

# THE EMS

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## EMS Copy Date

The deadline for the July issue of

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Articles can be submitted by e-mail or by  
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the residents of Emsworth.

**Note to readers:** Although every advert is accepted in  
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services either in the Newsletter or in any inserts.

## ERA Quarterly General Meeting

**Monday 18 MAY**

7.30pm, Lumley Room

Emsworth Community Centre

### County Council Election Hustings

Come and hear all the candidates for the  
forthcoming election explain why you  
should vote for them.

Voting in the County election will take  
place on Thursday 4 June at the same time  
as the European Parliamentary Election.  
Because of the need to have the hustings  
after the candidates have been officially  
nominated, we have changed the date of  
the QGM.

## Letters to The Editor

### Community Centre Lunch

You may be interested to know, and to  
advise your readers, that my friend, Mr  
Dave Carpenter, and I have for the last  
18 months been playing popular songs  
(mostly pre 1960) on two keyboards at  
the South Street Community Centre, weekly  
on Wednesday mornings from 11 am.

These performances have proved popular  
with those attending the Centre for lunch.

Please note that prior booking for the  
excellent two course lunch (price £3) is  
essential on telephone number 01243  
373061.

Brian Boak

Valetta Park, Emsworth

### Langstone Roundabout

People of Emsworth should be very ashamed.  
Ashamed for keeping a problem to themselves.  
How many times when you approach the  
roundabout at the junction of the A27 and the  
Langstone Road have you seen cars in the right-  
hand lane cut across to the middle lane of the  
roundabout? The road markings show they  
should be using the inside lane, and there are  
signs saying use both lanes of the slip-road to  
turn right to Havant?

I have contacted John Perkins at Havant  
Council (02392 446435) and he says that only  
two people have voiced their concerns. The  
road layout was changed over six months ago,  
and my perception is that over 50% of cars in  
the right-hand lane cross to the middle lane of  
the roundabout. This is not only dangerous for  
cars in the left-hand lane also trying to move to  
the middle lane, but I assume a road traffic  
offence (driving without care and attention).

I am surprised the residents of Emsworth  
have just let it happen, without voicing their  
concerns. Contact your local councillors or  
contact John Perkins.

The impression I get from Havant and  
Hampshire councils is that the markings are  
correct and there is nothing more they are going  
to do. It is therefore up to you to let someone  
know that there is a problem with this junction,  
and it is not going away.

One day there may be a serious accident  
(possibly involving an innocent motor-cyclist) and  
what will you have done to have prevented it?

Brian Gillbanks

Horndean Road, Emsworth

*Excerpt from response by Hampshire County  
Council - ... We intend to enhance the tracking  
markings forward of the stop line to reduce  
weaving but there may be some drivers who  
choose to ignore both these markings and all  
the advance signing and road text. We will of  
course continue to monitor the site both now  
and in the future.*

Simon Brownlie

Environment Department, HCC

### Horndean Road Trees

I cannot be the only Emsworth resident to be  
totally dismayed at the brutal and savage butch-  
ery of the row of trees lining the eastern side of  
the Horndean Road above the Southleigh Road  
junction, thus wrecking what was the beautiful  
northern approach to our town. Others I am sure  
will want to comment on the obvious loss of  
amenity, and to argue that the action taken  
would seem to be grossly disproportionate to any  
conceivable threat posed by the trees themselves.  
However, there is a far wider issue at stake.

We live in an age when the entire planet is  
threatened by global warming - the effects of  
carbon dioxide and other 'greenhouse gases' in  
the atmosphere. So we are forever being urged  
by both scientists and government to reduce our  
'carbon footprint' for the good of all. Nature's  
foremost resource in taking carbon dioxide out  
of the atmosphere is trees and other vegetation,  
which by photosynthesising absorb it and give  
out oxygen instead. Hence it is absolutely vital

## Editorial

**Welcome to Ken and Lorraine** - The ERA's  
new chairman Ken Gilchrist has started his tenure  
with an invitation to you, the people of Emsworth,  
to tell the ERA what it should be doing, see pages  
6&7. Ken will be ably assisted by our new vice chair  
Lorraine Clode. Welcome also to new committee  
member Jim Cottis.

**Council Capers 1: Design Matters** - Havant  
Borough Council Development Management  
(planning) Committee, (DMC) has recently shown  
a crass disregard for visual design. When debating  
the plans for the new Oak Park Hospital, two  
Hayling Island councillors ignored the report by the  
council's own architectural panel and expressed  
the view that the appearance of the building didn't  
matter as long as it worked internally.

