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**Emsworth Community Board  
Comes Clean**  
*Brian Picknett*

Litter is an eyesore and a problem that plagues everyone. Unfortunately, there are many untidy people who don't think, or worse, just don't care and the rest of us have to share our lives with cans, plastic bags, bottles, wrappers, dog mess, graffiti, etc.

But there are ways to help alleviate the problem by encouraging the authorities to help us to help ourselves.

Emsworth Community Board recognise the problem and has taken up the issue. Two of its members, Maurice Clarke and Rosemary Osborne, set up an Emsworth clean-up action plan and identified four litter 'hotspot' areas:-

Hollybank Park, North Street, Town Mill Pond and four subways/bridges.

Each area was visited on four separate occasions to observe dropped litter and cleaning patterns and a report was sent to Havant Borough Council summarising their findings and recommendations.

As a result, a call was received from the Liveability Manager, Environmental Services Department, who then accompanied Maurice and Rosemary on a site visit to each of the locations.

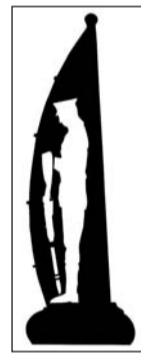
He agreed with all the recommendations made and has scheduled actions to provide more litter facilities and improved cleaning procedures. We look forward to these improvements.

So the 'Board' is doing its bit. Our Council is doing their bit. The Environmental Quality Ranger will be doing his bit. It is now up to us all to keep our eyes open. It may not be our particular litter but we can all help by picking up any we do see and popping it into a bin. We can at least set an example by doing our bit too.



*Maurice and Rosemary with a load of rubbish*

**Friends of Emsworth Memorial Garden**  
*Richard Jannaway*



*Absence*

Nearly a year has passed since the memorial sculpture 'Absence', dedicated to those Emsworth residents who died in the two World Wars and other conflicts, was erected in the garden at the junction of Hordean Road and Cold Harbour Farm Road.

The memorial and memorial trail were originally funded through the Emsworth Community Board (ECB) as part of the Liveability project. The Memorial Garden still needs completing, and as the ECB is not a fundraising body, a new independent group, the 'Friends of Emsworth Memorial Garden' (FEMG) has been established. At least £20,000 is needed to complete the memorial garden by laying new paths, planting beds with shrubs and perennials and displaying the full list of war dead on name plaques. Funding is being applied for from Awards for All, the Co-Op Foundation, local businesses and organisations. Donations from private individuals will also be needed. FEMG will look

after the garden and be involved in organising non denominational events at appropriate times.

Please join FEMG to help raise money to complete this community project by sending a subscription of £3 per person to Maurice Clarke (Secretary FEMG), 575 Southleigh Road, Emsworth PO10 7TE together with as big a donation as you can spare. Cheques should be made payable to: 'Friends of Emsworth Memorial Garden'.

An early task will be to ensure that the list of names is as complete and accurate as possible so that we can order the name plaques. A list of the names of those Emsworth people who died in the two World Wars, as displayed in St James' Church, is available on the website [www.emsworthmemorialtrail.org.uk](http://www.emsworthmemorialtrail.org.uk) (link on the ERA website). Please check to see if the name of your relative is there and it is correct. Let me know if even the smallest detail needs changing. There is also a paper copy in the Emsworth Library. Alternatively please ring me and I will be happy to look it up for you.

Full details of FEMG, together with a printable membership form are on the website. Leaflets and membership forms are also in Emsworth Library and at various other places around the town. Membership will entitle you to occasional newsletters, to vote at general meetings and, if you wish, to join working parties to look after the memorial and its garden. Thank you very much for your support.

**Emsworth House**  
*Brendan Gibb-Gray*

After 18 months of building work, Emsworth House was formally opened early in March by Pat West, Chair of Hampshire County Council. This is part of a £60M project in the county to create 500 new nursing beds. Emsworth House now has 48 nursing and 30 refurbished residential beds which provide high class care for vulnerable people in our community and those needing first class nursing care. The project was jointly funded by the County Council and the NHS.

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**The Use of Emsworth Pontoon for  
Swimming and Crabbing**

*John Q. Davis - Manager & Harbour Master*

The severe problems that we experienced with youths using the pontoon for swimming and crabbing this summer obstructed access by elderly people, those in wheel-chairs and their carers who were unable to get down the pontoon to get on the solar boat. Additionally, boat owners were unable to come alongside because of youths swimming (propeller hazard) and children who would not lift their legs or crabbing lines when asked. Parents who were with them also failed to respond and take charge of their children. This behaviour was aggravated by some people being surly, un-cooperative and abusive when asked to move.

There were, at times, over 40 youths on the pontoon, riding bikes on it, diving off aids to navigation and damaging vessels. Crabbers left fishing lines, bait and bare hooks lying across the pontoon. To these trip and slip hazards were added bikes, towels, picnic gear and other paraphernalia. These were not isolated incidents, they happened regularly during the hot weather and they made the pontoon unusable and unsafe for its intended purpose.

The pontoon is totally unsuitable for diving and swimming because of the vessels that are using it and because the depth of water varies between a few inches and 8 foot. Its use is similarly incompatible with and unsuitable for crabbing and to condone either of these activities would vitiate the Conservancy's insurance.

Crabbing is of course, still possible from the Mill Pond wall at high tide and from the foreshore at other times. Chichester Harbour does not have any designated bathing beaches but it is still possible to swim from some sites in the harbour without having to use the Conservancy's pontoon.

When I was a boy in Emsworth in the late 50's, we used to swim in the Mill Pond, it was even deep enough to dive into. This could easily be done again with a bit of dredging. As the owners of the Town Mill Pond, HBC would be well placed to do this and provide the necessary safety cover that would no doubt be needed today. At the height of the problems last summer, I also felt that what was needed was a few canoes and a couple of instructors to give the youths, some of whom were from disadvantaged backgrounds, the opportunity to do something really interesting and challenging.

I understand that HBC run a Youth and Community programme. These ideas and others like them might be the sort of thing that the Council could undertake.

**Emsworth Primary School  
Visit to Brook Meadow**

*Jennifer Rye*

We welcomed nearly all of Years 4 and 5 from Emsworth Primary School to Brook Meadow as part of their curriculum study of 'Habitats'. The visits were organised by Caroline Fisk of Chichester Harbour Conservancy Board Education team, and involved about 80 children on three successive mornings just before spring half term.



*Look what I've found!*

Each day, the children were divided into three groups, one to study wildlife in the river (stream dipping), one the fauna and flora of a log pile, and the third sketching from the south bridge; the groups rotated so that each child did each activity.

It was a pleasure to see such purposeful and well-organised activity of 8 and 9 year olds, and we look forward to more visits of this kind. We have asked the children to send us a report of their visit.

**News from Friends of  
Nore Barn Woods**

*Roy Ewing*

The final Work Day of 2006 saw 20 people meet to plant 1000 native Bluebell bulbs, as part of the Friends' continuing "Bluebell Recovery project". Fortunately we were blessed with perfect weather. Funding for this work was obtained from the Chichester Harbour Conservancy "Sustainable Development Fund", to which the Friends are indebted.



*Planting English Bluebells*

The main access path along the northern perimeter of the woods (the Wayfarers Walk) has also been improved. This path was almost impassable for many months due to thick mud.

The Friends of Nore Barn Woods has put together a £14,000 package of grants from Chichester Harbour Conservancy (Sustainable Development Fund), Veolia Environmental Trust and Hampshire County Council (Access Forum). This has allowed 310 metres of path to be resurfaced by contractors in an aggregate finish similar to other paths seen around Chichester Harbour.