120 to attend will receive a free Fuchsia plant, a 20% discount and refreshments.

The competition is open to all residents, schools and businesses within the Borough, with the entries judged during the second two weeks of July. The awards are based on individual merit from Bronze and Silver to Silver Gilt and Gold, with a presentation evening to be held in September at Ferneham Hall.

Each year we have a colour theme, and for 2014 this will be 'Colour in Contrast'. You will see this reflected in this season's floral displays, planters and baskets in a palette of red and maroon shades, and a little blue, all set against white, silver and lime green.

To enter, complete the application form and return it to:

Fareham Borough Council, Parks and Open Spaces,
FREEPOST, Fareham PO16 7BR no later than Saturday 14 June.

Fareham in Bloom Competition 2014

Please print in capitals

Name/Organisation

Address

Post code

Contact tel no.

Email

Allotment site (if applicable)

Plot number

Entries must be within the Borough of Fareham and visible from the front or side (except sections 3 & 5). You may enter a maximum of four categories in sections 1 – 4 or one category from sections 5 & 6.

Section 1

- 1a Small floral front garden under 70m²
- 1b Large floral front garden over 70m²
- 1c Courtyard/forecourt garden up to 15m²
- 1d Plantman's front garden – permanent planting schemes

Section 2

- 2 Hanging or wall basket
- 3 Container – window box / tub / etc.
- 4 Floral display, incl. balconies, using any baskets / containers
- 5 Unusual garden feature

Section 3

- 6a Small floral garden under 100m²
- 6b Large floral garden over 100m²
- 6c Small plantman's garden under 100m²
- 6d Large plantman's garden over 100m²
- 6e Wildlife back garden

Section 4

- 7a Allotment garden up to 5 rods
- 7b Allotment garden over 5 rods

Section 5

- 8a Local authority run warden assisted / sheltered residential home, complex or day care facility
- 8b Other warden assisted / sheltered residential home, complex or other housing services provider
- 9 Business premises, incl. public houses
- 10 Large commercial landscape
- 11 Community floral display – your street, cul-de-sac, community centre, public service area
- 12 School gardening projects

Please return to: Fareham Borough Council, Parks & Open Spaces, FREEPOST FM33, Fareham PO16 7BR by 14 June 2014

Photos may be taken at these events for promotional purposes and we need your permission to use them, either in our publications or on our website. Please sign here if this is acceptable.

..... Thank you

The personal information you provide will be treated with the strictest confidence and held for a period of no more than five years for the purpose of these activities, promotion of related events and the mailing of associated material. Should you not wish to receive such information, then please tick here

Out with the old In with the new

Construction work has begun on a brand new sheltered housing scheme in Fareham.

The development in Stow Crescent will see new purpose built accommodation for the over 60's, to replace the old facilities at Collingwood House, which dated back to the 1960s.

The scheme will include 40 apartments with a mix of one and two bedrooms, each with its own wet-room style shower room and outside terrace or balcony. There will also be a communal lounge, activity room and a storage area for mobility scooters. It will be set within landscaped gardens and open space for its residents to enjoy. The building will be re-named Collingwood Court.

In February, a dedication stone, in memory of former Mayor, Councillor and Alderman, Ernest Crouch (who died in November), was unveiled at Collingwood Court. Alderman Crouch was heavily involved in housing throughout his political life and previously held the role of Chairman of the Housing Committee and more recently Chairman of the Housing Tenancy Board.

This is the biggest capital project Fareham Borough Council has seen in more than 20 years. It is set to cost £5m, aided by £625,000 from the Homes and Communities Agency. The rest of the funding will come from the Council's Housing capital budget and will be repaid through tenant's rents. There won't be any impact on Council Tax.

Council tenants living in the old Collingwood House were moved to alternative accommodation throughout the Borough. Around 12 of the original tenants are planning to move back to the new scheme when it's completed. The other available apartments will be allocated to local older people and preference will be given to existing Council or Housing Association tenants who are under occupying family houses in the Borough.

