In this issue

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• Fareham 2012
• 30 Years of Ferneham Hall
We start this very special year of celebrations with a Freedom March on Tuesday 20 March to celebrate the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee. Around 140 members of HMS Collingwood will march through West Street as they exercise their right as ‘Freeman of the Borough’ with “bayonets fixed and flags a flying”, led by the Royal Marines band, also from HMS Collingwood.

To make the occasion even more memorable, I am delighted to announce that Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal will be attending this event, and opening the new Diamond Jubilee Play Area in West Street, in the presence of Dame Mary Fagan DCVO, HM Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire, and the Mayor of Fareham, Councillor Trevor Cartwright. More details will be available on www.fareham.gov.uk, Twitter and the Fareham Facebook page on 13 March.

As a permanent reminder of the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee, I am delighted that four of the recreation grounds in Fareham have been awarded “Fields in Trust” status from the Queen Elizabeth II Field Challenge. They are Wicor Recreation Ground (Portchester), Allotment Road Recreation Ground (Sarisbury), Seafield Park Recreation Ground (Hill Head) and Bath Lane Recreation Ground (Fareham).

Having “Fields in Trust” status will provide the grounds with permanent protection so that they can be used for sport, play and recreation by future generations.

I hope that many of you will join together with friends, family and neighbours in celebrating the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee weekend from 2 to 5 June, and start planning your street parties. www.fareham.gov.uk provides advice and an application form for a street party if required. We aim to make it as easy as possible for everyone to enjoy this special time.

During 2012 we not only celebrate Queen Elizabeth II becoming the only British monarch apart from Queen Victoria to reach over 60 years on the throne but also the Olympics coming to Britain for the first time since 1948. We will be commemorating these events along with the 30th Anniversary of the Falklands conflict.

As always if there are any matters you would like to bring to my attention or suggestions you may have to improve the Borough we all share then I will be very pleased to receive them. I promise that all suggestions will be thoroughly considered.

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. If you’re aged between 13 and 19, you can join our young persons’ e-panel. Just click on the e-panel link on www.fareham.gov.uk/consultation.

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An audio version of this magazine is available on request from the editor and online at www.fareham.gov.uk/ferhemtoday Follow us on Twitter @FarehamBC
Celebrating the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee

Royal Visit

On Tuesday 20 March, HRH The Princess Royal will be visiting Fareham for a special Freedom March to mark The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee. During her visit, The Princess Royal will also officially open the newly upgraded Jubilee Play Area (event times will be announced on our Twitter, Facebook pages and www.fareham.gov.uk on 13 March).

Last autumn children and young people who took part in a ‘Jubilee Joy’ consultation, suggested that the play area in West Street Fareham be themed ‘Kings and Queens’ as a commemoration of the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee, they also told us what they’d like the play area to include and look like.

The play area now includes a castle tower, a kings and queens entrance arch, a unicorn slide, and other themed pieces of play equipment.

Recreation Ground (Hill Head) and Bath Lane Recreation Ground (Fareham) is headed by its Patron, The Duke of Cambridge. The aim is to protect 2012 outdoor recreational spaces in communities for future generations.

We were the first local authority in Hampshire to secure playing fields status for four of our Recreation Grounds, Wicor Recreation Ground (Portchester), Allotment Road Recreation Ground, Bath Lane Recreation Ground and Wicor Recreation Ground. They will provide the ideal setting to celebrate in the great outdoors, with cream teas, inflatable’s, traditional games, football and cricket activities, plus the opportunity to get creative with the Fareham Play Rangers and make Jubilee souvenirs.

For more information about these events please contact the Leisure and Community Team on 01329 236100 or look out for the latest event information at www.fareham.gov.uk/fareham2012.

Jubilee Football Tournament

Jubilee 77 Youth Football Club who are also celebrating their own milestone of 35 years of providing and supporting youth football, are hosting a special ‘Jubilee Football Tournament on Saturday 2 June at Seafield Park Recreation Ground.

This special Jubilee Tournament will make the ideal family day out, with a BBQ, inflatable’s, face painting and the Fareham Play Ranger Service.

For more information or to reserve your club a space please contact Jubilee 77 Youth Football Club by email andy@vince1.co.uk or visit www.jubilee77yfc.org.uk

Diamond Jubilee Street Parties

Thinking of having a street party to celebrate The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee during the extended four day holiday on 2, 3, 4 and 5 June? If you are hoping to organise a party on either your local open space or in the street please visit www.fareham.gov.uk and click on our ‘Diamond Jubilee Street Parties’ page, for more information and to complete an application form.

The deadline for applications is 15 April, to ensure enough time to organise the closure of any necessary road.

