

# FROM THE CHAIRMAN

## ERA stand at the Emsworth Show

As usual we had our stand at the Emsworth Horticultural Society Show this year and we were pleased to see so many residents at the stand and at the show in general. As usual the aerial view of Emsworth drew people to find their home and to take part in the photo quiz with a chance to win £25 by giving the names of the hairdresser's premises shown in the 15 pictures. One completely accurate winner scooped the prize.

Others of you looked at the information that affects us, including the latest changes to the South East Plan, the present stage and next step for the Emsworth Design Statement, the A27 Site and details of the Local Development Framework and the ERA response. This is a good opportunity for Committee members to hear comments and explain details. We look forward to seeing many of you again next year.

## South East Plan changes

The Secretary of State has proposed changes to the South East Plan. These were issued on 17 July 2008. Some of the key points include:

- Regional Housing provision for the South East between 2006 and 2026 is to rise from 578,000 in the draft plan to 662,500.
  - The number of houses required in the South Hampshire region, including Havant, has not changed.
  - The proposal that infrastructure should be put in place prior to growth development has been deleted.
  - Policies on inter-regional development and strategic gaps have been deleted.
  - Urban extensions are to be required in Chichester District.
  - The Sussex Coast Region has an increase of 18.4% in its housing allocation.
- The public has until 24 October 2008 to comment. If you want to see the full details, they are on the website at: [www.southeast-ra.gov.uk/southeastplan/](http://www.southeast-ra.gov.uk/southeastplan/)

## Emsworth Design Statement

Congratulations to David Jones, Ann Davis and the rest of the team who spent so long developing and perfecting the EDS. They followed the twists and turns of the requirements of the legislation and of advisors over about five years, consulting the residents of Emsworth to ensure your support and involvement. As you will read elsewhere in this issue, the EDS was finally approved in July 08. The ERA committee will be establishing some guidelines and advice on how to use the documents and will keep residents informed through The EMS and in other ways.

## A27 Site (Interbridges West)

At the time of writing, there appears to be no change in the formal position of the various parties to the development and planning process for this site. However, those of you who pass the end of the access road regularly will have seen the continued interest of surveyors and others. We assume they are still trying to meet the requirements of the County Council to get approval for the junction. They may also be establishing exactly how much land they will need from the Highways Agency that they do not own. We will keep watching and keep you informed.

## 26 New Brighton Road

Several people talked to me at the Emsworth Show, or have been in touch by email, asking what is happening on this site. This was approved for development of sheltered accommodation earlier this year. There have been rumours of delays or revised plans or possibly resale of the site. I am unable to give any definite long-term information, although HBC have confirmed that there have been no revised planning applications or correspondence related to the site since the application was approved. We have learned indirectly that Churchill Retirement Living is not expecting to start work until mid 2009, but this is not definite and other ideas are speculative at present.

Chris Curry

## Emsworth Community Board - Can you help?

The ECB works to improve the quality of life in Emsworth. It holds a public meeting at 7.30pm on the second Thursday of each month at the Emsworth Community Centre where it reviews local matters and listens to the views of residents.

**Open Morning** - We will be holding an Open Morning to explain our activities to residents in International Hall, St Peter's Square at 10am on Saturday 25th October. Please join us for a coffee and tell us what improvements you would like to see in Emsworth. Other details of our work can be found at [www.emsworthhants.org.uk/ecb](http://www.emsworthhants.org.uk/ecb)

**ECB Sub groups** - The ECB also has small sub groups, consisting of members of the board and other residents, which pursue particular areas of interest such as planning applications, local environment, transport and community issues. Group members take positive action and liaise with council officers to improve matters in their area of interest. One group monitors litter and graffiti problems and liaises regularly with HBC to resolve problems. Another has conducted a detailed audit of the key roads and paths around Emsworth which will be used by HBC and HCC to identify the improvements required to implement a new sustainable transport strategy. A Rights of Way group has just been established and is described on page 4 of this issue of The EMS.

**Room for New Members** - We have space on the ECB for two more members. If you would like to have a say on the facilities and services provided by the Borough and County Councils, or would like to be involved in projects to improve the town, you will find the Community Board welcoming and worthwhile. Alternatively, you can pursue your particular area of interest by assisting one of the sub-groups without committing to becoming a full Board member. Either way, please get in touch or come to our Open Morning on 25 October and learn more about what we do.

Steve Pearce, Chairman, Emsworth Community Board  
Tel: 01243 431615 or Email: [steve.pearce@btinternet.com](mailto:steve.pearce@btinternet.com)

## EBA News

### St. Georges Day 23rd April 2009

Many people feel that more should be done to celebrate the feast of St George who is the patron saint of England. In addition, the Army has two regiments currently based on Thorney Island and Emsworth is their local town. The families use Emsworth for shops and services and in addition the EBA always invite the Island primary school children to our Christmas event.

Virginia Wilson-Smith and myself have met the Commanding Officer and discussed the possibility of arranging celebrations on St. George's Day as a way of residents and business people here showing our deep appreciation for the work the young men and women perform on our behalf in Afghanistan and Iraq. Final arrangements have yet to be worked out but it promises to be an enjoyable occasion with music, flags and bunting. We are exploring the possibility of presenting the Commanding Officer the Town Charter and hope that shops and businesses will enter into the spirit of the occasion by decorating displays and windows. We hope that a collection will be made on the day to give extra financial support to Emsworth Memorial Garden.

### Town Roundabout

Our thanks to Dave Wagg and his team at Emsworth Home Hardware for repairing and re-painting the slats around the tubs on the town roundabout. The EBA has sponsored this roundabout for about nine years now and with the beautiful wrought iron sign and impressive planting, this is a central feature welcoming people to the town. Dave has been busy this month as with the help of kind sponsorship from Blackfriars Paints he has re-painted the community notice board on St. Peter's Square. The southern side of this board will now be used to promote the EBA and its community work. We are very grateful for the help and guidance given to us by Margaret Packe of Beacon Square and the Methodist Church who has managed and taken responsibility for this community asset over a number of years.

### Havant Rotary joins the EBA

We welcome our local Rotary Club to the ranks of the EBA, Rotary members have a long association with us and we are delighted that our relationship has been put on a more formal footing.

### Breast Cancer Charity Ball

The EBA are holding a charity ball at the Brookfield Hotel on Saturday 18th October to raise funds to fight breast cancer. There are a few tickets left and if you are interested please contact Carol Haskett at GCS Computers on 01243 374126.

### Glenwood School

Following on from financial support given to the school previously, the committee have decided once again to make a financial donation that will help a pupil attending the school's Outward Bound adventures in Wales later this year. We wish all the pupils well on this exciting venture.

For details of our members and what they do visit [www.emsworthbusinessassociation.co.uk](http://www.emsworthbusinessassociation.co.uk)

Brendan Gibb-Gray



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