One of the tenants who has been involved throughout the redevelopment process, Kenneth Atkins, said: "I'm more than impressed with the plans for the new building and I look forward to it being built."

The works are being carried out by contractors Leadbitter, part of the Bouygues group, who have a lot of experience of building similar schemes nationally. The scheme is due to be completed by January 2015.



Your unwanted clothes can help your local community!

Thinking of having a wardrobe clear out? Why not put your unwanted clothes in one of the Borough's blue textile recycling banks so they can benefit good causes?

Proceeds from your donations go to charities such as Hampshire Air Ambulance and the Salvation Army. Local community groups are also able to bid for a share of the proceeds through the Council's Community Fund.

Last year 262 tonnes of textiles were put in textile banks across the Borough. However it's estimated another 750 tonnes were simply thrown away with household waste! The blue textile banks can be used for all types of clothing, underwear, household textiles and shoes, plus accessories such as belts and hats. Even worn out items can be donated, as they can all be used.

A full list of our textile recycling banks can be found on our website www.fareham.gov.uk/recycling

Details of the community fund can be found at www.fareham.gov.uk/grants



Foxes – Friend or Foe?

The Red Fox, often referred to as the Urban Fox, has become a common sight in most British towns. Whilst many people enjoy seeing them, they can be a nuisance. Common complaints include digging, defecating, raiding bins or attacking pets. Some people also find their distinctive high pitched mating calls a nuisance. These practical tips can help prevent unwanted fox activity:

- Store rubbish securely – avoid leaving rubbish bags unprotected and ensure dustbin lids are closed
- Do not feed foxes as this will also encourage rats and increase fox numbers
- Always clear spilt food from bird feeders and wind fallen fruit
- Ensure foxes cannot get to food left for other wildlife or pets
- Fox proof any spaces under sheds and houses
- House all pets safely and securely day and night
- Use treatments to remove lawn pests such as crane fly larvae which foxes feed on
- Fill any holes in your garden where foxes have been digging – this stops them building dens
- Clear fox faeces, remembering to use gloves and wash your hands afterwards
- Treat your garden with taste or smell repellents to deter foxes – it is illegal to use poisonous substances

Fareham Borough Council pest control service cannot deal with foxes, however for further advice:

The Fox Project – 01892 545468 • www.foxproject.org.uk

The National Fox Welfare Society – 01933 411996 • www.nfws.org.uk

Five Fox Facts:

- Foxes breed once a year December – February with cubs born March/April
- The average litter size of the red fox is 4–5
- Urban fox cubs normally disperse 2–5 miles from their birth place
- The average life span of an urban fox is 18 months
- Fox populations are self-limiting and are influenced by availability of food and territory





BLACKBROOK HOUSE FAREHAM'S 'LITTLE DOWNTON'

You often hear the phrase 'if these walls could talk' and one place where this surely applies is Blackbrook House. This impressive grade 2 listed building, (just off the Avenue in Fareham), dates back to around 1782. When we went to have a look around, we found its rich architecture is only part of its fascination – the house has been part of countless individual life stories.



A GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

Blackbrook House was first occupied by the Barton family. It boasted 20 bedrooms and grounds spanning either side of The Avenue and as far as Gudge Heath Lane.

A long leafy drive leads you to the house which appears before you on the brow of the hill. A number of veteran oak trees stand guard in the surrounding gardens and the Blackbrook Spring runs alongside.

The cream Beaulieu brick from which the house is built was fashionable among manor houses in the area at the time. As you enter through the grand black front door, you pass into the main hall, where a wooden staircase sweeps past you on the right, and in front of you the wall curves out (this is part of the central oval shaped lounge). Many original features draw the eye; Georgian cornicing, curved glass in the restored sash windows, and original Georgian doors and plaster.

