

# THE EMS

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## ADVERTISING

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## ADVERTISING RATES

£110 per single column advert per annum  
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**Terms of Acceptance:** Advertisements shall normally run for four issues of The EMS starting at the January issue and be prepaid unless otherwise agreed. Typesetting the initial advertisement is free, as are changes requested subsequently for **January** issues. Any further typesetting required is charged at cost, with a minimum charge of £5.

The views and opinions expressed by contributors to The EMS do not necessarily reflect those of the editor or the Emsworth Residents Association (ERA).

The ERA is a non-political body acting on behalf of all the residents of Emsworth.

**Note to readers:** Although every advert is accepted in good faith, the ERA does not accept liability for adverts placed in The EMS nor does it endorse any services either in the Newsletter or in any inserts.

## EDITORIAL

*Richard Jannaway*

### Our Town

Planning is once again at the top of the agenda and I make no apologies for devoting a large part of this issue to it in one form or another. Very mixed messages are coming from Central Government. On the one hand, there is pressure for development and central control in the name of 'efficiency', with the South East Plan requiring more and more houses and rumours of the coming 'Unitary Authorities'. What are the odds on Emsworth becoming just one tiny part of 'Greater Portsmouth'?

On the other hand community involvement, sustainability and devolution are becoming buzz-words. It is up to us, the residents of Emsworth, to take the initiative and seize what opportunities there are to have an influence on the future shape of the town.

This issue of 'The EMS' invites you to participate in this process in several ways, which all interact. Keep your ear to the ground for potential developments, become a Tree Warden (see page 1), become an ERA collector (contact Peter Izard - see committee list on back page). If you would like to do committee work, join the ERA committee (see Chairman's report page 3) and/or join the Community Board (see page 1), and help both these organisations improve Emsworth and influence the planning process.

The choice is yours, and the amount of commitment is up to you and your circumstances but muttering and moaning on the sidelines about what 'they' should be doing won't get us anywhere. 'They' have their own agenda.

### Distribution of 'The EMS'

How many residents realise that 'The EMS' is produced and distributed by an army of unpaid volunteers? It goes through more than 5,000 letterboxes every quarter. Last issue, our main distributor was away and it was up to myself and the rest of the ERA committee to organise distribution, so don't blame Sue if your issue was late - it was our fault! We still need more distributors for certain areas so why not make distributing 'The EMS' to a few streets once a quarter the beginning of your involvement in the community.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Bridge Road flooding

The article in January's EMS 'Global Warming - it's on our Doorsteps' implies that the flooding which occurs in Bridge Road is due to global warming, this is far from the truth.

This flooding is due to bad management of an inadequate surface water drainage system. The drainage of North Emsworth, largely developed since the war, and which lies to the west of New Brighton Road, is largely fed into the Westbrook. The capacity is exceeded in the event of a one in two year storm (H.R. Wallingford report 2001)

The most recent event occurred on the evening of 4th September 2005 soon after tidal low water! It resulted in depths of 300-400 mm in the road.

**Jim Reynolds**

### Harbour Watch

Following Frances Jannaway's article in the EMS "Beachwatch 2005", I would like readers to know that Chichester Harbour Conservancy organises a schedule of Harbour Watch Volunteers who remove litter and report on the state of the foreshore on a regular basis. Clothing and equipment are provided.

My wife and I cover the beach from Emsworth Sailing Club to the bottom of Warblington Road every month in summer, a bit less often in winter, and normally we fill a bin bag of rubbish each time. We report on the amount of larger items collected and on the state of the sea defences and coastal path.

If you are interested in helping, please call Richard Townsley on 01243 512301.

**Adrian Fox**  
26A Beacon Square

### The Havant Road Racers

I fully endorse all that has been written on this subject by previous contributors.

Looking out of my bedroom window, on occasions, is comparable to a grandstand view at Brands Hatch. Not one speed limit reminder is displayed along the route from Southbourne to Warblington and it would appear that motorists have very short memories. The lamppost adjacent to my property still bears the scars of a high-speed skid and crash.

Could we please campaign for the occasional 30mph sign to be installed along this stretch of highway or if anyone has one I will happily display it on my wall.

**Douglas A Barlow**  
Main Road, Emsworth

### A259 speed in Southbourne just as bad

I have read with interest Jennifer Rodie's letter in the January edition of The EMS concerning excessive speed on the Havant road, the A259, and feel that her praise of West Sussex Council is rather misplaced when using the A259 east of the Emsworth Roundabout where it crosses the border from Hampshire into W. Sussex, and I ought to point out that whatever problems she might enumerate with speeding on the west side are just as bad if not worse on the east side.