Events for your diary

March

Saturday 31 March The Great Easter Egg Hunt
Water World
Location: Holly Hill Woodland Park, Sarisbury Green
Time: 12 noon with photoship entry until last entry at 4pm
Tickets: £5.00 per child
Dress: Waterproof shoes, fancy dress is optional.
Saturday 31 March Beauty Outside and In – Free health tips and beauty advice with activity demonstrations
Location: West Street, Fareham
Time: 12 noon – 2pm

April

Every Monday and Saturday in April
Music Month – A variety of music styles to suit every taste
Location: all around the town centre
Time: 12 noon – 2pm
Saturday 7 April Fareham Farmers’ Market
Location: West Street, Fareham
Time: 9am – 2pm
Friday 13 April Hampshire Country Market
Location: West Street, Fareham
Time: 9am – 3pm
Sunday 15 April Going Wild – free workshop with cultural advice on sowing and growing wild flowers
Location: Open space on Bishopfield Road, Fareham
Time: 1pm
Dress: Waterproof shoes recommended
Saturday 28 April Hampshire Country Market
Location: West Street, Fareham
Time: 9am – 3pm

May

Saturday 5 May Fareham Farmers’ Market
Location: West Street, Fareham
Time: 9am – 2pm
Friday 11 May Hampshire Country Market
Location: West Street, Fareham
Time: 9am – 3pm
Saturday 12 May Fareham Gardeners’ Fair
Location: West Street, Fareham
Time: 9am – 3pm
Saturday 12 May Common Knowledge – A guided walk at Warsash Common
Location: Meet at New Road car park
Time: 10am
Tickets: £3 per person
Dress: Suitable clothing, possible sun screen, stout boots
Thursday 24 May Sensory Tea Afternoon cream tea with a talk and demonstration on the more exotic side of gardening
Location: Sensory Garden, Osborn Road
Time: 1pm
Tickets: £3.50, tea and cakes included
Dress: Warm clothing, suitable shoes for woodland park
Friday 25 May SNAP DISCO
Location: Ferneham Hall
Time: 7pm – 10.30pm
Saturday 26 May Hampshire Country Market
Location: West St, Fareham
Time: 9am – 3pm

June/July

Saturday 2 June Fareham Farmers’ Market
Location: West Street Fareham
Time: 9am – 2pm
Saturday 9 June Fareham Gardeners’ Fair
Location: West Street, Fareham
Time: 9am – 3pm
Saturday 15 June Barking Up the Right Tree – Outdoor Workshop on how to identify trees in the field
Location: Holly Hill Woodland Park, Sarisbury Green
Time: 10am
Tickets: £3 per person
Dress: Suitable clothing, possible sun screen, stout boots
Saturday 30 June Hampshire Country Market
Location: West Street, Fareham
Time: 9am – 3pm
Friday 6 July SNAP Dance Night
Location: Ferneham Hall
Time: 7pm – 10.30pm
Saturday 7 July Fareham Farmers’ Market
Location: West Street Fareham
Time: 9am – 2pm
Let’s Bloom

The participation from our residents is vital in supporting the Fareham in Bloom campaign and every year we’re privileged to be able to see some spectacular gardens and community projects that bring colour and richness to the Borough. In Bloom is open to all residents, schools and businesses within the Borough, entries are judged during the first two weeks of July and awards are based on individual merit from Bronze and Silver to Silver Gilt and Gold.

If you feel you, your street or commercial green space has that horticultural gem then we’d love to hear from you. Simply complete the application form (left) and return to: Fareham Borough Council, Parks & Open Spaces, FREEPOST, Fareham PO16 7BR no later than Friday 15 June.

Entries are FREE and all entrants will receive a 10% discount card for use throughout the year at selected nurseries.

Going wild with Jubilee meadows

Wild flowers will be sown this season to create a spectacular display of nectar rich planting that will help support local wildlife and biodiversity whilst encouraging communities to create their own simple low cost schemes. We’d like to get the Borough’s schools, horticultural groups and community groups to take part and have designated three initial locations where the blooms will burst into flower early this summer.

A free workshop to mark the new project will be held at Bishopsfield Road open space on Sunday 15 April, when practical cultural advice and seeds will be given away to those wishing to take the idea into their own community.

More information on the national RHS scheme can be found at www.rhs.org.uk/Gardening/Community-gardening/Going-wild-with-Jubilee-meadows.

For more information on ‘In Bloom’, community horticulture and events please contact Matt Wakefield, Horticultural Development Officer on 01329 824543 or email parks@fareham.gov.uk

Youth Council

In December Fareham Youth Council, held their AGM which was attended by local decision makers from Fareham Borough Council, Hampshire County Council (Youth Service), Hampshire Constabulary, Hampshire Fire and Rescue and representatives from local schools.