FOR SALE

During Victorian times, the house was owned by Colonel William Parker, who lived there with his family for 60 years. In 1880, he added the large extension and in 1912 he had the garage built. Blackbrook stayed in the Parker family until being put up for sale in 1928. It was listed at £14,000, which included wine vaults, butler's pantry, scullery, dairy, and photography dark room. It also came with 97 acres of land containing 3 cottages, stables and a farm building.

The house was taken into state ownership in the 1930s when it was requisitioned for use in the war effort.

MUMS

In 1950 Blackbrook House became a maternity hospital, and the first baby, Roger Pumphrey, was born there in April that year. The matron, nurses and midwives lived on site and in the early days the coal fired central heating had to be stoked during the night to keep it going.

Many women who spent time at Blackbrook described it as a haven of relaxation in those early days after childbirth. Michelle Bennett stayed there in 1993 with her newborn daughter: "Blackbrook was a lovely place to take my daughter when she was born. I'm pleased it has been restored and is being put to good use!"

Blackbrook Maternity Hospital was closed due to financial problems in 2009.



RESTORATION

In 2010 Blackbrook House was bought by local businessman, Stephen Press. At the time many of its historic features had been obscured. The house had also been vandalised during an illegal rave, and there was flooding in the cellar.

Mr Press, who has a background in the care profession, spearheaded its £1.3m refurbishment into the luxury care home it is today. The attention to detail that has gone into Blackbrook's revival (refurbishments took two and a half years to complete) is clear to see. Bricked up windows have been restored and new period style patio doors open out from the lounge to the lawn. The interior has been furnished in keeping with its Georgian origins, with period antiques, plush Axminster carpets and crystal chandeliers.

"I think of this place as the grand old lady of Fareham," says Stephen, "Blackbrook had always been a family home and we wanted to reflect that in its restoration. Our residents call the place 'Little Downton', I think they like the stately home feel it has."

Whilst we were looking around Blackbrook, a lady who herself was born there was being shown around as she was looking for somewhere for her elderly mother to live. This seemed to symbolise Blackbrook's own journey – from thriving Georgian mansion, to mother's sanctuary, to care home.



PINK ME UP BOUTIQUE

In the heart of Warsash, behind a tiny pink door, lies a haven of relaxation and pampering. Pink Me Up Boutique has been open for 9 months, offering clients a range of beauty treatments as part of their 'Pinkie Promise.' We spoke to 23 year old owner and manager, Jenna Sharpe:

What inspired you to set up your boutique?

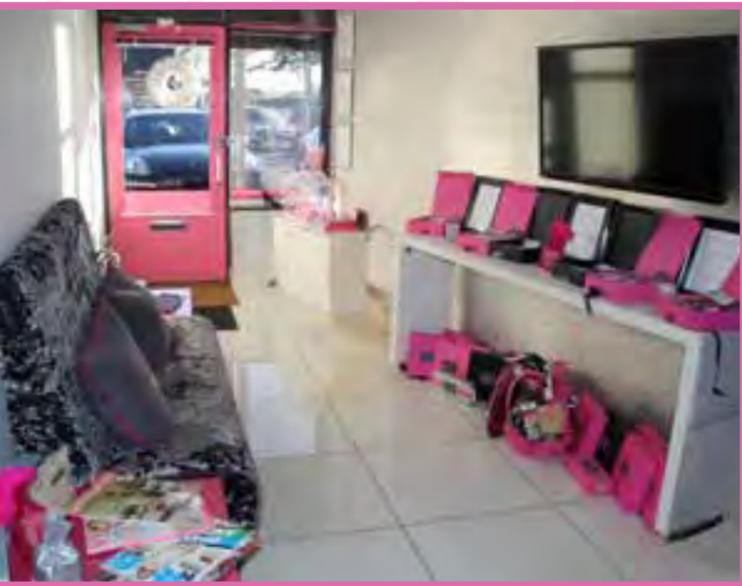
I lived in Dubai two years ago and the salons out there are a lot more glamorous, so I wanted to bring something like that back here, somewhere personal where clients are really getting a treat. We have an alcohol license too and customers like being able to relax with a glass of wine at the end of a long day. Our Pinkie Promise is that as soon as you walk through the door you release your stress, it's that 'ah' moment.

