

THE EMS

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ADVERTISING RATES

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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.

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

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EDITORIAL

Richard Jannaway

When SHUV comes to PUSH

Few residents of Emsworth will know much about PUSH (Partnership for Urban South Hampshire) but it is going to affect all of our lives over the next 20 years. PUSH is a coalition of Councils from Havant to Southampton.

PUSH is prepared to accept the Regional Assembly's plan to build 80,000 homes in South Hampshire provided they get government investment in infrastructure. Gerald Vernon-Jackson, leader of Portsmouth City Council, was quoted in 'The News' recently, saying that more people were needed in Portsmouth to maintain population levels and to boost economic growth. So PUSH's motivations for Portsmouth (and the rest of South Hampshire) are clear.

With the assistance of the CPRE (Campaign for the Protection of Rural England) an alliance of community groups has been set up to fight these proposals. Called SHUV, (South Hampshire's Unheard Voices), the alliance covers the same area as PUSH, which drafted the South Hampshire section of the SE Plan for the Regional Assembly. SHUV is playing an active role in building public consensus about how much development is appropriate for South Hampshire. The ERA is affiliated to SHUV.

Cycle ways & Hampshire

When cycling into Emsworth one Saturday in early June, I spotted two gentlemen wearing Hampshire County Council vests seated in garden chairs taking a traffic census. I stopped and chatted with them and was pleased to be told that they were recording the number of cyclists using various routes in and around Emsworth. Might this be a beginning of a plan to improve and extend the cycle paths in Emsworth? Who knows! But at least it shows that somebody in Winchester knows that bicycles exist.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Skatepark

I am writing to say how pleased I am with the recently completed Emsworth skatepark. I and many others believe it to be the best in the area. It appears to be in almost constant use both by local boarders and BMX riders of all ages. As well as those using the facilities for sport, this area of the park has become a safe and secluded place for us all to meet up.

There have been several complaints about litter and anti-social behaviour within or around the skatepark; unfortunately this is not unexpected or unusual given that it has such a lot of use and may be preferable to the same things happening in the Square or other more public areas.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow members of the Emsworth Community Board for their support and guidance, which made the skatepark a possibility in the first place.

Jim Smith
Emsworth

Skatepark/Memorial

In our opinion the skateboarding area has become an eyesore and encourages gangs of youths from other areas.

What a waste of money.

Now we have a statue erected in the corner of the park, meaning what? And the wall left to crumble, the plants torn up. Money down the drain - again.

Mrs J.D. Cripps
Coldharbour Farm Road

Skatepark Memorial

The sculpture of the first World War soldier in the park garden at the entrance to Coldharbour Farm Road is a fitting tribute to those who fell in this conflict.

Havant Borough Council should also get some recognition that in order to enhance the mood of the area they have let it deteriorate to represent the Somme battlefield.

Brian Leighton
Cobblewood, Emsworth.

Council Efficiency

I received a letter, postmarked 30th May, informing me that a 'Fit4Life' physical activity and health fair for the over 50's, would be held on Tuesday 16th May!

I received through my letterbox a letter stating the refuse collection and green bin collection had been changed to a different day. Unfortunately the dates were not correct and after a phone call to Havant Council Offices I understood the error and informed my neighbours.

Several days later a council lorry turned up with two men delivering letters that explained the mistake and foretold the correct dates of collection of refuse and green bin. Two days later I received an identical letter through the post.

No wonder Havant Council are having problems keeping the council tax down, when the council personnel are unable to write a simple letter with the correct dates, in the first place, to distribute to its many honest hard working rate payers.

I would suggest that the highly paid managers of Havant Council be more alert. I am incensed that such simple mistakes are made which have cost Havant ratepayers a great deal of money, in postal and labour costs, regardless of the vehicle use cost. When simple scrutiny and control by heads of departments of their staff would save many pensioners from the struggle to pay Havant's council tax.

Inflation goes up and pensions go down. It is pensioners who suffer when the council tax goes up again, which it will again, next year, because the Council can't afford to pay the salaries of

Council employees who's inefficiency has caused extra Council costings.

Surely our elected councillors should be aware of the waste of money within the council?

