

Community Responders

set for Launch at end of July

Janet Barradell

The idea of setting up a Community Responders scheme in Emsworth has been welcomed in all quarters. Since the last article in the April EMS we have had a very good response and 28 volunteers - but we still need more, particularly younger people! We have a co-ordinator but again need another one to spread the load. The exceptional knowledge of our community from councillor Brendan Gibb-Gray has been invaluable and we would not have advanced so far without his tremendous help.

Twelve of our volunteers were trained on the 17th and 18th June by paramedics from the Hampshire Ambulance NHS Trust. The rest will be trained in July. Many thanks to the paramedics who have agreed that essential training in the use of the defibrillators and other equipment can be carried out in the town. We hope the scheme will be up and running by the end of July.

We already have £3000 kindly donated by residents, community groups (ERA, EBA, Rotary, Buffalos and Mrs Jo Thomas) plus a collection at the Brook Meadow May Day event. We are grateful to The Co-Op in Emsworth for selecting Community Responders as their "community good cause". For every £1 spent, 3p is donated to us. Please collect a card from the store and help us in this way.



Emsworth Hospital Fete.

The Friends of Emsworth Cottage Hospital are kindly giving, the proceeds of their June Garden Fete to the Community Responders. The fete had over 450 visitors and raised a total of £1471. I would like to say a huge thank you to all the people who worked so hard to make this event such a success.

All this money will be spent on securing the necessary technical equipment to set the scheme up. Our volunteers will need high visibility jackets which we will have to provide.

Whilst training is provided free by the ambulance trust, all other set-up costs and running expenses have to come from local supporters.

It's certainly been a tremendous start and if you think you might be able to help in some way or need to know more about this vital scheme please call Janet Barradell on 01243 430289. We will be at the Emsworth Show on 28 August.

May Day in Brook Meadow

a community event to celebrate the return of summer

Frances Jannaway

According to folklore, women washed their faces in the dew on May Day morning to make themselves more beautiful. Well it was pouring with rain at 8am on 1 May 2006 as we started putting up the marquee and gazebos to get ready for the May Day event. So I'm not sure if that counted! Miraculously, the clouds cleared, the rain stopped and the sun was shining by the time everything had been set up and all the entrances had been decorated with 200 bunches of coloured ribbon.

This year's event was larger than in previous years because it was a joint community effort between Brook Meadow Conservation Group (BMCG), Emsworth Business Association (EBA), Havant Rotary, Emsworth Residents Association (ERA) and Emsworth Horticultural Society (EHS). The event took place in Brook Meadow and in part of Palmers Road car park.

More than twice as many people came into Brook Meadow than came to last year's Wildlife Funday, with over 1100 people being 'stickered' with our BMCG logo. Entrance to the event was free, apart from a small charge for the workshops and was totally funded by local organisations: BMCG, ERA, EBA, Havant Rotary and Havant Borough Council - making it a real community event.

The all-day activities organised in Brook Meadow were very popular. Both the Willow Weaving (Ganesh Kings) and May Day Crown (Jo Tester) workshops were more or less fully booked with 108 people booking in throughout the day. The Nature Hunt and Trail were also much in demand, with more than 70 people doing either or both. Volunteers worked very hard to keep up with the sudden waves of children and adults wanting to do the trail and hunt and then checking their answers when they returned. A record number of both children and adults decorated Wishing Stars, wrote a

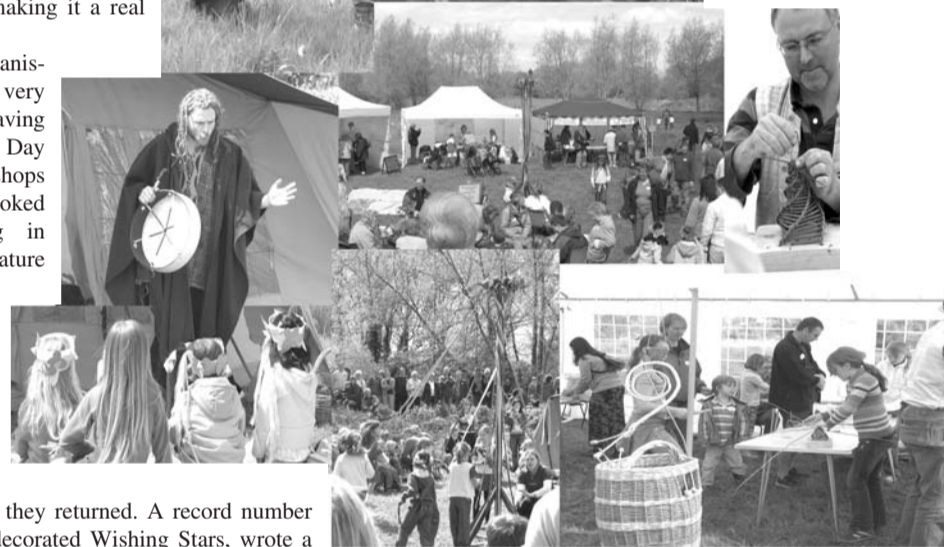
wish and hung them on our Wishing Tree in the centre of the meadow. The tree still looked a picture several weeks later. Also on the meadow, the Solent Guild of Woodcarvers and Sculptors demonstrated their woodcarving skills.