You're only 23, which is quite young to own a business, tell us more about how that happened?

I've had a lot of help and support from friends and family, and definitely could not do it alone! Warsash seemed to be missing a luxurious beauty salon and when a local shop became available it was the perfect opportunity! It took a while to get it arranged but we got there in the end and it all seemed to fall in to place like it was meant to be.

What is your most popular treatment and is there is a particular type of person who comes in?

Gelish nails are by far our most popular treatment. We have such a varied clientele, from younger ladies to more mature clients, all from different walks of life. The look and ethos of Pink Me Up Boutique is glamorous and luxurious, but our prices are competitive, so I think this appeals to all.



It's the 'Pink Me Up Boutique' but do you welcome men too?

We welcome both male and female clients – men deserve just as much grooming as us ladies (well, almost!) We think ladies appreciate it when men look after themselves, so for them it's a win-win situation! I think people are surprised when they come in as it's not as pink as they'd expect it to be. With the name 'Pink Me Up Boutique', you would expect it be pink everything, but really it's quite muted.

What are your future plans for Pink Me Up Boutique and why did you choose Warsash for it?

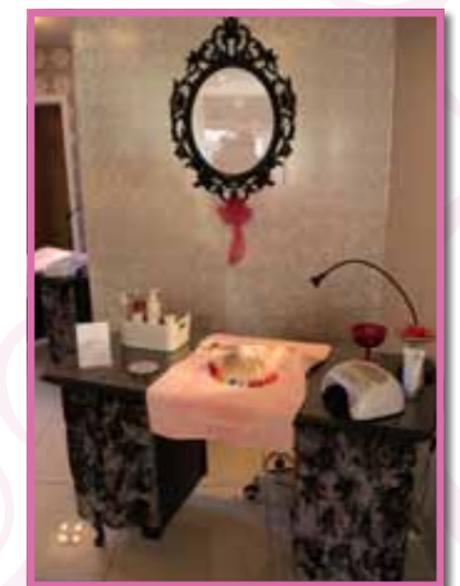
We hope to introduce further Pink Me Up Boutique Beauty Salons in other locations and grow the brand so that everyone can enjoy the Pink Me Up Boutique experience, not just in Warsash. Warsash has a great community feel and we are located in the heart of the village, central to our clients

And finally you actively fundraise for Breakthrough Breast Cancer, why did you choose to support this charity?

A family member had breast cancer a few years ago and was lucky enough to beat it. At Pink Me Up Boutique we wanted to be connected to a charity linked to cancer research and awareness. With the name being 'Pink Me Up', Breakthrough Breast Cancer with their pink ribbon seemed like a perfect fit. Our strap line is 'looking good, doing good, feeling good', so it's looking good with the beauty, doing good with the charity and overall you're feeling really good. It's been nice because a lot of clients come and share their personal stories with us.

Pink Me Up Boutique
7B Brook Lane, Warsash.

Opening hours:
Sunday and Monday closed,
Tuesdays and Fridays 9am-6pm,
Wednesdays 11am-9pm, Thursdays
10am-8pm, Saturdays 8:30am-4pm.



Residents' Survey

What you told us



What's the Residents' Survey?

Listening to your views is essential to the Council providing better services. That's why we send out a Residents' Survey every other year. In order to get an accurate picture of what our residents think about our services and local issues, we make our Residents' Survey research as scientific as possible.

How do we do the research?

During October and November, we sent out postal surveys to 4,020 randomly selected homes throughout the Borough. We had 1,291 responses in total, which is a 32% return rate. For a population the size of Fareham, we would need just over 1,000 responses to be sure that the results are accurate. With the response we had, this means that we can be very confident that the results of the survey reflect the overall opinions of the residents of the Borough.