Mr. R. Rogers
Emsworth

Residential parking in Emsworth

As a long-term resident of Emsworth who lived in the area during my Naval Service and enjoyed the ambience of life in Emsworth so much that when the day of my retirement occurred, my wife and I decided to settle in the area and purchased a house. I have during my considerable time living here become very concerned with the conduct of other residents with regard to car parking. Emsworth benefits from having residential areas with grass verges in the front of many properties and it saddens me to see the occupiers using these verges for the use of car parking especially when there is a very adequate road in which to park. More annoying is when driveways are empty or with only one car off road the other on the verge. Is it really too much effort to play "musical cars" when the first inside car wants to exit the drive first, or instruct attending contractors not to park on these verges.

Over the years this has become widespread and is beginning to have a detrimental effect on the appearance of Emsworth. It does not take long before the grass is ruined and wheel ruts appear turning what should be a lovely grassed landscaped area into a muddy mess. Once this occurs any contractor, etc. working in the area assumes it is the norm to park in this manner and the damage is compounded.

I am sure that we all enjoy living in Emsworth and take a pride in stating so to others but please can we show a little more concern for the reason we choose to live here. It is a beautiful place and long may it be so. Pavements are for pedestrians. Cars are for roads. Let's keep our landscaped verges vehicle free.

Mr Edward Smith
Emsworth

Pavements

It is my aim, to complain to the County Council, not for the first time, about the appalling state of the footpaths and pavements in Emsworth. I would value any vocal or written support, especially from my neighbours in Bosmere Gardens. I am told that, the more voices, the better chance we have of being heard.

Please contact me by telephone, mail or email at the address below.

Ann Lanchbury
Apple Blossom, 19a Bosmere Gardens,
Emsworth, PO10 7NP. Tel 01243 372201
Email: neilandann@lanchbury.co.uk

Sailing Club

The General Committee of Emsworth Slipper Sailing Club would like to thank the Residents of Emsworth and visitors for their patience and consideration during the cruiser lift in April. We control the flow of pedestrians across the quay and footbridge to maximise safety while the

boats and masts are being lifted. We hope that the spectacle of yachts in mid air provides some compensation for the delays that we cause. **The next lift-out is planned to take place during the weekend of 21st and 22nd October.**

James Mant
Emsworth Sailing Club

Gambia Books

I am so grateful to all the people who have given me books, etc. to take out to the children in the Gambia. Thank you all so much.

I have been to the Gambia ten times and I am not going again so please do not leave any more gifts at the Sue Rider Charity Shop in Emsworth.

I have a package to go out to the Gambia if someone would kindly take it with them. If you are going to the Gambia please telephone me.

Elizabeth Houston
01243 379603

Pigeons

I am concerned with the excessive amount of pigeons (hundreds?) residing under the North Street A27 bridge and with the lack of action from HBC or indeed from Hampshire County Council (who is responsible for this structure?) preventing humans coming into contact with bird's excreta.

The sheer number of birds, matched with a proportional amount of droppings, has turned this spot into an unhealthy cave where children come into contact with excreta as soon as they touch the walls!!

Nearby lamp posts seem to suffer the same fate. Have you noticed the amount of droppings at the base of each post outside the bridge?

I cannot help noticing that a brilliant solution has been found for the same problem under the bridge at the Havant bypass, still on the A27. Chicken-wire has been properly fitted between the concrete girders and pigeons are forced to live where they belong, somewhere else. Lamp posts have been fitted with spikes at the top to prevent large amounts of droppings falling over the heads of unaware pedestrians.

Can somebody turn North Street into a liveable, healthy and safe place, removing a serious health risk like this, with bird flu still being mentioned in most newspapers?

Emsworth Resident
(Name and address supplied)

EMS Copy Date

The deadline for the October issue of The EMS is 30th August.

Articles can be submitted by e-mail to 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

ERA QGM

Monday 31 July 2006

Emsworth Community Centre, Mountford Rooms, 7.30 pm
Presentation: 'Your Hospices' by St Wilfrid's Hospice (Chichester) and Rowans Hospice (Purbrook).

There will be an opportunity to ask questions.

K R JENKINS

GENERAL PROPERTY
MAINTENANCE

LANDSCAPING

FREE ESTIMATES

HAVANT

023 9247 4271

Kevin Jenkins
70 Knightwood Avenue
Havant PO9 5SB

Gardens & Grounds



Old hedges renovated
& fences repaired.
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