The AGM was an excellent platform for The Youth Council to reflect on their past achievements and raise awareness on the work they have planned for the coming year. The main priority for 2012 is “building local communities”.

This includes working with the team responsible for the new community North of Fareham, representing Young People on the Community Safety Partnership, and continuing to work with the Local Children’s Partnership. The Youth Council also said they would like to challenge stereotypes and barriers between groups such as old and young people.

The members of the Youth Council also took the opportunity to put the decision makers on the spot, by asking them questions regarding the local area and matters that concern young people in Fareham.

If you’d like to find out more about what Fareham Youth Council do or want to join them please come along to one of their meetings, held every first Wednesday of the month from 4pm – 5.45pm at the Civic offices in Fareham or email: yc@fareham.gov.uk

Portchester Community Centre

Work on the new Portchester Community Centre (due to open this autumn) began in early February at a special sod cutting ceremony, attended by Councillors, Trustees of Portchester Community Association and user groups.

The new community centre is an excellent result of partnership working between Fareham Borough Council and Hampshire County Council.

The new centre will be a fantastic facility for the people of Portchester and will include a new children’s centre, provision for a pre-school, a large multi- purpose hall, meeting rooms and a kitchen.

The AGM for the new community centre is £2M and is being jointly funded by Fareham Borough Council and Hampshire County Council.

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Insulate Hampshire’s ‘Winter Warmer’ promotion offers all Hampshire homeowners and privately renting tenants free insulation until the end of March. The scheme offers free cavity wall insulation and free loft insulation (subject to a free, technical survey provided by the scheme), made possible by the funding partner, ScottishPower.

Insulate Hampshire aims to save you money on your energy bills and keep your home warm and comfortable. The scheme, backed by all councils in the County of Hampshire, was launched last July and is available to all homeowners and privately renting tenants, regardless of personal circumstances in Hampshire.

The scheme is expected to improve 20,000 Hampshire homes, enabling Hampshire residents to cut their household bills by £500 a year, saving 1.5 tonnes of CO2.

‘Insulate Hampshire’ energy advisors will not ‘cold call’ in the Borough of Fareham. To arrange a free survey visit: www.insulatehampshire.co.uk tel: 0800 952 0037 or email: enquiries@insulatehampshire.co.uk. Always ask to see identification from anyone calling at your door. If you’re unsure about the person call the Insulate Hampshire team on 0800 952 0037 or the Hampshire Trading Standards Quick Response Team on 01329 824894 or the Police non-emergency number 101.

The ‘Winter Warmer’ FREE insulation offer will run until the end of March 2012. Applications received no later than 31 March 2012 will qualify for the free offer.

Fareham Leisure Card

You can use your card at:
- Ambush Paintball and Laser Tag
- Anmesia The Hair Fitness Centre
- Andark Diving & Water Sports
- Bathroom World Fareham Ltd
- Beombridge House Bed & Breakfast
- Blue Reef Aquarium
- Body Fusion On-farm Sports Injury Clinic
- Cameron Flights Southern Ltd
- Club V
- Compass Trailers
- Crofton Shotokan School of Karate
- Curves
- Cuts and Clobber
- Direct Electrical
- Energie Fitness for Women
- Fareham Health and Beauty
- Fareham Leisure Centre
- Ferneham Hall
- Go Bowling
- Gosport Horse-Drawn Carriages
- Gosport Ice Rink
- Hargroves Cycles
- IHT (Interior Home Touches)
- Kitesurf UK
- LBINhealthcare
- Life Coach and Mentoring
- Luckettes Travel
- Manor Farm Country Park
- Meon Valley Cycle Hire
- Motag Motorcycle Training
- Naz Indian Cuisine
- New Forest Activities Booking Centre
- Passion Flower Florists
- Razzamatazz
- Royal Victoria Country Park
- Royal Victoria Railway
- Solent Nurseries
- St Margaret’s Nurseries
- TAGF Activities Ltd
- Team Sport Indoor Karting
- The Hayward Studio
- The Healing Sanctuary
- The Oakleaf Brewing Company Ltd
- The Royal Navy Submarine Museum
- The Spirit Within Holistic Therapies
- Titchfield Haven Nature Reserve
- Wickham Vineyard
- Zebra Waste Skip Hire

The cards cost just £6.30 per person, £14.70 for a family membership, £4.40 for a student card, or free to some residents on a low income. Cards are renewable annually. Please see the Terms and Conditions on the back of the application form.

To join the scheme pick up a leaflet and application form from Fareham Leisure Card or if your local CAT Officer.

Terms and Conditions on the back of the application form.

Need a little help with a great idea for your community?