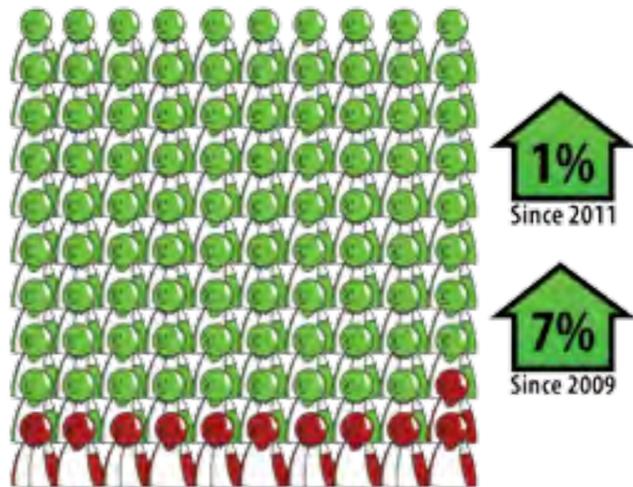
Other ways to have your say

Community Action Teams (CATs): These meetings are a great way for you to find out what is going on in your local area. You can also ask for topics to be added to the agenda if you have an important local issue you want to talk about. If you have a good idea for a project, to make a difference in your local area, we might be able to help you with Community Funding.

The E-Panel: The e-panel is another great way to get involved. Members receive regular emails about current and upcoming consultations, feedback on closed consultations and details of upcoming CAT meetings. It only takes a couple of minutes to join, so you can really let us know what you think, by taking part in our e-panel surveys on key issues.

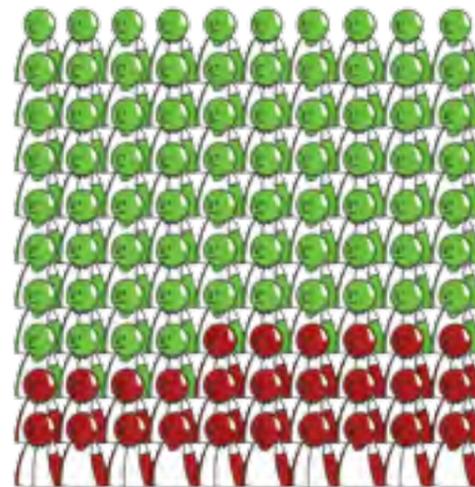
Find out more about CAT Meetings, the E-Panel, the Residents' survey and consultations in general at www.fareham.gov.uk/have_your_say

What are the results?



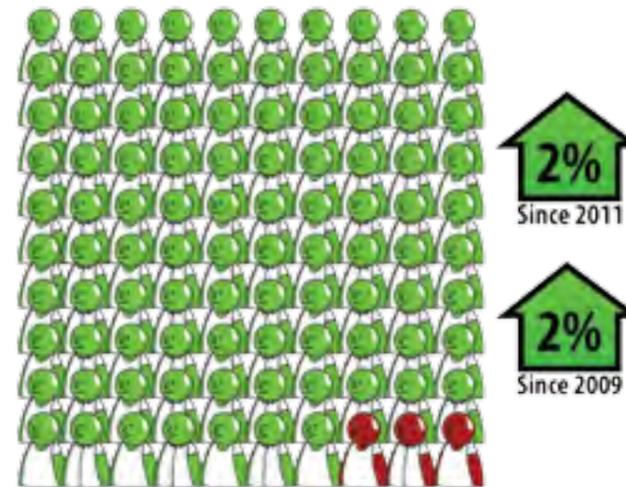
Value for Money

There were some really interesting results that came out of the survey. For example, we understand that many of you are tightening your belts and it's good to know that 89% of residents think the Council provides value for money.



Welborne

Welborne is critical to Fareham's future. That's why we asked our residents whether they supported the new community. It's reassuring to know that 74% of them agree that the Council's decision to plan for Welborne is the right approach to take.