No! The internal workings of the hospital are  
the responsibility of the Primary Care Trust. It is  
up to the DMC to safeguard the visual quality of  
design in the Borough. We will have to live with  
the new hospital, often visiting it when our health  
and spirits are low, for 20 to 30 years. This is the  
philistine attitude that gave us the hideous sheds of  
the new retail development on Park Road and the  
earlier Colditz-like Meridian Centre. Havant is  
struggling with an image problem and now we  
know why.

**Council Capers 2: Spinelessness** - In discussing  
Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) on a group of trees  
on a potential development site in Denvilles, the  
DMC confirmed TPO's on all the trees except the  
Hawthorns after a resident complained that her  
children might prick themselves on their thorns.

It seems someone only has to mention the word

'children' and many councillors lie down and wave  
their legs in the air. An occasional thorn in a finger  
is an important learning experience. Overprotecting  
children in this way means they may have difficulties  
dealing with the real dangers of the world when  
they are older.

**Greening our house, part 3** - Those of you who  
have been following my efforts to make our house  
more energy efficient will be interested to know  
that I have now installed an evacuated tube solar  
thermal panel to heat the hot water. It has been  
working for three weeks now and is proving very  
successful. This recent sunny week from 13 March



we have not had to run the boiler at all and have  
had regular showers and done a normal amount of  
laundry. It was a DIY installation and the cost was  
just under £1600 including the scaffolding, plus  
several days work for myself! (see photo).

**Postage Stamps** - Past President John Briggs  
asked in the January EMS about charities in and  
around Emsworth which collect used stamps. This

that we grow, preserve and maintain as many  
trees as we possibly can. Wanton destruction,  
where there is any conceivable alternative (such  
as responsible management), is simply not an  
option. It makes a total mockery of all our best  
efforts to lower our fossil fuel consumption and  
reduce our carbon output.

I hope very much, not only for the good of  
Emsworth, but for the sake of the entire planet,  
that whoever is responsible will think very hard  
before repeating this devastation elsewhere.

Martin Mosse

Birch Tree Drive

## A Taste of Chaos to come?

Few can have been unaware of the  
maintenance work on the railway bridge  
from 11th - 25th January, which required  
single-flow traffic controlled by traffic  
lights. Residents, pedestrians and drivers  
were subjected to lengthy queues of  
vehicles, at times reaching back as far as  
the roundabout, which produced chaos,  
noise, pollution and delays in North Street  
and Horndean Road. Stationary traffic  
across the ends of New Brighton Road,  
Victoria Road, Seagull Lane and other side  
roads produced additional delays and  
impeded the movement of delivery vehicles.

Let this be a warning to those who support  
- or do not oppose - the so-called 'Inter-  
bridges East and West developments' for  
which it is proposed to install traffic lights  
on North Street between the road and  
railway bridges. The traffic chaos and delays  
resulting from such traffic lights will be  
permanent - not just for a fortnight!

Michael Wood

North Street, Emsworth

## Charity Fire Engine Pull on 9th May 2009

Two Fire Engines, with a crew of Fire Fighters, will  
be in St Peter's Square from 9-10am on 9th May.  
An old Fire Engine will then be pulled to Havant  
Town Centre, where we will remain for a further  
hour. The event will finish at 1pm.

The event is in support of 'Love Light Romania',

<http://www.lovelightromania.com>

'The Fire Fighters Charity'.

All Fire Service personnel will be sponsored prior  
to the event, and I will also be hoping for donations  
on the day from the general public and children who  
can all climb on the engines and join in the fun!

Perry Dodgson

## Would you like to help the ERA, briefly and painlessly?

We are delighted to have nearly 2,000 households as  
ERA members - that is over 4,000 adults. This is  
nearly half the population of Emsworth. Many  
residents are happy to join when a collector calls on  
them. Would you be willing to devote two hours, two  
or three times a year to help us collect subscriptions?  
Alternatively, could you help with other membership  
administration? Please contact me if you would  
like to know more!

Ken Gilchrist

produced a number of responses: actually in the  
town both the Sue Ryder shop and the Methodist  
Church take old stamps. A little further away, the  
British Kidney Patient Association (contact Naomi  
Patterson 01243 375263 for where to send them)  
and the Brent Lodge Wildlife Trust at Sidlesham  
both collect used stamps.

Richard Jannaway

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