We’ve made funding available to support community based projects which are of direct benefit to residents within the Borough of Fareham. Bids will only be considered for one off capital funding which have no requirement for ongoing funding. Projects that have a revenue implication for maintenance/ongoing funding are unlikely to be successful.

If you have a great idea for a project, please contact your local CAT Officer (see below). If it’s agreed that you can apply for funding your CAT Officer will be able to help you complete the application form.

Recent Funding Successes

Western Wards CAT
- Sarasbury Residents’ Association £946
- Funding was provided for the restoration of a special memorial bench, installed in memory of Miss Katharine Winn at Holly Hill Woodland Park, Sunken Garden.

Fareham Town CAT
- Broadlaw Volunteers Group £4,650
- This grant will allow the newly formed volunteer group, to create attractive tiled mosaics in the communal outdoor area of the Broadlaw Walk shopping area. The £4,650 will go towards the materials, design, making and installation of the mosaic.

Crofton CAT
- Crofton Bowls Club £1,000
- The Club was recently awarded £1,000 to assist with the cost of replacing the clubhouse carpet, which was 15 years old and no longer fit for purpose.

Titchfield
- West Hill Park School £1,500
- West Hill Park School has been awarded £1,500 to help with a securely fenced pond and wildlife area project. Local nurseries and schools will also benefit from use of the pond and nature area.

Portchester
- 3rd Portchester Scout Group £6,397
- Based at Cobham Hall, the Scout Group consists of nearly 170 young people. The roof of the hall was old and needed replacing. The successful grant award will contribute towards around a quarter of the total estimated project cost.

Do you have a topic for the agenda?

If you have any requests for an agenda item at the next round of CAT meetings, please contact your local CAT Chairman or CAT officer.

The five current CAT Chairmen for the Borough of Fareham with their respective officers are:
- Crofton – Cllr Kay Mandy, Gerry Hill-Jones
- Fareham Town – Cllr John Bryant, Mark Dunning
- Portchester – Cllr Nick Walker, Richard Wright
- Titchfield – Cllr Tiffany Harper, Narinder Bains
- Western Wards – Cllr Trevor Cartwright, Scott Mills

Email: cats@fareham.gov.uk tel: 01329 236100 or visit: www.fareham.gov.uk/cats

For more information about Fareham Leisure Card or if your company would like to be part of the scheme and offer discounts, contact the Leisure Card Officer on 01329 824894 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.
A day in the life of... an Air Quality Officer, by Heather Cusack (HC) and Richard Gustar (RG)

In Environmental Health part of the work we’re required to do involves the monitoring, assessment and review of air quality throughout the Borough. We assess nitrogen dioxide emissions from traffic and declare areas of poor air quality where EU limits are exceeded. Today’s a monitoring day.

08:30 (HC): I’m arranging to install a new continuous nitrogen dioxide monitor in one of our areas of poor air quality known as the Portland Street Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). I contact the air quality consultant who’s supplying the equipment to discuss the exact location of the unit and its electricity supply.

09.00 (RGHC): We discuss the air quality map for Portland Street and how the air quality results are displayed on our website at: www.fareham.gov.uk/council/departments/healthcommunity/noxmon.aspx

09.30 (RG): I contact a member of the public who had emailed the previous day regarding air quality near their home. I give them information and day regarding air quality near their public who had emailed the previous 09:30 (RG): I contact a member of the Council’s website at: www.fareham.gov.uk/council/departments/healthcommunity/arqal.aspx

09:45 (RG): I collect the nitrogen dioxide monitoring tubes (stored in the fridge) and the equipment to change them. Tube changing is undertaken on a monthly basis and are located on lamp posts and house fronts close to roads. I go to the first location, in Portchester. I’ll travel to over 40 locations today including Park Gate, Titchfield, Stubbington and Fareham.

10:00 (HC): I’ve received the draft of the latest annual air quality progress report which we have to submit to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs by the end of April each year. I check the report and email the consultant as I’m concerned that one new tube is showing as exceeding the EU limit for nitrogen dioxide.

11:00 (HC): As we’ve declared two AQMAs for the Gosport Road and Portland Street in Fareham, we have an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) to try to reduce pollution levels in these areas. I write up the minutes of the last AQAP steering group (led by Councillor Arthur Mandy) and send them out to our partners including Hampshire County Council and Gosport Borough Council.

12:30 (RG): I arrive at the continuous nitrogen dioxide monitor located within the Gosport Road AQMA. I change the filter and check the electricity meter reading. I also change the three monitoring tubes on the continuous monitor. These are used to check the accuracy of all the tubes in the Borough.

13:30 (RG): I visit a house to install a new tube on a downpipe on their property as the latest air report indicates that there might be an air quality issue in this area.