Living in Fareham

We think Fareham is a great place to live and so do our residents, with 97% happy with their local area.

Whilst it's pleasing to see that so many people (91%) are happy with the way the Council runs things, we must not get complacent. Despite the best efforts of our officers, we know that we don't always deal with our customers as quickly and efficiently as we could. This isn't any one person's fault. It is the result of the "systems" that we have created over the years, as an organisation. That's why we are working with Vanguard, to look at how some of our systems can be made simpler and more efficient. By doing this, we hope to make sure that all of our customers receive an excellent service.



Dementia Friendly Fareham

People living with dementia often find everyday things we all take for granted, like enjoying hobbies, going shopping or getting money from the bank, much more difficult.

As part of a joint initiative between Hampshire County Council and Andover Mind, local businesses and retailers in Fareham have been invited to join the Hampshire Dementia Action Alliance. This brings together businesses and organisations from across the county with the shared aim of helping people with dementia to live a good life.

On Wednesday 27 November, and with support from the Borough Council, Fareham shopping centre was launched as a Dementia Friendly High Street – the first in Hampshire. With staff from local businesses attending a Dementia Friends Awareness session (an initiative of the Alzheimer's Society), the aim is to ensure that people with dementia are met with understanding and given support when they need it.

If you feel you can contribute by joining the Hampshire Dementia Action Alliance or volunteer to support the Dementia Friendly High Street, please contact Local Area Coordinator, Diane Bizley: **07827 317 546 • diane.bizley@andovermind.org.uk**



New deals for private landlords

The demand for private rented properties for homeless people in the Borough has been increasing recently. To tackle this, the Council has been working with landlords to develop schemes to encourage them to offer their properties to local people in housing need.

The three new schemes, which will run from 1 April 2014, all offer a rent guarantee and a form of deposit bond. Some schemes offer other incentives such as free gas and electrical certificates, management of the tenancy, rent collection, service of notices and access to loans to bring the property up to a required standard.

If you would like to discuss letting your property through the Council, please contact Anita O'Leary, Accommodation Officer, on 01329 824649.



Details may be subject to change. For a full list of what's on and how to book your seats, contact the box office on 01329 231942 or email boxoffice@fareham.gov.uk. Visit fernehamhall.co.uk or follow us on twitter @FernehamHall

MARCH		
Saturday 1 March 2.30pm	Antique Antics with Eric Knowles	£14.00 £13.00 with Fareham Leisure Card
Tuesday 4 March 7.30pm	Mike and the Mechanics	£35.00
Monday 10 March 7.30pm	Giselle	£21.50 - £22.50 £19.00 - £20.00 for Under 16's
Thursday 13 March 7.30pm	Sally Morgan	£24.00 £23.00 with Fareham Leisure Card
Saturday 15 March 7.30pm	The Irish House Party	£19.50 (Buy 10, get 11th free)
Tuesday 18 March – Saturday 22 March 7.30pm	Fareham Musical Society Musicals From A – Z	£11.50 on Tuesday £12.00 - £14.00 on all other days £10.50 - £12.50 for Under 16's/Over 60's £11.25 each for a Family of 4
Tuesday 25 March 7.30pm	The Searchers	£19.50 £18.50 with Fareham Leisure Card
Saturday 29 March 7.30pm	Havant Orchestras	£8.00 to £20.00 with concessions available
APRIL		
Friday 4 April 7.30pm	Mayor's Charity Ball (Royal Marines Association Band)	£45 per person £400 table of 10
Wednesday 9 April 7.15pm Thursday 10 April, 1.30pm/7.15pm Saturday 12 April, 1.30pm/7.15pm	Gosport Gang Show 2014	£10.00 on Wednesday £9.00 for matinees £11.00 on Thursday eve £12.00 on Saturday eve
Monday 14 April – Saturday 19 April	Fareham Stage Dance Festival	To be announced
Thursday 24 April – Saturday 26 April 7.30pm & 2.30pm matinee on Saturday	South Downe Musical Society – South Pacific	£12.50 - £14.50 Concessions available on Thursday
Sunday 27 April 7.30pm	The John Miller Orchestra in aid of Mayor's charities	£17.50 for Under 16's/Over 60's £16.50 with Fareham Leisure Card
MAY		
Friday 9 May 7.00pm	SNAP disco	£6
Friday 16 May 7.30pm	The Drifters	£25.00 / £24.00 with Fareham Leisure Card
Saturday 17 May 7.30pm	Havant Orchestras	£8.00 to £20.00 with concessions available
Friday 23 May 7.30pm	A Vision of Elvis	£17.50
JUNE		
Thursday 12 June – Saturday 14 June 8.00pm	Fareham Musical Society – Fawlty Towers	£11.00 - £13.00
Friday 20 June 7.30pm	The Day The Music Died - The Buddy Holly Story	To be announced
JULY		
Friday 4 July 7.00pm	SNAP disco	£6