Despite requests to the said council and the police for at least a painted reminder on the road as you leave the roundabout and head east, such requests have fallen on deaf ears. The police attitude in a nutshell is that until there is a death on the stretch between Emsworth and Southbourne they will do nothing.

Until recently, there was a 40mph stretch from the junction with Penny Lane ending just before

Southbourne but, at the end of last year, this was reduced from 40mph to 30mph and the 40mph signs removed. But instead of replacing them with 30mph signs there is now nothing between the millpond and the other side of Southbourne to indicate what the speed limit is. The young Jobsworth man I spoke to blames Government legislation, which states that if they were to put such warnings in place they would have to put up a 30mph sign at each junction!!!

As for cycle lanes there are none until you get near to Southbourne. As for safe crossing, the council did install a light controlled crossing just east of Thorney Road for the users of the Post Office on the corner of Thorney Road. Unfortunately, this was installed three months after the post office closed!!!

**Bryan Lane**  
Main road, Southbourne

### Traffic Lights in North Street

Traffic lights for road works under the railway bridge caused long queues on New Brighton Road and North Street. At quiet times I had seventeen cars in front of me and several behind me, similar jams happened regularly - today at about 3pm I counted 28 cars on the North Street side with others approaching; often, when the lights turned green many of them could not get past them before they changed.

This does not auger well for industrial estates on one side, let alone both sides, of the road in the interbridges area. There were already cars queuing on the New Brighton Road, to get onto the Horndean junction.

**Geof Munroe**  
Wickor Way, Emsworth

### Thank you for the books for the Gambian Children

I was working as a volunteer in the Sue Ryder charity shop when I was told a large black plastic bag awaited me downstairs. It was full of brand new children's books with a label "Elizabeth for Gambian children".

Most years I go to the Gambia where the joy on the children's faces when I give them a book needs to be seen.

I would like to thank very much the donor of the very generous gift.

**Elizabeth Houston M.B.E.**  
King Street

### The recycling bins

Do any Emsworth readers know the origins of the quaint but irritating custom of tying carrier bags to the recycling bins? You know the ones I mean. The ones that end up decorating the trees and bushes around Brook Meadow. Are they actually expecting the bin man to take them away with the bottles and cans? Are they meant to be a present for the bin man?

And why is it that despite the council sticking notices on the bins not to leave recycling refuse

around the bins or risk a hefty fine, it makes not one iota of difference.

I could say "aren't some folk funny", but I can't because they are simply irritating.

**David Lee**  
Westbourne Avenue

### Abstraction

When attending the presentation by the Environment Agency at the October meeting of the ERA, several of us were interested in their use of the word 'abstraction' rather than the more usual 'extraction'.

On reaching home, we looked the word up in Nuttall's Standard Dictionary - admittedly of 1929 date! - and were amused to see one of the definitions of 'abstract' was to 'take secretly for one's own use part of another's property in one's power'. Couldn't have expressed it better!

**Tony and Mary Yoward**  
Slipper Mill, Emsworth

### EMS Copy Date

The deadline for the July issue of The EMS is 31st May.

Articles can be submitted by e-mail to [editor@the-ems.co.uk](mailto:editor@the-ems.co.uk) or by mail to: 75 Bosmere Gardens, Emsworth, Hants PO10 7NR  
We do not publish anonymous letters or emails but will withhold name and/or address if requested. Editor

### Veteran's Badge

*The Editor*



A war veteran living in Emsworth has brought to my attention all men and women who served in HM Armed Forces up to and including 31st December 1954 are entitled to a Veteran's Badge. Furthermore these dates are soon to be extended. To claim your badge go to the following website, and download the application form [http://www.veteransagency.mod.uk/vets\\_badge/vets\\_badge.htm](http://www.veteransagency.mod.uk/vets_badge/vets_badge.htm) or telephone or write to the Veterans Agency, Thornton-Cleveleys, Norcross, Blackpool, FY5 3WP Tel 0800 169 2277.

I have put the above link on the ERA website to save you typing all that in, it's on the latest news page and on the additional links page.

### ERA QGM

**Monday 24 April 2006**

Emsworth Community Centre, Mountford Rooms, 7.30 pm

Speaker: Gwen Andrews, Managing Director of HBC 'Strategies & Priorities' Questions.

This will be followed by the ERA business meeting,

And then **Election Hustings.**

Come and put your questions to the candidates in the forthcoming Borough Council elections.

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