14:30 (RG): Having finished changing the tubes in Fareham town centre, I return to the office and complete the paperwork to send off to the laboratory with the collected tubes for determination of the average monthly nitrogen dioxide concentration in the air at the location of each tube. I check the tube results from the previous month and arrange for some of these to be shown on a graph on our website, together with the ‘real time information’ from the continuous monitor.

15:00 (HC): I check a draft leaflet and poster that’s to be used for the Big Green Commuter Challenge 2012 (from 14 - 20 May) - a friendly competition between local businesses and organisations, based on the number of car miles saved by employees swapping their car for their bus, walking, cycling, etc.

17:30 (RG + HC): Although finished at the office for the day, our other roles in Environmental Health have us ‘on call’ tonight for the out of hours service.

HC: for noise nuisance and RG for stray dogs.

If you would like any further information on air quality in the Borough please contact the pollution section on 01329 236100 or refer to the air quality pages on the Council’s website at: www.fareham.gov.uk/council/departments/healthcommunity/arqal.aspx

Power Wheels Competition

Together with Hampshire FA, we’re organising an Olympic Powerchair Football challenge on Saturday 21 April at Cams Hill School. All abilities are welcome to take part, the only requirement is that participants provide their own wheelchair. To take part or for more information please contact the Leisure and Community Team on 01329 236100. Places are limited, so please book early. The competition is free and Olympic goodies are on offer!

New Age Kurling Competition

The Cams Community Club is holding an Olympic New Age Kurling competition during May for residents over 50 years old. Running for four weeks, it’s open to all abilities including beginners. To gain some experience or to brush up on your kurling skills before the competition, why not join a session every Wednesday (term time only) from either 11:05 - 12:05 or from 1:35 - 4:15pm; £2.50 per session. The competition is open to new and existing members of the Cams Community Club, however booking is essential: Contact Cams Hill School by 26 April on 01329 231641.

Fareham Triathlon everyone ACTIVE

Fareham Leisure Centre is hosting its third triathlon on Sunday 20 May. This special Olympic triathlon is open to all abilities, including teams and will consist of a 400m swim, 19.2km cycle and a 5.1km run.

Details of the route, a map and a registration form can be downloaded from www.fareham.gov.uk/fareham2012. The entry fee is £35 and booking is advised to avoid disappointment. For further information please contact Fareham Leisure Centre on 01329 233652.

Kids Triathlon

Fareham Leisure Centre and the British Triathlon Association are hosting a Fareham 2012 Kids Triathlon ‘ Kids of Steel’ on Tuesday 29 May at Park Lane Recreation Ground and are looking for local schools to participate. Every child will receive a swim cap, t-shirt and gym sack, and all the equipment is provided, including bikes and helmets. It’s a fun day out for any child aged 8 to 13. All abilities are welcome and the event will consist of 60 metre swim, 1200 meter bike ride and a 400 metre run. If your school is interested or for further information please contact Kat Vale on 07815409285 or email katvalkebhbc@gmail.com

Round the Harbour Bike Ride

The British Heart Foundation’s 35 mile bike ride on Sunday 10 June, will take you on a stunning route around the Hampshire Harbours and coastlines and includes two ferry rides. For more information about this event please visit www.fareham.gov.uk/ fareham2012 telephone 080810002109 or email eventbahrainl.org.uk

Get Involved Events and Activities Programme

If you haven’t already got the latest edition of the Fareham 2012 Olympic Events and Activities Programme, then pick up your free copy from:

• Fareham Borough Council, Civic Offices
• Community Action Fareham
• Fareham Leisure Centre
• FarehamHall
• Community Centres
• Libraries and Schools

Alternatively download a copy from www.fareham.gov.uk/fareham2012 or request one be sent to you by contacting the Leisure and Community Team on 01329 236100.

We look forward to seeing you there!

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We look forward to seeing you there!
How the new Eclipse busway could help ease your travel headaches

Opening at the end of April, the new Eclipse Bus Rapid Transit busway between Fareham and Gosport offers a comfortable, cost-effective way to beat traffic congestion on the A32.

There’s been a lot of buzz about the new Eclipse BRT busway since construction started on the disused railway line in late 2010. Now the corridor, which will be open for use by buses, cycles and emergency vehicles only, is due to open and here’s what it promises for people who live in Fareham.

First, the bus services. The plush, new, high-spec Eclipse buses with their leather seats, wood-effect floors and free Wi-Fi will run on two of the existing routes on the peninsula. Currently known as the 86 and 82, the renamed E1 and E2 services will continue to serve their present routes, departing from Fareham bus station and then serving the railway station, before diverting onto the new, dedicated busway at Redlands Lane.