Your Councillors

Key to Political Parties:

- Conservative
- Liberal Democrat
- Independent
- UKIP

Fareham Council email: @ is followed by fareham.gov.uk



Fareham North West Ward

● **David Whittingham**
2 Hammond Rd
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PO15 6PT
01329 515329
dwhittingham@

● **Peter Davies**
142 Highlands Rd
Fareham
PO15 5PS
01329 846239
pdavies@

Locks Heath Ward

● **Keith Evans**
94 Abshot Rd
Fareham
PO14 4NH
01489 582450
kevans@

● **Susan Bayford**
6 Abshot Manor
Little Abshot Rd
Titchfield PO14 4LN
01489 577772
sbayford@
Mayor

Fareham South Ward

● **Trevor Howard**
44 Southampton Rd
Fareham
PO16 7DY
01329 281510
thoward@

● **Dennis Steadman**
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Fareham
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01329 285667
dsteadman@

Park Gate Ward

● **Marian Ellerton**
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● **Brian Bayford**
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Fareham East Ward

● **Katrina Trott**
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ktrott@

● **Paul Whittle**
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pwhittle@

Fareham North

● **John Bryant**
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Fareham
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01329 281427
cllbryant@

● **Pamela Bryant**
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Fareham
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01329 281427
cllbryant@

Fareham West Ward

● **Nick Gregory**
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PO15 5HW
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ngregory@

● **Leslie Keeble**
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01329 845339
lkeeble@

Sarisbury Ward

● **David Swanbrow**
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● **Seán Woodward**
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Whiteley
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01489 881030
swoodward@

Warsash Ward

● **Michael Ford**
14 Shellcroft
Warsash
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● **Trevor Cartwright**
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Warsash
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tcartwright@

Hill Head Ward

● **Tim Knight**
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Head PO13 9NL
01329 662383
tknight@

● **Arthur Mandry**
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Hill Head
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01329 317923
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Portchester East Ward

● **David Norris**
27 Westlands Gr.
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02392 614257
dnorris@

Titchfield Common Ward

● **Sarah Pankhurst**
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881362
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● **Jack Englefield**
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Stubbington Ward

● **Kay Mandry**
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● **Jim Forrest**
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Titchfield Ward

● **Tiffany Harper**
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● **Connie Hockley**
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Portchester West Ward

● **Nick Walker**
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● **Susan Bell**
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Crofton



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MPs

Fareham



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020 7219 3000
mail@markhoban.com

Gosport plus Hill Head and Stubbington



Caroline Dinéage MP
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
020 7219 3000
caroline.dineneage.mp@parliament.uk



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it's time for activity your way.

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Leisure Centre**
01329 233652

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BOROUGH COUNCIL

Everyone Active manages this facility in partnership with Fareham Borough Council.

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Feel better for it



LEISURE CENTRE OF THE YEAR!