Meanwhile in Palmers Road car park, other all-day activities were going on including a Sow-a-Seed and herb stall (Emsworth Horticultural Society), EBA marquee with the Railway Inn serving non alcoholic beer and wine, Le Petit Pain selling cakes, rolls and other snacks, Emsworth Morning WI selling cakes (sold out of by 2pm), Moonbeams (floral display), Emsworth Food Festival, and Emsworth First Responders who raised more than £100 for their good cause. In addition, Havant Rotary manned a caravan selling tea and coffee, and helped with moving large amounts of equipment around. East Ashling Nursery also had a stall in the car park selling a wide variety of good quality plants.



Continued on page 9

*May Day
in the Meadow*



The Emsworth Memorial Trail

Martin Bonner and Virginia Wilson-Smith

The people of Emsworth who lost their lives in the great wars and in furthering the cause of peace and justice around the world at last have a fitting memorial. The Emsworth Memorial Trail consisting, of a main memorial sculpture in a Memorial Garden and a series of waymarkers around the town all designed by artist and sculptor Michael Johnson from Doncaster, was put in place at the beginning of May.

The first waymarker of the trail is on The Quay at the bottom of South Street, where fish and oysters were landed, as the plaque depicts. The next waymarker is in The Square; this area was the original commercial heart of Emsworth and the waymarker depicts the fruit and veg that were sold in this area. The third waymarker is near the northern exit from the underpass, which passes under the A259 as it dissects Emsworth; this plaque depicts the tools of the shipbuilding trades that were a large part of past Emsworth life.

The trail then passes up North Street and under the railway to the Memorial Garden located on the south-east corner of the Jubilee Recreation Ground on Horndean Road. The location of the main sculpture in the garden of the Recreation Ground is to provide a place that is easily accessible to all, including religious groups of all denominations in Emsworth, for Memorial Day services.

Michael named the main sculpture "Absence"; it depicts a World War I soldier with his hands resting on reversed arms and his head bowed (see photo) as a silhouette cut out of a solid stainless steel sail.

The fourth and final waymarker in the series is at the top of Horndean Road; the plaque on this waymarker is a coiled rope depicting the rope making that went hand-in-hand with the boat and ship building industry.

The Council's Parks Department plans to have the garden neat and tidy with the surrounding walls repaired, in time for the official unveiling probably in July. The planting of the Memorial Garden, to be designed and carried out by the Emsworth Horticultural Society, is planned for the autumn.



Absence

The task and finish group of the Emsworth Community Board are looking for sponsorship for the garden and will also be raising money for bronze plaques which will be placed on the low walls, bearing the 'names' which at present are displayed in St James' Church.

The Memorial Trail will be featured in a leaflet due to be printed shortly which will be available in the library and other places around Emsworth. The Emsworth Memorial Trail website: www.emsworthmemorialtrail.org.uk gives details and information regarding the 'names' sited in St. James' Church and any other stories or information that is relevant. For this, we do need input from the public. There must be so many stories worth recounting about those men and women who died in conflicts.

If you wish to assist financially, or otherwise, for example with input to our website, please contact the Emsworth Community Board, Memorial Task and Finish Group, Martin Bonner 431556 (evenings) or Virginia Wilson-Smith 373744.

Contents

	Page		Page
Letters and Editorial	2	Skatepark	7
From the Chairman	3	Hospices	7
EBA News	3	Environment	8
Planning	4	Community News	9
Forthcoming Events	5	ERA committee	10
Groups & Societies	6	Recollections of Emsworth	10

... And lots more