With no other traffic on the busway, journeys will be fast, predictable and reliable – not a claim that can be made for travel along the A32, particularly at peak times. Once the leave the busway, the buses continue on to Gosport town centre, terminating at the bus station and ferry terminal; special traffic signals will ensure that they have priority onto the A32. This kind of reliability is expected to appeal to commuters in particular, because it means that they can accurately plan their journey to work, synchronising with onward connections.

Get on board

Using Eclipse buses is as simple as using any other bus service. They’re easy to spot – the distinctive purple and gold Eclipse livery helps mark them out as something a bit special. These buses will serve the wider Gosport peninsula, and you can catch one from any of the 134 refurbished stops on the wider network – look out for Eclipse-branded bus stop flags. You’ll also find clearly marked areas at both Fareham and Gosport bus stations that indicate Eclipse departure bays. And if you live near the dedicated busway itself, you can catch your Eclipse bus from one of 14 stops along the new route.

Once on board, you can stay on schedule with real-time bus arrival information screens which will provide live travel information and the name of the next stop, so you know where to alight from the bus. Travel information will also be displayed in the shelters along the busway, and on information pillars at major stops on the peninsula – including the rail and bus stations.

And because reliable travel information is key to the appeal of a bus rapid transit system, real-time travel data is easily accessible on the move. The Eclipse website, www.eclipsebus.co.uk, includes an interactive route map where you can select your stop and see arrival details for the next four buses. Smartphone users will be able to download a special app to have this information sent straight to their handset (details will be available soon – check the website or ask when you use the Eclipse buses), or they can scan the QR codes displayed at any Eclipse bus stop and go straight to the real-time details for that stop.

So how much will all this cost? It might surprise you to learn that fares will be the same as those currently charged – so although you can expect a lot more from the Eclipse experience, you won’t have to pay any more. There’s a choice of ticketing, too: you can buy online at www.firstgroup.com or pay on board as usual. And to mark the launch of Eclipse, First is introducing a new Fareham and Gosport area ticket, which enables unlimited travel on the peninsula – so you won’t have to pay more for a season ticket covering the whole of Hampshire if most of your journeys are local.

Why here, why now?

With increasing congestion on our roads, the rising cost of motoring and the need to reduce emissions to protect the environment, the idea behind Eclipse is to persuade more people to travel by bus. Bus rapid transit is being adopted all over the world by transport providers keen to offer people a viable alternative to the private car. And while buses haven’t always had a particularly positive image, BRT aims to address some of people’s key concerns, improving the experience so that it is comparable to train travel.

Hampshire County Council constructed the 3.4km dedicated busway on the former disused railway line running parallel to the A32, financing it with £20m from the Government’s communities infrastructure fund and £4m from the authority’s capital programme.

With ambitious regeneration plans for the peninsula, it has long been recognised that a robust public transport infrastructure is desperately needed – particularly if new investment is to be attracted from incoming businesses. We need to ensure that people have better transport choices that enable them to travel to areas of employment and education. The new Eclipse busway is the first phase in a much wider BRT infrastructure that will link key towns and destinations in south east Hampshire.

See for yourself

If you can’t wait to give Eclipse a try, why not visit www.eclipsebus.co.uk to find out more? And don’t forget to take a look at the offers and discounts page.

Diary date: to see one of the brand new Eclipse buses for yourself, find out more about the new services and grab some goodies, why not visit the town centre on Friday 13 April, where a bus will be parked opposite the Performance Podium.
Are you registered to vote?

On Thursday 3 May registered electors in the Borough of Fareham will have an opportunity to vote for councillors to represent them on the Borough Council. There will be 15 seats in contention, one for each of the Borough’s wards. Nomination of candidates will take place about a month before the election and details will be published on www.fareham.gov.uk Information will also be posted on public notice boards throughout the Borough and will be available at the Civic Offices, Fareham.

Polling cards will be delivered to all electors to let them know where to go to vote, but you do not need a polling card to vote as long as you are registered. Please note the location of some polling stations has changed this year. If you’ve recently moved home, have just turned 18 or are not sure whether you are registered for your current address, contact Election Services. NB: You’ve not automatically registered, even if you pay council tax.

If you don’t want to go to the polling station, any elector can apply for an application form to vote by post - if you think you might want to do so, apply now. We’re also looking for election staff to help us at the polling stations and counting the votes cast. If you’re interested in participating in the democratic process, please contact us for an application form.

Election Services telephone 01329 824894 on Tuesday’s, Wednesday’s and Thursday’s.

Leisure Card - Have you got yours yet?

Fareham Leisure Card offers discounts between 5% and 50% on a whole range of leisure activities, from 48 outlets in and around Fareham.

Joining the Fareham Leisure Card scheme couldn’t be easier, simply pick up an application form from either Fareham Leisure Centre or Fareham Hall. For more information about the Fareham Leisure Card or if your company would like to be part of the scheme and offer discounts, please contact the Leisure Card Officer, tel: 01329 824894 on Tuesday’s, Wednesday’s and Thursday’s.

What do you do with your old furniture?

Did you know we provide a domestic bulky waste collection service to residents, for the removal and disposal of large household items?

Providing great value for money, the fee covers two members of staff and a large vehicle, and collection and disposal of the waste, such as domestic appliances and furniture.

Prices vary depending on requirement and range from a single item up to multiple lorry loads. Payment can be made in person at the Civic Offices, over the phone by credit or debit card, or by sending a cheque.

Current prices (up to 01/04/2012) are £27.50 (single item); £59 (up to half a lorry load); £103 (full lorry load).

Collection dates are usually a Monday. Unfortunately an accurate time of day cannot be given as the workload varies from week to week. However, if items are easily accessible, the crew will collect without the resident needing to be at home.

To book a bulky waste collection, please call the Customer Service Centre on 01329 236100 or email customerservices@fareham.gov.uk (NB. The service can’t collect hazardous waste, rubble, garden waste, liquids or tyres).

Citizens Advice Bureaux - Your rights, problems and issues

Beat the scammers

Scam calls and texts designed to trick you out of your money are on the increase. If you get a call or message from a company or person you haven’t heard of, be on your guard. Don’t reveal or even confirm any personal information or bank account details until you are sure who you are dealing with. For more information on how to deal with scams visit www.farehamcab.org.uk

Rogue trader warning

Two people who had ordered made-to-measure furniture from a company trading at a temporary sales point in Fareham, lost their deposits when the company ceased trading and went into liquidation. Both customers came to Fareham CAB, which compiled a file on the case and reported the company to Trading Standards. Please beware of the risks of paying for goods not yet received unless you’re certain of the trader’s good reputation.

Fareham Citizens Advice Bureau is a registered charity offering FREE, confidential, independent and impartial advice. For more information and for other ways to get advice, go to www.farehamcab.org.uk

To contact the CAB, tel: 0844 772232 (calls cost 5p a minute from landlines, mobile costs may vary) or drop in: 2nd Floor of Fareham Library Building – Mon to Fri 10am to 4pm and Thurs evenings from 3pm to 6.30pm. We also run a drop in service every Tues at the new Highlands Hub in Highlands Road, Fareham from 9.30am to 3pm

Trustees wanted for Community Action Fareham

Are you passionate about supporting people in your community? Do you have an interest in helping manage a local charity? Community Action Fareham and other charities in Fareham are looking for new trustees to help them grow and develop their services. Experience of management or committee working is desirable, but anyone with a keen interest in issues such as older people, disability, transport, and equality is welcome to apply. The recruitment process for volunteers may include CRB checks depending on the nature of the role. Please visit: www.actionfareham.org.uk or tel: 01329 223140

Bus Passes and Travel Vouchers

Concessionary Travel (bus passes or travel vouchers for older or disabled people) is the responsibility of Hampshire County Council (HCC). If you already have a concession this will be automatically renewed when your existing one expires. If you move, please remember to contact the Concessionary Fares Team at HCC to tell them your new address.

It’s important to remember that your bus pass contains a microchip and that breading your card, or damaging it in any way may mean that it won’t work - so please store it flat. (Please remember if you lose your bus pass a £10 replacement charge is payable, so keep it safe).

If you have any questions or comments in relation to the Concessionary Travel Scheme please contact Hampshire County Council direct: email: concessionary.fares@hants.gov.uk tel: 0845 045 8535; telephone: 0845 603 5625 or visit: www.hants.gov.uk (A to Z “C” - Concessionary Travel)
**Happy 30th Ferneham Hall!**

This year Ferneham Hall’s celebrating its Pearl anniversary, having been entertaining Fareham since it’s opening by HRH the Duchess of Kent, in April 1982.

From Cilla Black (the first entertainer to ‘tread the boards’ at the venue) to the Chinese State Circus visiting Fareham for the first time this April there’s been a host of singers, comedians, shows, dance festivals and pantomimes at the hall over the years.

In September the venue will host the South and South East England in Bloom awards, welcoming communities from across the region to our Borough for the prestigious awards ceremony.

**Your chance to win**

To celebrate 30 Years, Ferneham Hall has joined together with Fareham Today to offer one lucky winner our FREE tickets to see the Chinese State Circus between 26-28 April, featuring the first UK appearance of the formidable Shaolin Warrior known as ‘The One’. The production will not only keep the audience on the edge of their seats but show the more delicate and beautiful side of Chinese tradition with an silk aerial, parasol juggling as well as an eye catching Lion Dance.

To enter simply send a Birthday Card (by Saturday 31 March) to Ferneham Hall, Osborn Road, Fareham PO16 7DB, writing your name, address, contact telephone number and email on the inside of the card. 10 runners up will receive ‘2 for 1’ vouchers to the ‘C.S.C.’. Winners will be contacted by telephone to arrange which performance they would like to come to.

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**Contacting …..**

Coastal Emergencies ashore
Maritime Distress or Urgency
Maritime Routine Traffic:
Routine Enquiries:
Dial 999 and ask for Coastguard
VHF Disc and/or VHF Ch 16 or VHF Ch 67
Telephone: 02392 552100

And remember, when visiting the coast ……..

! The tide comes in and out twice a day, and the beach that you arrived at in the morning can be a very different place only a few years later—always consider visiting a lifestyle beach.

! There are unseen underwater hazards such as rip currents, undertows and rocks. Read the notices at the beach you are visiting, check the tides and NEVER jump from height into unknown depths.

! Always swim close to the beach and along the shore. NEVER swim out of depth.

! Although people continue to take the risk, inflatable toys, airbeds and dinghies are not safe for use in the sea as they can easily be blown away from the shore in the lightest of breezes. Adults should always supervise children on inflatables and NEVER use them in strong winds or rough seas.

! If you are going afloat on any type of boat, always wear a lifejacket or buoyancy aid. Lifejackets and buoyancy aids are designed to help you stay afloat and keep you alive until help arrives.

! Keep clear of cliff edges as they can be slippery when they get wet. Also cliffs around the UK suffer from coastal erosion and at the edge, can unexpectedly give way underfoot.

! Check the weather before heading to the coast. A wide range of weather forecasts are available from media, internet and your local Coastguard station!

! AND MOST IMPORTANTLY — observe these few guidelines and your day at the coast should be memorable for all the right reasons!

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**Modernising ……..**

The Maritime and Coastguard Agency is currently undergoing an extensive modernisation programme (2011-2013)
For further advice visit: www.dft.gov.uk/mca and search ‘Future Coastguard’
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<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Councillors</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fareham East Ward</strong></td>
<td>Katrina Trot (Conservative), Paul Whittle (Independent), Lucy Bryant (Liberal Democrat)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Warsash Ward</strong></td>
<td>Mary Nadolski (Conservative), Trevor Cartwright (Independent), Jack Englefield (Independent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Titchfield Common Ward</strong></td>
<td>Keith Evans (Conservative), Karin Cartwright (Independent), Jim Forrest (Independent)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Titchfield Ward</strong></td>
<td>Tiffany Harper (Conservative), Peter Hinchley (Independent), Susan Bell (Independent)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hill Head Ward</strong></td>
<td>Tim Knight (Conservative), Kay Mandy (Independent), Arthur Mandy (Independent), Jim Forrest (Independent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stubbington Ward</strong></td>
<td>Kay Mandy (Conservative), Roger Price (Independent), Peter Hinchley (Independent)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Portchester West Ward</strong></td>
<td>Nick Walker (Conservative), Roger Price (Independent), Susan Bell (Independent)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fareham North Ward</strong></td>
<td>John Bryant (Conservative), Pamela Bryant (Independent), Richard Beck (Independent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fareham South Ward</strong></td>
<td>Nick Gregory (Conservative), John Bryant (Independent), Tim Knight (Independent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fareham West Ward</strong></td>
<td>John Bryant (Conservative), Pamela Bryant (Independent), Richard Beck (Independent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Portchester East Ward</strong></td>
<td>David Norris (Conservative), Roger Price (Independent), Susan Bell (Independent)</td>
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<td><strong>County</strong></td>
<td>County Council email: @ is followed by hants.gov.uk</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fareham Town</strong></td>
<td>John Bryant (Conservative), Ray Ellis (Independent), Keith Evans (Independent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Warsash</strong></td>
<td>Geoff Hockley (Conservative), Sean Woodward (Independent), Trevor Cartwright (Independent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Titchfield</strong></td>
<td>Ted Smith (Conservative), Mark Hoban (Independent), Tim Knight (Independent)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Crofton</strong></td>
<td>Roger Price (Conservative), Paul Whittle (Independent), Caroline Dinenage (Independent)</td>
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**Your Councillors**

Key to groups:
- Conservative
- Liberal Democrat
- Independent

Fareham Council email: @ is followed by fareham.gov.uk
Take our 7-day FREE trial* at your local leisure centre!  

Fareham Leisure Centre  
01329 233652